

June 2009

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx

Flyfishing

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

June, 2009

I had no idea it was time to write another awe inspiring message to my flock, sound like a preacher talking to his congregation, doesn't it?

Fishing trips have been a little on the short, one or two day varieties this past month, couple of late afternoon trips to the Delta for bass....bass 9, fly fishing dude (yours truly) 3, seems I could figure out what they wanted to eat but could not keep them hooked, Mr. Souza any pointers? 2 trips to the American for SHAD, the all American poor man's Tarpon. First trip quite productive hooking 9 and landing 9, not bad for an old fart. Second trip...bad planning....way to many folks in my usual holes and lots of squabbling among fly rods and gear fisherman...not one fish hooked.

However, like last month, when the sun comes up in the morning (Tuesday 3-26) I will be in the front seat of Dave Roberts drift boat back on the Rogue....2 reports from sources say the Stoneflies have begun their major hatch...hopefully I will hit the peak of this great activity.

Before I forget, I would like to thank the Board and Membership for the discussion and approval of supporting and sponsoring Nate Cooper on his trip to Nye, Montana in August to try out for the "Team USA" Youth fly fishing team. Nate if you read this... we DFF membership wish you the best and look forward to report on all the activities when you return.

SIDE NOTE: received a phone call from Nate's father...that would be the (good looking Steve), I being the older and wiser of the two Steve's. I was informed that this past weekend Nate traveled (where?) south I believe and competed in a state championship tournament for the FLW Bass (youth) series...and (drum roll please) WON 1st place. I will let the two of them finish telling this fishing story...so I don't mess it up anymore than I all ready have.

June is getting ready to split wide open...our beloved home river...the Mokelumne...will reopen next weekend for the remainder of the season. I have floated the river twice in the last 3 weeks and have seen lot's for fish, good luck gentlemen.

On the 6th of June is the annual "Catfish Derby" at Oak Grove Park. This marks the 25 anniversary of this event of which DFF has been a sponsor all 25 years (long before I came into play)...take a bow ladies and gentlemen, this is something the club should be proud of.

June 10th, the Club's annual Barbeque at the Pavilion at Oak Grove Park, Mr. Laughlin promises "the best raffle" ever.

Kate is jumping around here trying to get my attention, she would like me to say, on the home front of your (much cussed and discussed) President and his beloved four footed fishing buddy....the battle with the FEDS, FBI and Federal prosecutors, is just about over, and I would like to say here now if it had not been for the support of family and this club and a friendship of a couple of club members....this war would have been much tougher, but I can say now it looks 95% certain that I have won the war...a surprise witness appeared out of nowhere and has provided testimony and documentation to prove the whole case is phony. Thank you and the Beers are on me. (No Budweiser, Earl)

One last comment:

A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America ' for an amount of 'up to and including my life.' That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.

GOD Bless all veterans on this (their) day ...Memorial Day 2009.

From Kate's library - Fly fishing is my Quisisana (the name is Italian for "place where one heals one's self.") "..... SLG

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 Souza at 209-607-6604 or e-mail at suzasbs@clearwire.net.

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 or Jim Rich at 477-6404.

Oak Grove Parking

Jim Rich wants to inform DFF members that they will now need a DFF parking permit to display on your dash as the county sheriff's office will be writing tickets for non DFF members on Wednesday nights. Jim is going to print up placards or permits, so see Jim to get one. Information: 477-6404 or jrich1@sbcglobal.net

Fishing Buddy Request

NAME _____

DATE _____

PHONE CONTACTS: (1) _____

(2) _____

The best time to contact me is _____ My E-mail address is: _____

I WOULD LIKE A FISHING BUDDY TO HELP ME WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Casting Fly Tying Attending Outings Equipment
- Knot Tying Float Tubing Pontoon Boating
- Stream Fishing Lake Fishing Trout Fishing
- Steelhead Fishing Shad Fishing Bass Fishing
- Striper Fishing Salt Water Fishing Private Water Fishing
- Rod Building Selecting a Guide Travel
- Entomology Other _____

Please describe what you would like help with _____

If you need further information, please contact the Fishing Buddy Committee:

Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or suzasbs@clearwire.net

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or gmississippi@aol.com

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

Exaggeration – It's No Lie!

By Clay Gill - Taken from the Alamo Fly Fishers Club Newsletter

The Bill of Rights had an extra page that was lost. There was an amendment intending the virtual and basic right for all fishermen to exaggerate. Not lie,— just exaggerate. It is all fishermen's basic fundamental right to expand fishing stories. For centuries loyal fishing fans have honed the fine art of embellishment recounting their day outdoors. It takes time, skill, and practice to develop this prowess. All it takes is a little imagination and you too can conjure up some adventure.

I remember the great masters of olden days. By a campfire they could spin marvelous tales. You could almost smell the salt air and feel the fish slime on your hands. The truly great story tellers could conjure up a depiction so real and exciting that it was like a dream, and you were part of that dream. A large fish became behemoth and slight risk became grave danger. Calm weather evolved to life threatening proportions and each saga was a tale of Moby Dick. Electric excitement was thick in the air! You hear the drag scream—the line stretch! --You were on the edge of the seat!

I have been fortunate enough to have known some of these tale spinners and they all have one thing in common. It is the ability to stretch truth and common story telling to immense and outlandish dimensions. The ability to make the listener believe this concoction is a badge of validation for those who practice the art. It is even more fun under the stars by campfires.

You are truly good when young and old fall spell to the fiction, —take the bait and run. The one thing you must never do is admit the stretch. Captivated the recipient must look into your eyes and know it really happened. No wavering on facts. It happened, —you should have been there!

Now you know the best victim for a culprit of this inclination is the fledging fisherman interested in catching large fish but not sure what a monumental fishing battle might be like. They are gullible enough to have been fishing, but not yet pulled out of the boat by tight drag and monster fish. The refined skill to remove all doubt and make the audience believe the story teller is a polished product. You graduate with honors as they believe you hands down. It really happened!

A four pound Bass becomes seven, and surely the fish jumped dozens of times. Probably just a product of wishful thinking, a story is the by-product of an expanded imagination and propensity to stretch the limits of truth. All in fun, it is not a lie! It becomes the exciting adventure that brings so many back for more. As common as sunshine, fish tales are the grass roots of a post-fishing assembly to recount the adventures of the day. It is a chance to do it all again- vicariously.

People love a story. Accurate or not, a good story is worth a million bucks. You gotta love it! We all love to lean into a good tale spellbound and immersed in a saga so monumental and captivating you hope it never ends! That is really fun!

Who wants to sit by a camp fire silently watching it burn out. How can you waste it without a great story or tale. Kids need to learn to imagine. That is why it is ok to exaggerate. It really

is good to teach then to dream and expound. Someday they will be in your shoes. A young sportsman will be enchanted by the amazing and embellished saga of the day. He may develop his own ability to enthrall others. That is how it starts and expands. They know the truth.

Truth and justice is the American way. But colorful outlandish fishing stories are an inalienable right. Everyone deserves the chance to tumble into an outrageous story of Academy Award proportions. A fishing story so outlandish it might spawn dreams or nightmares. Who needs mediocrity. People want to hear tall tales. Just ask them. You know it when they ask Pappy for more, —when it is way past bedtime! Nobody is sleepy and they say just one more story-please!

So—once upon a time, next time you have a young captive audience of fisher persons and a nice fire under the full moon, seize the moment. Remember the first rule of story telling. Never—ever—admit the stretch. Deny it to your death! That is the true mark of a professional. Fishing stories—must be so much larger than life! You know the magic is working. You see it in their eyes!

Blarney!—it matters not the quantity, quality or style of our travels. What really matters is we had big fun along the way. Should I give up this Fibber McGee role for Lent, spinning Loch Ness tales to our youth, —I think not! They depend on me! I'll just slight a little Irish Whiskey a few weeks.

The kids will take these tall tales to the sleeping bags to re-run them over in their dreams. And this, —is where it all comes true! Just watch and see. They always come back for more. It keeps the expeditions very much alive and jumping! These little guys and gals deserve this! Life is too short not to! Top of the day to you all!

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

by Louis Bignami

Gary Soucie notes in his excellent *Traveling with Fly Rod and Reel* “Common sense and human logic convince us, as well as many regulatory agencies, that barbless hooks do less damage to the fish and decrease the mortality of catch-and-release fishing. Unfortunately, there is no science to support the notion.”

The “cane” fly rods in *A River Runs Through It* were really graphite Hexagraph rods built in strip cross-section.

Noted fly fishermen Lefty Kreh was once asked by a non-fisherman what the sense was of catching fish just to let it go. He responded, “Do you burn your golf balls after a game?”

A pessimist is any angler who thinks the weather is too bad to fish. An optimist is any wife who thinks her husband won't fish anyway.

“So my advice is, always buy more tackle and take more stuff than you “need.” And when people say “Well, god, here comes the tackle store again,” don't be ashamed because it just might come in handy -- Jack Hemingway, of *Misadventures of a Fly Fisherman*, who says he went from being Ernest's son to and Margo's and Muriel's father

Conservation by Ron Forbes

Several weeks ago Mark Rockwell, V.P. Conservation for NCCFFF, sent members of the Board of Directors two short e-mails with videos. They are both excellent. The first is a report on water use in the state. The report is from KTVU and it's about farmers selling public water that they get free or at a reduced price and making huge profits at our expense. Sometimes they make more on the water than they do on their crops.

The site is: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/19445730/detail.html>

The next video was sent to Mark as an alert from Friends of the River. It's about the effects of suction dredging on our rivers. As you remember, my conservation report last month was about suction dredging and its effect on the aquatic environment. I thought you might like seeing this. The site is: <https://secure2.convio.net/fotr/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=208>

One of the things that I'm finding in doing this report is that you'll read things in the newspaper that leads you down roads you never thought you wanted to travel. A case in point is sewage disposal. In April, 2009, The Sacramento Bee reporter, Matt Weiser, wrote an article about wastewater in the Delta, namely ammonia. The Bee article was picked up and sent out to all in the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance's monthly news letter.

The article in the Bee was about how The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) does not fully treat their sewage. In doing research, I found that good sewage treatment consist of four steps. These are pre-treatment, primary treatment, secondary treatment and tertiary treatment. The pretreatment is mostly screening. Primary treatment is basically sedimentation. However, secondary treatment consists of many steps including aerated basins, filter beds, biological filters, bioreactors, biological contactors, and more. Tertiary treatment has several steps including procedures for the removal of nitrogen and phosphorus. And both are toxic. Now, after reading about twenty pages on treatment, I know more about human sewage than I ever wanted to know. However there is a major problem in Sacramento. They have no tertiary treatment for their sewage.

In the treatment of sewage, ammonia (a large source of nitrogen) is created. SRCSD just dumps this ammonia into the Sacramento River near Freeport. The ammonia comes from urine and feces. Chemically this converts to ammonium. CalFed has studied this and says ammonium is probably a contributor shifts in our Delta environment. Even though fish species have been in a downward spiral since 2001, SRCSD claims they are not part of the cause. They are demanding that CalFed continue their studies. At this point CalFed scientists believes ammonium may be a major part of the problem.

The SRCSD's argument is not based on scientific proof that ammonium doesn't hurt the Delta. There are about 1.4 million people living in the sanitation district. They claim it will cost about one billion to upgrade the system to the tertiary level. And there is the rub, the claim basically about the money, not science.

CalFed will continue with another study at this point. It should be noted that in 1985 SRCSD discharged over 13,200 gallons of ammonium a day into the Delta. In 2008 they dumped 30,780 gallons of toxic ammonium into the Sacramento River per day. It's hard to imagine that anyone could believe that dumping over 30,700 gallons of a toxin that will flow directly to the Delta is not part of a major problem for all aquatic species.

I called the Lodi and Stockton sanitation districts to see if they have tertiary systems in place. Lodi has just installed theirs and it's in operation. They

are waiting to get the results to show it is removing the ammonium and phosphorus so they don't discharge the toxins into White Slough. I haven't heard back from the Stockton district yet.

Finally an interesting thought.....Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing it's not the fish they are after. H.D. Thoreau

Ron Forbes

FFF NEWS and ITEMS OF INTEREST

FFF Headquarters Change of Address

Please make note of our new addresses as of February 28th. All mail addressed to 215 E Lewis address are now being forwarded to the PO Box. All mail should be sent to: F.F.F. – PO Box 1688 – Livingston, MT 59047
UPS & Fed X Shipments to: F.F.F. – 5237 US Hwy 89 S – Livingston, MT 59047

FFF Annual Conclave 2009

This years Conclave will be held in Loveland, Colorado and the dates are July 28th – August 1st. Please join us in the fun and fellowship.

Conclave pre-registration will open April 2009. Lodging information can be found on this web page <http://www.federationconclave.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4868>

Announcements:

Save the Date - The date for the 10th International Wild Trout Symposium is now set for September 28-30th 2010. Mark your calendars for this informative and interesting forum on all things wild trout. Learn more about the Wild Trout Symposium at www.wildtroutsymposium.com

The Federation of Fly Fishers has begun to offer a monthly electronic newsletter that provides updates on conservation, education, conclave and membership all in one email. If you have not yet received this and would like to, please contact Conservation Coordinator at conserve@fedflyfishers.org

Partner Sign On Letters - This past month we joined in several sign on letters for important conservation issues that affect us nationwide.

Letter to US senators urging support of the Clean Water Restoration Act. This legislation is of tremendous importance to our nation's natural water supplies. The Clean Water Restoration Act (S.787) will restore crucial protections to our nation's rivers, lakes, streams, and other waters that have been lost in recent years.

Letter of support for the Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act. This legislation establishes a new regional Salmon Stronghold Partnership program that provides federal support and resources to protect a network of the healthiest remaining wild Pacific salmon ecosystems in North America. The bill promotes enhanced coordination and cooperation of federal, tribal, state and local governments, public and private land managers, fisheries managers, power authorities, and non-governmental organizations in efforts to protect salmon

Letter to Department of Interior Secretary Salazar and Department of Commerce Secretary Locke encouraging them to restore key protections under the Endangered Species Act and repeal the Bush Administration enacted Endangered Species Act Section 7 rule on interagency consultation.

Letter encouraging a cooperative solution to managing the Bay-Delta ecosystem of California and maintain game fish status of striped bass.

DDF Officers 2009

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1st Vice President

(Open)

2nd Vice President

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(Temp)

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Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Outings

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Publicity

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Programs

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

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 Buddy Program

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Ron Petitt 209-931-2997

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

See Jim Grimes 209-367-4663 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

Membership Meeting

June 10

June Board Meeting

June 17

June Newsletter

The deadline for the July issue is June 25th

June Monthly Meeting DDF's Annual BBQ, Pot Luck and Raffle June 10, 6:30 - Dark



Wednesday June 10 is DDF's Annual Pot Luck, Barbecue and Raffle. The club will furnish the steaks, we bring the fixins':

A - D - Bread and/or dinner rolls & butter

E - G - Hot main dish (casseroles, etc)

H - K - Cold drinks

L - N - Hot or cold vegetable plate

O - R - Deserts

S - Z - Salads

Earl Summers is the barbecue chairperson for this event and again he will need volunteers to help barbecue. To volunteer, please be at Oak Grove Park by 5:30 - 6:00. Bring lots of money because Bill Laughlin's raffle, this year, as Bill describes it, "The Best Raffle We Have Ever Had!" This is an important money raiser for the club and an opportunity to win lots of very good prizes. For more information contact Earl Summers at 957-6756 or e-mail at spd.summers@aol.com.

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing tip:

Next Report – Fishing Journal.

Legislation and/or News

DFG released their latest update on the lawsuit by adding 21 waters that can be stocked and removing 44 from the last list. You can go on their web site and see the entire list. There are some rough roads ahead, so click it and hold on.

Fishing Report:

Not all waters above 9000 feet are thawed, but are rotten, please be careful and make the right decision when determining if the ice is safe to go out on if you want to slide a fly off the edge.

Remember to check the regulations prior to fishing unfamiliar water as to limits, size, and gear.

ROCK CREEK – has been doing fairly well on large, of course, wooly buggers in dark purple, black or burgundy, still waiting to hear about the upper road.

HOT CREEK – Breezy afternoons with flows around 90-94cfs Midges in the afternoon, BWO mid-day, and caddis by afternoon on warmer days and the dry fly action is nil, and if you are not getting takes, try some WD-40 in olive or black, #16 Zebra or Pheasant Tails or olive or grey Scuds #14-16, olive fox pupa #16, or Parachute Adams size 16-20. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of New Zealand mud snails.

CROWLEY – Water temperature is the only thing that will bring fish to net. A thermometer will help locate the optimum temperature for feeding trout (46-50 degrees). Water is clear with only some sediment in the north arm. North area access has been restricted. According to the “master caster”, use the 5 minute move, if no fish after 5, move. Check with the store for exact areas as they constantly change. Clear water with Optimidges probably around 9-10 feet, but test the waters.

UPPER OWENS – Flowing at about 90cfs and off color and very cold. Nymphing will see action with Optimidge #16-18 all colors, WD-40 black or grey, #16-18 Pheasant Tails, and Copper John in 16-18, and my personal favorite, the Zug Bug #16. Feeding fish are voracious between 11am and 4pm. Some dry action on Elk Hair Caddis in olive, and #18 Stimulators, Parachute Adams #18, and also Docs Twin Lake special in olive, black or brown. Doc Randall’s ashes are to be spread in early June. He invented the Twin Lakes special.

CONVICT – Stocked and good numbers of trout are coming to the surface reviewing your techniques so you better have your best ready if you want to see the best. Again, try some dark wooly buggers; spruce flies even some small streamers on the southwest corner. If you can use weighted flies, metal on their heads, propellers on their noses, then a gummy minnow might not be a bad choice.

MAMMOTH BASIN – Twin Lakes has been doing fair to good with dark wooly buggers by the inlets and on the west side of the first section. Lakers are still losing their drive and need to lift their heels when attempting free throws.

SAN JOAQUIN ROAD – Plowing will not start until May 10th as usual, so check with Forest Service in Mammoth Lakes for an exact opening date. 760.924.5500

JUNE LAKE – June Lake marina cage culture program released is still releasing some great cutthroats, and Tubing has been producing some nice trout. Don’t underestimate your observation as to bugs, purchase a thermometer and drop your sinking line or sink tip to the optimum temp for feeding.

GULL LAKE – Produced some nice rod benders on Hornbergs, Matukas and spruce flies, it’s like free throw, every time you throw your line a trout hits the net, if he’s Kobe.

SILVER LAKE – Has been doing the best near the weedy areas on both the East and south ends on large streamers, Hornbergs and Olive Elk Hair Caddis near the weeds at the north end toward Rush Creek.

GRANT LAKE – Ice free and being fed at the west end by Rush Creek running through it, and more water is starting to come down and a lot of fish in the stream are moving into the lake.

TIOGA PASS – Open.

LUNDY – Opened Memorial weekend and got some nice Alpers with a few hitting the Pistol Pete’s (wooly buggers style). Edison is still doing repair work on the dam, but reports state it may be on the low side the duration of the trout season unless something happens.

VIRGINIA LAKES – The roads are all clear, and the lower creek campground should be open at both ends. Fishing has been ok in Big Virginia with some nice fish taking buggers near the inlet and some midges at the outlet. DFG planted both lakes last week along with Alpers in both lakes, and Little Virginia got a load of browns from the Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation. Dark Wooly buggers (BH) black, dark rust, purple or brown have been chewed up and not much action on the surface as the water temp is still around 40 degrees.

EAST WALKER – Went from 58cfs, to 243cfs in 30 days. Gourmet bugs have turned the fishing into the hottest place around if you know how to handle yourself in the flow. Weather took a bit of a change with summer thunderstorms washing a lot of bugs into the water. The Beatis hatch is caput, and Caddis may start to crank if the weather holds. Midges and stones are still on the menu so try some Stimulators #14, Parachute Caddis #16, #18 Zebras, Black Beauties, FB Pheasant Tail, Rock Worm #16-18 in dirty olive, or Hare’s Ear in 14-16.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR – Water is low but rising slowly with water temp around 50-52. Water has been stocked with sub-catchable DFG bows recently and literally a ton of big fish last fall. Some Alpers were also added for more excitement. The Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation stocked catchable brown trout last fall and will be getting more in the near future. Try Hornbergs #10, Punk Perch #10, Zebra, Tiger, Black Beauty or Optimidge in dark grey #16-18.

WEST WALKER – Flow rose from 658cfs in April to 1420cfs on the 22nd. Current flow is 1130 and resembles the Mississippi and a definite Class X if there is one. Only place to fish is at the south end near the first bridge and don’t forget the bungee cord and attach an improved clinch knot to your SUV or maybe something larger, like the bridge.

MONITOR PASS – Open.

See you on the water. CJ 9.5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	WEDNESDAY EVENING FLY CASTING & TYING Contact: Joe Balderston 474-8515 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 June 6	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Catfish Derby
Wednesday June 10	Oak Grove Park Stockton	June Barbecue Oak Grove Park
Wednesday June 17	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome

2009 Catfish Derby June 6 Oak Grove Park



Saturday, June 6, is the Catfish Derby at Oak Grove Park. DFF again will be helping out and selling hot dogs, donuts, coffee and soda. The chairperson for this event is Earl Summers, 957-6756, and he needs a lot of help.

DFF Yard Sale

DFF has held a successful yard sale over the past few years with proceeds going to our various activities. We need a new location this year. Any member willing to offer a yard sale site for a yard sale in the months of June or July, please advise a board member or club officer so we can arrange for donations to the sale.

Kayak? I'll Take a Canoe!

By Pat Damico – Suncoast Fly Fishers Newsletter

Kayaks are everywhere! What happened to the canoes that were popular before kayaks took over the paddle fishing world? Have they gone the way of the horse and buggy? Growing up in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, where lakes, streams and rivers dotted the hilly landscape, the romance of adventure into inaccessible areas was a strong attraction.

When I graduated from eighth grade, my father gave me a gift of a used fifteen foot Grumman, Aluminum canoe. I owned this vessel for over fifty years.

Before my sixteenth birthday, when a driver's license was legal, my canoe sat next to a small lake that had a decent population of Largemouth Bass and Panfish. Fishing at night with deer hair bugs that cast like feather dusters would be interrupted by a large splash followed by a struggle that often drug the light craft around before a Lunker Bucket mouth was lip locked. Several other small lakes were close enough so that two of us would carry the silver beauty to another lake. The stream that was formed by the main lakes overflow began as a mysterious tree covered wonderland that contained trout that worked their way upstream in the spring. I pursued these fish constantly, alone, or with my boyhood fishing friends.

The adventures of Ted Trueblood, A. J. McClane, and Joe Brooks that I read voraciously in fishing magazines stimulated my interest in the mysteries of catching fish with home tied flies. My trusty canoe carried my old hand me down fly rod that was broken more than once when I ran into some obstacle, usually a tree, while using my other primary means of transportation, an old purple colored bicycle that my buddies and I painted, easily identifying us as we rode thru the neighborhood to our next fishing destination. We didn't have TV to distract us from a world waiting for us to discover.

A driver's license, and roof rack, was our ticket to larger streams and rivers where Trout and Smallmouth Bass were waiting for our carefully concocted offerings. Many hours were spent drifting and paddling our way into the unknown.

During our college days, two of my fishing companions and I would put that canoe on the roof of one of our father's cars and head to Maine to camp and fish for Brook Trout and Landlocked Salmon the week preceding our summer jobs. Our trusty canoe transported an assortment of gear, to our place of adventure. Yes, we caught fish, on flies that we carefully tied during the winter, gingerly placing them in a Perrine aluminum fly box especially for our Maine trip. During the winter, as we tied each fly, the thought of a giant jaw inhaling our feathery offering, made our destination at the end of a fourteen hour trip seem like it would never arrive.

When alone, I sat in the front facing the rear seat which usually had a stone placed under it to balance the craft. Sitting in the stern seat and paddling resulted in a severe dunking because of the lack of stability with the bow off the water. Kneeling on a flotation seat on the floor lowered my center of gravity further increasing stability and relieving stiff muscles. Laying the paddle across the gunnels freed both hands for casting. The

floor served as my stripping basket where the fly line could remain untangled ready for the next cast. When two of us fished, we could both cast simultaneously and tease one another about missed fish.

I do now have a kayak and I understand its many advantages. A Kevlar kayak solo canoe, which I recently purchased used, is another great craft, but it will never replace the memories of days spent on the water with my old Grumman. The day I helped the new owner load it on the roof of his SUV was both sad and happy. He was going to start taking his children fishing in it, and I felt I was passing on something that would continue to give someone else a lot of pleasure and wonderful memories.

Wild Trout Symposium

Holiday Inn,
Sunsree Resort and Conference Center
West Yellowstone, Montana

Welcome Reception: Monday Evening September 27, 2010

Conference Dates:

Tuesday Sept. 28 through Thursday September 30, 2010

<http://www.wildtroutsymposium.com>

The tenth international Wild Trout Symposium will be held September 27th-30th, 2010 at the Holiday Inn in West Yellowstone, Montana, USA, adjacent to the west entrance to Yellowstone National Park. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the USDA Forest Service, the Trout and Salmon Foundation, other agencies, the Federation of Fly Fishers, and Trout Unlimited are cosponsors of this event. Originated in 1974, this symposium offers exposure to the latest information on status, science, technology, philosophy, and preservation of cold-water wild-salmonid, in an international forum for professional wild trout biologists and fishery advocates.

Focusing on the needs of working-level wild trout professionals and fishery conservationists, the Wild Trout Symposium provides a valuable opportunity for information exchange and will equip participants to better conserve and restore these magnificent resources. Questions: WT-X Chairman, Dirk Miller, dirk.miller@wgf.state.wy.us, (307)777-4556

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