

Delta Fly Fishers

June 2010

Rx

Flyfishing

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

July 2010

Hot diggy damn, finally the weather has turned and fish are starting to act like they should have two months ago.

Been a rather strange month, out for a week and a half with pneumonia (actually 4 days in hospital) and really still trying to fully recover, so quit rejoicing, you're not getting rid of me that easy.

While lying around ogling the young nursing staff my phone rang one afternoon and all I can say is I am living right. "Hello this is Steve, Mr. Johnson you do not know me but you met my husband a couple of years ago in New Mexico...you were both fishing and he had car trouble and you really went out of your way to help him." (Now at this time while under the influence) you could have told me anything and I would have believed it.

Seems I did help a fellow who lost is transmission in the middle of the highway once and turns out he never forgot it.

Mr. Lincoln passed away couple months back and left me his fishing rod and reel collection...just what I wanted some plastic rods and (modern) tinny reels...not so fast 'el presidente, this fellow it turns out had nothing short of a very nice collection of vintage Bamboo and Hardy and Young reels to match, yours truly being the humble, quite SOB you really know me as, tried very hard...well not really that hard, to convince Mrs. Lincoln she did not have to give me her husband's rod and reel collection...but she was very insistent.

Five Hardy and Two J.W. Young reels all made in England before 1940...sweet... Perfects, St. Georges and a couple of Bougles ...I couldn't afford to buy one let alone 7 of these reels.

Next up...4 rods, 2 Gary Howells, a 7 1/2' 4wt and a 8' 3pc 5wt all original with bags and tubes...then an original Payne 7' 2pc, 3wt and a 8' hollow built Jim Reams 5 wt. for those of you with little knowledge of Bamboo and early vintage English reels... it would be like getting a mint 1962 Corvette or all original '57 Chev 2door.

Fishing report is a little skimpy what with the vacation at Dameron Hospital... (Food at that resort needs a lot of salt and pepper)...couple of 1 day excursions to upper Stanislaus below Beardsley damn and one to a secret little "creek" full of brook trout (none over 9 inches) and that is about all.

Katy is frothing at the mouth to head to Oregon again...report from Dave Roberts the Upper Rogue is full of fresh run summer run steelhead and cutthroats and they are very hungry, he has had several 25 to 30 fish days last week...about damn time.

Well that's about it here at the man cave in Linden...the little Redhead is out of town for a week in San Diego so if anyone is feeling sorry for me I'm available for dinner until the July 1st.

Oh, one last thing...my manners where did they disappear to. Last month I stopped in to Bass Pro to pick up a small item, saw it in their catalog, our very own John Keagy was working and apologized but this store did not have the item on hand...no problem, "I'll find one I say" and leave. Couple of days later John calls me and ask for my snail mail address he has something for me...yep you guessed it, the item I asked for ...he ordered it and mailed it to me, Thanks John for the professional help, now how much do I owe you.

Ok, if you're not going to invite me for dinner let's go fishing...

Happy Trails from Katy and Steve

DFF MENTOR PROGRAM

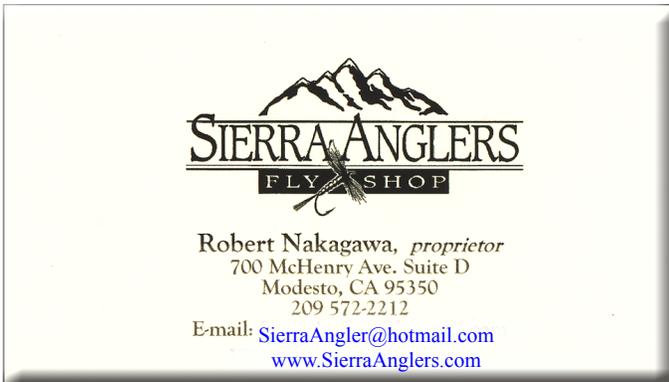
The Delta Fly Fishers Board of Directors, intent upon enhancing the existing Fishing Buddy Program, is proposing DFF adopt a Mentor Program which is proactive and broadly inclusive. The primary objective is, by sharing fly fishing skills and knowledge of existing DFF members with new members, this will 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 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 Fujimura at 209-948-7097 or e-mail at deltaflyfishers@gmail.com.

Membership

It is almost that time of year again, the most important time of the year. Not the opening of trout season. But, it's almost 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 P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Also we would like to welcome our newest members:

Richard Abood
Daniel Carbajal
Clifford Chow
Dena Mason
John Trede
Romeo Cuerpo
Mike Lescisin
Dave Read
Peter Tax

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

Over the years most of us have looked to our State's agencies to protect our State's resources and our environment. Unfortunately these agencies have not protected us in the past nor are they protecting our interest now. The latest scandal involves the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and five southern central valley corporate agribusinesses. Now a lawsuit is pending to redress DRW's behind closed doors actions. At the heart of the suit is the fact the DWR and the five corporate water users have negotiated deals totally without any public knowledge, notice or access. These deals undo water contracts backed by voter bonds which were approved over 40 years ago.

These closed door deals are known as the Monterey Amendments. Now, new, secret negotiations have come to light. They are being called the Monterey Plus Amendments. These contracts are between DWR and agribusiness corporations. Delta farmers, environmental groups and the public have been excluded from these meetings. Nothing was published by the DWR or put in the public record to let us know just what they have done. Only after the deals were signed by both sides has the public come to know how we have been sold out by DWR. One of the most irritating aspects is that the DWR has transferred State property to private company ownership. In this case, the Kern Water Bank was transferred from public ownership, to private. Even though taxpayers paid for Kern Water Bank, DWR took a public resource and transferred it to private ownership. This transaction lets a private company make huge profits at taxpayers' expense. We built it, paid for it and the State has given it away.

Recently a lawsuit has been brought by California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Center for Biological Diversity, California Water Impact Network and two Delta water agencies. They are the Central Delta Water Agency and the South Delta Water Agency. This lawsuit wants to reinstate the preference for urban use in droughts in our State Water Project Contracts. It also wants to reduce Delta water pumping which has hurt our fisheries and return the Kern Water Bank back to State ownership.

This lawsuit also wants to challenge the legality of these issues:

- . The formalizing DWR's concept of "paper water". The State now promises more water in contracts than can ever be delivered. Our current contracts promise about 8½ times more water than exist in the State of California
- . Taking taxpayer owned property (in this case the Kern Water Bank) and giving it to a private group.
- . Doing away with the urban use concept during drought years.
- . The State's increasing Delta water exports south despite the worsening of water quality
- . The State's insistence on continued pumping water south, despite the scientifically well documented collapse of the Delta ecosystem and its fisheries.
- . DWR's hurting the California Water Code in hiding the real purpose and place of State water.

Eventually this is the first time in State Water Project history the publicly held water ownership and facilities and been turned over to private-for-profit corporations. When groups

like DRW steal our resources and sell or give them to for-profit groups, one has to wonder if a lawsuit should be tried as a criminal rather than a civil case. If DWR could be tried as having taken the States property illegally and that this is a criminal offense, perhaps they might consider their dealings more carefully in the future.

Oppppppsssss.....

There are many things about the upcoming water bill there make it a horrible piece legislation. I have had several notes in our Conservation newsletter in the past several months about how pathetic the water bill really is. Now, however something almost funny has happened. As you may know the water bond proposition has a clause that would allow the State do exactly what the lawsuit mentioned above is trying to rectify. A clause in the proposition (called the Safe, Clean and Reliable drinking Water Act of 2010) will allow private corporations to own and profit from water storage units and dams that we, the taxpayers, have built and paid for. This clause was slipped into be water bond package and most of our legislature didn't read the bill before they passed it. Given the over-all quality of our current legislature that hardly surprises anyone.

Now however, a storm has arisen and those wanting to pass the water proposition realize that private ownership section must be removed or face strong voter rejection. So Senator Dave Cogdill and Assemblyman Jared Huffman are working together to have both Houses strike this section from the bill. It will require a 2/3 vote of both the Assembly and the Senate to have this section removed from the package.

The situation is rather sad in some aspects. It's sad that some members the Assembly and the Senate didn't even read the bill before passing it. It's sad that some of them have tried to slip corporate profit of lobbyist clients over the best interest of the people of the State. But there is funny to see Cogdill and Huffman having to work together on this issue given the fact that they are as close as oil and water on most issues.

Delta Fly Fishers are strong supporters of Restore the Delta. Restore the Delta has mounted a drive to stop this bill. They, along with other groups are part of a NO on the Water Bond coalition. We are working against big money and powerful groups. To help go to their Action Alert List on their website and find out how we can become involved.

Restore the Delta website is: www.restorethedelta.org
It's time we become actively involved with the No on the Water Bond coalition.

Ron Forbes

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Through A Kids Eyes

By Clay Gill – Taken from the Alamo Fly Fishers Newsletter

He said Pappy--I wanna catch a fish! He was holding his hands like a prayer. How can you deny a kid who really-really wants to go fishing. That is a natural born fisherman. Girls like it too. All my babies want to go fishing. He said I want to catch it-cook it and eat it!---Now! -How do you dampen enthusiasm. You would hope your kids want to fish. But all my Grand kids are crazy about it. It runs in the blood!

Probably the best way to get started is the way we all did. With worms and a cork. Small hooks and a red and white bobber. You fish by a bush or wall, tree or some place fishy and the perch come a-runnin, -as my Daddy would say. Dough balls, corn, or bread. It all works, and you get that magic tug. It is the tug, that does the trick. Once a kid feels that tug and pull on the line it is all over. They become hooked on fishing forever. There is no antidote or remedy. It is incurable.

If kids like to tinker a lot, they get interested in fly fishing. The ones who take things apart as soon as they can fidget usually become fly fisherpersons. They have the curiosity and propensity to wade through all the complications of the game. The others,--they say--oh--I don't do that! They just want to cast out, and reel back in. That's ok too. If all the pluggers were fly fishing, we would be elbow to elbow.

The good news is -what fishing lends to the teachers. It is a time. Kids listen to you-completely on fishing trips. You can sneak in valuable lessons about good, the bad, drugs, morals, life, and Aggies versus Longhorns. Wide eyed and curious you tell them (as you thread bait on the hook). Captivated, they hear you and may not even know it. It's funny how this happens. And then they tell you --about it.

Remember a time when you could not get enough of fishing. I remember all the tales spun on the weekend trips. It was always a story with a ending moral. For me it was in one ear and out the other. All I wanted to do was fill a rope stringer, completely full. Get out of my way. We have fishing to do. Give me some more bait. We got fish to catch and fry. Now I realize I was a captive audience. Those stories were cleverly crafted to impart a message. I was indoctrinated. And also so lucky-indeed, to be the recipient or those tall tales they spun. My instructor was smart!

Anybody can accomplish this feat. Grandma's can take kids fishing. They took me. I caught fish and she cooked them too. The cornmeal was crunchy and Cole slaw was just the best. Afterwards the kids got chocolate cake and then we slept like never before. Anybody can make memories like these. It is easy and fun.

I remember learning to play poker with Pinto Beans as money the way Dad did on the WW-II troop ships. Dad would tell me, "always bail out on card five with a bad hand, - or, looking good, keep them all busy, as you make them buy the last two cards with a bad hand, (playing seven card stud)". "And then you skin-em alive". Right or wrong you can impart a message on fishing trips they will hear. Trips should encompass adventure, intrigue, and excitement. Kids never ever forget that. I still

remember all the fun we had. Kids grow up way too quickly to miss this.

Something else kids fall for is fishing in the dark. Running catfish lines or jug lines is high adventure for a young person. They all want to hold the light. As the main line zips back and forth the anticipation builds. A big Cat on the staging line is like a monster coming up. I remember three foot Blues and Channels that looked ten feet long when they surfaced. You are hanging over the edge of the flat bottom boat when the flashlight illuminates a big shiny head and beady eyes. You never forget the first one! Tons of Speckled Trout in coastal pier lights can be a sensory overload for kids! Once they are old enough to go, it is a whole new game at night!

Young and old, everybody likes to fish. But the best time to hook them for sure is early in life. The old Zebco and a cardboard worm box from the ice house is amazing stuff. As children grow accustomed to fishing, they might lean toward fly fishing. But, many are pushed too quickly. They often shy from complication.

Little guys get interested once they see things happen. They can't live without it. You know it is graduation day when one says--"I want to do that"! At that point, they also listen to all the things they need to hear. And you can be the guardian angel who passes it forward! Let's make it happen for someone soon!

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!

DDF Officers 2010

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(Open)

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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

None for July

Board Meeting

None for July

August Newsletter

The deadline for the

August issue is

July 25th

DDF July Outing

DDF two outings, Mammoth Lakes and Salt Springs Reservoir scheduled for July. As of Press time I, the editor, have not received any information on these trips. For further information, contact Marty Kjelson or Earl Summers. Also as information becomes available, Grady Lee will be sending it out via email.

SAVE MART MARKETS – S.H.A.R.E.S

DDF 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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An Underground Quiz: What Kind of Fly Fisherman Are You?

by Tom Chandler on June 27, 2010

When you're first learning to fly fish, casting a fly farther than you could simply throw the dammed thing represents something of an achievement.

Later, you struggle to catch your first fish (on purpose), then you struggle to legitimately catch and land a tough fish, and finally you end up viewing technical water (or apparently fishless water) as a puzzle instead of a place to invoke divine intervention.

And at some point – after most of the technical barriers have been overcome – you start wondering what comes next.

Every fly fisherman answers that question a little differently.

Some head off to exotic locations. Some become headhunters. Some test themselves against educated trout on famous waters.

Others – the anglers most likely to sink from sight while living in a deteriorating trailer near the water – chase only exotic or little-seen species like permit or steelhead.

Some keep repeating the same trips over and over, returning to the same spot out of a sense of comfortable familiarity.

And still others become explorers, heading off on Ahab-esque searches for the one stream, current seam or inshore flat that may, in fact, have never been fished before.

Some even become assholes, undermining every fly fishing victory with phrases like “these fish aren't anywhere near as big as the fish I caught at XXX last year.” (Hint: Don't become that guy.)

In simple terms, mastering the cast (and the reach cast, and the mend, and the stack mend, and the rollcast, and the...) only prepares you to begin your fly fishing journey.

Where you went from there was probably not the subject of a lot of thought; like many of life's big decisions, it's a choice often made organically, without much conscious thought.

Still, it's worth pondering for a minute – preferably while bank sitting your favorite stream.

What kind of fly fisherman have you become?

Quo Vadis

I know one angler who fishes all over the west, but derives a special kick when fly fishing water that may technically be private.

Another thrives on a certain social equation; he's happy catching a lot of trout (he's a coldwater guy), but he's even happier when – at the end of the day – a good bottle of good Irish Whiskey might get passed around a well-populated campfire.

It's always easier to define others instead of yourself, but in my case, I'm pretty clearly tumbling for smaller waters remote enough to guarantee a bare minimum of contact with other anglers.

If I'm the first to fish the water that year (or can make myself

believe I'm the first) then the taste is even sweeter.

At one point in my life, I intended to fish the sport's better dry fly hatches, but that's not the bright light it used to be – especially once I realized famous hatches draw sizeable crowds.

So there it is; I prefer an intimate, predatory experience to larger waters, though even I'm not immune to the charms of big fish on big water eating big dries.

Tomorrow, I'm driving into the mountains, hoping to find my way to a small stream that may still be snowbound.

I'm hoping it's just as I left it late last year, when I thought I could have been the last to fish it before the snow closed the road.

With any luck, I may be the first to fish it this year.

That's pure hubris, of course. The odds are stacked against me on both ends of the season, yet I'm a fly fisherman, and like every other fly fisherman, I'm a sucker for a poetic ending.

If I fail to reach it, I'll find my way to another – and far more accessible – stream. It lacks a certain romantic element, though it turns out the brown trout are still plenty fun to catch.

See you on the stream, Tom Chandler.

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

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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
Saturday July 10	Spicer Res., Union Res. or N. Stanislaus River	July Outing Earl Summers - 957-6756
Sunday - Saturday July 11-18	Owens Valley - Mammoth Lakes	July Outing Marty Kjelson - 477-9618
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



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Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Midges are everywhere and in astounding numbers in different water types. When trout are focused on midges in their pupal form, they can be an important part of a trout's diet. Their life cycle is egg, larva, pupa, adult, spinner but only in still water are the larvae important and then only at dusk and a little before. In flowing and still water the pupae are the most vulnerable stage as they hang suspended in the meniscus and struggle to emerge which attracts the trout.

One of the best patterns for midges is the Griffith's Gnat, which is debatable as to what it imitates, a cluster of adults on the water or an emerger, but hard to determine because the fly will catch a lot of fish when midges are the main menu

The best presentation is to cast up and across stream (on still water near in and out flows) and when it settles give it a gentle tug to straight out the leader and this will pull the fly down under the surface where the natural resides. You can add a bit of paste floatant just above the fly to keep it near the surface.

Oh, did I mention to try a 6 or 7X, this is a good idea and a lot of fun.

Weather Conditions

Typical Eastern Sierra low-pressure system moved into the area dropping the temperatures slightly with several days of fairly breezy conditions but was short lived and now it looks like a great summer at high elevation lakes is nearing. All rivers are running high and off color, and there is still snow above 9800', so come prepared for everything.

Legislation – No news

Lawsuit – Update will be announced within 30 days after all waters have been cleared for Southwestern Flycatcher habitat.

New Zealand Mud Snail is still illegal but not at the top of the news chain and it is imperative that fly fishers help prevent the spread by NOT WADING.

LOWER OWENS ~ River is running high 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 try an #18 crystal midge, Tiger midge, or WD40 in black.

ROCK CREEK LAKE has been good, and fish are taking black woolly buggers, olive Matukas and large streamers. Mosquito Flats is running very high with difficult stream fishing, and the insatiable mosquitoes are gearing up for some great meals. Road is not clear all the way up to the trailhead at Mosquito flat road, but they are working to get it clear.

CROWLEY LAKE has had a lot of windy days and the water temps are moving the fish around and up and down, and don't forget the two fly rig is always a good choice. Fish are now holding in 12 to 15' range since the water has warmed up so rig for depth charge and get ready to hook into some 20+ inchers. DFG stocked a load of 10" bows at the Fish Camp north area and they should be providing the hawks with a tasty meal or two. Make sure you check the local shops in and around Crowley for the daily best bets on area and flies.

UPPER OWENS reports great days on dries so try some caddis patterns. Early Nymphing goes right into dries, heavenly times ahead. Thanks Ann-Marie.

CONVICT LAKE has been producing nice Alpers on large woolly buggers in black and dark brown #6 or 8. Also the Marvel is truly a wonder fly for this lake, be sure and ask at the store the color of the day. Some standard midges for top water near the south bank where the bugs hang. The Marvel is a flash-body woolly bugger with a small prop at the head with a slender body.

MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN - Lake Mary has been producing on some small dries. George and Mamie are also doing well on dries, but try some Matukas, black leeches, and black or chocolate woolly buggers. Water temperature is rising and floating is comfortable.

HOT CREEK is fishing well early and late on dries, scuds, WD40's, stones and SJ worms. Constant afternoon breezes so be ready to change up when conditions change

SAN JOAQUIN – Access road opened the 24th and they are getting the campgrounds ready. Water is high and a bit off color, try large dries and anything will work, big bright fluffies with small beadhead dropper. Loads of fish from the pack station north. Get in early so you can drive your car and not take the shuttle.

JUNE LOOP – Gull have been doing the best on black and olive woolies, grey ghosts and spruce flies. Try some stones, mayflies and caddis near Rush Creek for best results when water is high and near the bridge on the access road to Mono Lake.

LUNDY LAKE beaver ponds have been great with small dries early and late with a slight breeze on the water. Full run off is on and the falls are sensational, don't go into Saddlebag via this route too much ice and snow on the switchback section of the trail and it has not been maintained for more than 15 years. Water is very high and there's a \$600 reel in the lake with a sweet rod attached if anyone can scuba? Flies doing well are olive crystal flash buggers, olive leeches, grey ghosts, and my Carey bugger (peacock body version).

VIRGINIA LAKES has been a hot ticket for tubers and waders using red throat black Matukas, with lots of body flash. Scuds have been very active along with midges by the magna-thousands. The bugs have arrived in droves from gnats to mosquitoes so bring extra spray. Use sparse Griffith Gnats, small mosquitoes and Adams females all #18-20. Some emergers have worked over the past week, but this will increase with the temps. Of course dragging a streamer always works. Multi brrrrrrring!

EAST WALKER – Flow currently is at 224cfs (cubic foot per second) and the mosquitoes are vicious. Before leaving home, place your blood with your Doc and you will need it when you return and maybe even some grizzly bear urine might defray the onslaught, I've got extra head nets they are really cool. Emerging Caddis will put you into poundage. Early and late as usual and the flow has been holding for some time so don't miss this opportunity to try those 2 fly rigs with midges. It is getting hammered like a ten-penny nail.

WEST WALKER – Water is at 1320cfs, so look for flat water and fish the bottom, and use a two fly rig with large attractor as indicator and tiger, crystal or flashback Zug as the bottom fly. This is standard for most of the summer until the terrestrials arrive which might be very soon.

SADDLEBAG is still closed and scheduled to open July 4th weekend.

See you on the water! CJ (10 6)

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