

December 2008

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx

Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

December, 2008

Unfortunately we didn't fair too well at the recent Trout Bout this last weekend. The turnout of attendees for the county's trout bout was not what it has been in the past and as a result even cutting back on our food supplies we ended up in the hole – and that's not the old fishing hole either. Our club again had a good turnout for the event, and at this time a tremendous thank you should go out to Charlie Reames, Bill Laughlin, Earl Summers, Walt Kotecki, Ed Sill, Al Tschantz-Hahn, Jr., Harvey Hamlow, Bob Fujimura, Marty Kjelson, Joe Balderston and his mother-in-law, and Jim Rich who all volunteered their time and effort. Please forgive me if I've forgotten anyone. Keep in mind the next Trout Bout is set for Saturday, February 7th. Hopefully there will be a bigger turnout; however, low attendance could be sign of the times in this economy we're in right now. Remember, next February we will again need volunteers to help serve the food and drinks, demonstrate fly tying, and help any moms or dads who need help getting their youngsters' hooks and bait tied on. Word on the street is the county may want to hold another fish derby besides the three they already do, and that one would be at the new pond they've built out at Micke Grove. Keep your eyes peeled for further announcements.

Let's all write down on our calendars Saturday, January 31st, 2009, as our annual dinner and installation of officers for the New Year. It's going to be held at the Italian Athletic Club next year so stay tuned for further detailed announcements. Speaking of installation of officers, your new board for next year will be Joe Balderston, Marty Kjelson, Bill Laughlin, Doug Ridgway, Ron Forbes, Earl Summers, Sallye Rollans, Larry Schmidt and Dean Watson. Bruce will continue as treasurer and Sallye will also serve as secretary. Welcome aboard. Oh, and have I mentioned this before? WE HAVE NO PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT OR RAFFLE CHAIR FOR NEXT YEAR! These offices don't take that much more of your time and those members presently in office will be glad to help you in the transition. Please, some of you need to keep this club moving forward, since we have gained respect from the Northern California Federation and other clubs in our area after helping put on a very successful festival. And it was all due to the tremendous effort put forth by all of you who volunteered. Again, I want to thank you all for your help. I'm sorry to say I will definitely be unable to continue as president for another year due to personal and family considerations. I'm with you until the annual dinner, but after that you'll be on your own if somebody doesn't fill in.

Back on November 1st, Bruce, Leo, Bill, Bob Souza and myself returned from a fantastic five day black bass fishing trip to Lake El Salto, Mexico. Upon arrival by van after an hour and 45 minute drive, we were greeted by the staff at the Anglers Inn with your choice of already-prepared margaritas or ice cold cervezas before our feet even hit the ground. That's after we'd already hit the ice chest full of cold cervezas in the van on the way to the Inn. What wonderful service, location, and food. You'll hear more details about it at our December membership meeting. This was a wonderful experience for everyone who attended.

I also want to mention that Earl Summers is our new outings chairperson, and he is looking for suggestions on places to go next year for our outings. Please see or call Earl before the end of the year with your ideas so he will have a better idea where you folks want go fish. In the meantime, keep those lines tight and your fly in the water.

Herman

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.

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 gmississippikid@aol.com

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

Silver Lake Outing - Oct. 18-21

by Marty Kjelson

Six Delta Fly Fishers worked the waters of Silver Lake in mid-October. Herm Spalinger set up camp on Thursday and scouted the north end of the lake for two days finding good numbers of fish but on a very short bite i.e. couldn't hook them all! Marty Kjelson came up Friday afternoon to join Herm to near freezing temps at that 7000' level. Harvey Hamlow, Ron Pettitt, Bob Bradley and Joe Dougherty joined the group on Saturday morning for the day to a diversity of conditions, wind, rain, sun, cold and a mixed bite. Ron was so bundled up that Marty couldn't recognize him, although his precise, perfect casting style gave him away! Rainbows and browns (9-14") cooperated with a stronger bite in the afternoon although Harvey caught them all day! Olive and Black wooly buggers did the trick as did gold bodied streamers with purple and/or yellow dyed grizzly wings in a matuka style. Surface, dry fly action was sparse as were midging techniques. One 3-4 lb. fish was landed by a bank fisherman with bait. The north shore has excellent and gentle beaches and easy access.

Marty and Herman saw clear weather on Sun. am enabling Herm to meet his wife, Kathy's order for fish for the table.

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: jrich1@sbcglobal.net

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing Tip:

Although I don't fish after October 31 it has become quite attractive when the weather is this beautiful, and I can't remember an Indian Summer going into November with only 3 days of bad weather to date. Because I normally fish a lot, I have been cutting off the point of my hooks, and decided to try them on my next venture. I did do Hot Creek, and the East Walker (EW) on Saturday and got a few fish but noticed their jaws were a bit torn up so I pulled out my trimmed flies to see how they would work and if I could get them close enough to see what I was catching, and did manage to get a few close enough to check. I think not sanding the exposed blunt end will help prevent the hook from piercing their jaw depending on their size and how much fight they have in them. Now I'm considering tying my flies on a recurve hook with only a bump on it, but not been able to find any small enough. Maybe a large glob of some type of rubber goo covering the exposed end might prevent the hook from penetrating the skin. John Betts (Colorado) had a special hook made that has another eye for the point back in the mid 90's and I was fortunate to find some and might use those instead. Just what I need, another project for this winter.

Still working on the aquarium for my "emerging-bug" observation this winter, and will keep ya'll posted on any progress on approval from roommate and cat sitter.

WEATHER:

Several small snow storms have hit the Sierra with Mammoth Mountain getting the most, as the mountain is open for skiing.

Legislation:

Senate Bill 1262 by Dave Cogdill was chaptered by Secretary of State on September 26, 2008 which amended Section 13007 of the Fish and Game Code (see last issue).

The Governor vetoed \$1 million in DFG spending from the Hatchery and Inland Fisheries Fund created by AB7 (Cogdill, 2005). He also line-item vetoed \$3.9 million from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Biodiversity conservation Program where its staff biologists review commercial timber operations to determine ways to lessen their impact on fish and wildlife resources, particularly endangered species such as Coho salmon.

NEWS: Hot Creek

On October 21st, volunteers electro-shocked three sections of Hot Creek for the Heritage and Wild Trout Program. The surveys are to develop population and biomass estimates for the resident trout species in Hot Creek that also include non-game species.

Each section of approximately 200 feet was netted at the bottom and the top so fish would not escape and then the water was electro-shocked. The low voltage stunned the fish but does not hurt them according to Mark Drew of CalTrout.

Volunteers netted the fish and placed them in buckets to be counted, measured and weighed before being released back into the water.

Mark Drew stated "this gives us a good understanding of the condition, population and size class distribution of the fish, and that they need to find out how many big and small fish there are in certain sections of Hot Creek". He also stated the idea is to have a program that over many years will help CalTrout understand the dynamics of Hot Creek, and if they see a downward trend in the fish population then they will know something is not right and it can be remedied".

Prior to this effort, there has been a lack of volunteers and that "it was great to get the community involved with this project, and that it is an important science which has a direct link to the local economy", Drew stated.

Trout Elimination: The elimination of Trout by US Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit is setting gillnets in the

Desolation Wilderness lakes of Ralston, Cagwin and Tamarack in an effort to kill all the trout within them under the misguided belief that trout are the cause of the decline in the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog. This is a huge loss of recreational opportunity for anglers as stated by Western Outdoor News and that almost every study done has shown that the main culprits in the population downturn of amphibians worldwide are disease, climate change and wind-spread poisons. Not Trout!

Also, trout are the focus of elimination by DFG in Silver King Creek, Tamarack Creek, Tamarack Lake Creek, Coyote Valley Creek and Tamarack Lake, and some upper stretches of the Truckee River are on the list. All this elimination is being done with the purpose of replacement of native trout species. The "frog" lakes will be left barren.

To comment on the elimination of fish in the Sierra lakes, contact the Lake Tahoe Basin Mgmt. Unit Web site at www.fs.fed.us/r5/lbmu/projects. To comment on the Silver King Creek and associated waterways, contact Stafford Lehr, DFG, 1701 Nimbus Rd. Rancho Cordova CA 95670 or slehr@dfg.ca.gov

CONWAY RANCH (Alpers) update in next issue.

Fishing Report:

ROCK CREEK AREA and Mosquito Flats – Season is closed.

UPPER OWENS – From Benton Bridge road crossing upstream to Big Springs is open Nov. 16 through the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. ZERO bag limit. Flow is fair and water is cold and clear. Still a lot of fish but they are sluggish. Try some olive WD-40 size 20 or 22 as there has been a short baetis hatch midday.

HOT CREEK – Open all year, only artificial flies with barbless hooks and Zero bag limit. Water is clear and cold about 50 degrees and fishing is fairly good stripping streamers and nymphing. Fish are holding along side the river under hanging branches. Saw some flying ants on Saturday, and small midges. Try black Doc's Twin Lake special, or a two nymph rig (PT #18 and olive hare's ear #22). Just about anything olive and really small when the water is this low and the weeds are high. Only a dead-on-drift will work. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail, and protect the integrity of this fragile ecosystem.

CROWLEY – Season is closed.

CONVICT – Season is closed.

MAMMOTH BASIN – Season is closed.

SAN JOAQUIN road is now closed.

RUSH CREEK – Season is closed.

JUNE LOOP – Season is closed.

LUNDY – Season is closed.

VIRGINIA LAKES – Season is closed; lakes are thawing again.

EAST WALKER – The flow is 29cfs and the season open from Nov. 16 through the Friday preceding the last Saturday in April. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. ZERO bag limit. Late morning and early afternoon is the best time to fish due to cooler temperatures at night. Water is low so look for deep holes, undercut curves and runs. Nymphs are your best shot now with WD-40 #22 in black, grey and olive. Zebras and small baetis imitations, even a flashback emerger should do well. Some streamers are working, with a dead drift and pulled and use something really large and unattractive. Not much dry fly action but walk around during the warmest part of the day and check the brush you might come up with some hoppers and small midges.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR – Season is closed.

WEST WALKER – Flow is 102cfs but, the season is closed.

See you on the water! Cj 11.8

Conservation

By Ron Forbes

Congratulations! The members of Delta Fly Fishers should be pleased to learn that the lawsuit against the Modesto Water District is finally over and we won. As you will recall, we along with NC-CFFF, were interveners in a suit filed against Modesto Water district by Earth Justice. The water district wanted to list the hatchery steelhead and natural steelhead together as a single species, thereby delisting the fish as not falling in the endangered species category. Had they been allowed to do so, they wouldn't have to follow the laws that protect endangered species and Modesto's water management policy would continue without concern for the Steelhead.

In early November however, Federal Judge Oliver Wanger ruled in district court that the overwhelming evidence was in our favor and not in Modesto's. His ruling was based on scientific evidence especially that showing that hatchery steelhead do not have the same ability to spawn as well as natural steelhead. For some reason the hatchery fish can't reproduce well. That and other issues decided the suit in our favor. Now it will be interesting to see if the water district will abide by Judge Wanger's decision.

A New Study

Several years ago Chuck Armor of the Dept. of F&G released his study of the decline of species in our Delta showing the decline that are at historic lows. Now almost everyone admits the Delta is near disaster and may not be able to be reclaimed. Now another disaster looms on the horizon. Recently Cal Trout has funded a study by UCD professor Peter Moyle, a well known professor of conservation biology.

Moyle's study is very alarming. His study shows that while we have 31 native species and or races of salmon, steelhead and trout in the state, 20 of these species are in danger of becoming extinct. At present the central California coast Coho salmon, Chum salmon, and the Pink salmon have a very poor chance of survival. His study indicates that unless we change things in the near future, 65% of all species of salmon, steelhead and trout will no longer exist in California. It should be realized that because of very poor controls on mining, farming, logging, poor road building techniques, poor water diversions, and dams. In northern California, 19 steelhead species no longer exist. That extinction has happened in the last century. They can never be replaced. The same conditions still exist today and little or nothing is being done to correct them. In the 1970's the bull trout became extinct on the McCloud River because of the Shasta and McCloud dams. Also global warming causing higher temperatures may have produced lower yields squid and krill for the salmon.

It now seems evident that we can't count on the Department of Fish and Game nor the Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee to help lead the way. Recently Don Koch (DFG's Director) has shown he is more a friend of big agriculture in his recent rulings on lack of protection of the Longfin smelt in the Delta. He plans to continue water deliveries at normal levels despite the effect on Longfin smelt. It seems strange that Koch needs a study by Cal Trout to provide him with information that his multi-million dollar DFG seems unable grasp. The Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee claims that it is too underfunded and understaffed to do much of anything. Maybe the only way we can prevent this disaster from happening is going to be through litigation.

Some have recently pointed to the fact that we now have two agreements for the removal of the four dams on the Klamath River. First, the agreements are non-binding. This means the removal of the dams may never take place. Second, the dam removal will not begin until 2020. It's too little, too late, considering the present conditions. They also point to the fact that a court settlement has been set to restore the San Joaquin River below Friant dam. The idea is to restore the salmon run which was one of the best runs in the state until Friant dam was built. For the last year I have been attending meetings of the SJR Restoration Program Fisheries Management Technical Feedback Group for NCCFFF. At this point they want to restore one of the two salmon runs and have no plans to restore the steelhead run until much later. Frankly, the group has overlooked several major problems that have arisen. The one run of salmon are to be in the San Joaquin River by 2012. Again it may be too little, too late. Especially with new problems that have taken place (more on that later).

There is an excellent summary of Peter Moyle's study on the web at: links.sfgate.com/ZFKN. Hopefully Moyle's study with its press and TV coverage will help prevent what we seem to be heading towards. Let's hope so.

Litigation Update:

A U.S. District Court judge has rejected an attempt by California irrigators and logging industry groups to strip protected status from five populations of wild steelhead trout. The ruling rejects two separate challenges to steelhead protection in California. In the first case, anti-environment group Pacific Legal Foundation (PLF), which represents loggers and water users, argued that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) must make Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing decisions based simply on the numbers of hatchery steelhead produced each year. PLF asked the court to remove five separate populations of steelhead from the list of endangered species based on the presence of hatchery fish. In the second case, a group of Central Valley irrigators argued that ocean-going Central Valley steelhead population should be removed from the endangered species list based on their opinion that freshwater resident rainbow trout might someday replace extinct steelhead populations. The ruling marks the third time in four months that federal courts on the West Coast have rejected arguments that all fish must be treated the same when making ESA listing decisions. In the other two rulings – issued in June by a federal district judge in Seattle and in August by a federal district judge in Oregon – the courts confirmed that wild and hatchery salmon and steelhead should be treated differently when assessing the health of a fish population.

NMFS's scientific advisors and experts unanimously concluded that it would be "biologically indefensible" to eliminate ESA protection for endangered salmon and steelhead based on the abundance of hatchery fish. Scientists emphasized that these fish need habitat to sustain them into the future while hatcheries rely on an artificial environment that doesn't produce salmon and steelhead that survive well in the wild. PLF, however, asserted that NMFS was legally required to ignore these issues and simply count the total numbers of fish in making ESA listing decisions. In addition, the Court agreed with the conservation and fishing groups that NMFS may protect steelhead without including all freshwater resident rainbow trout in the protected population. Here again, the Court found that protecting steelhead was supported by unanimous scientific evidence. The Court's ruling cites extensively from reports of three different committees of independent scientists who all confirmed that steelhead form the irreplaceable backbone of the population. The FFF was a plaintiff in this important legal victory.

Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

Membership Meetings

DFF Officers 2008

President

Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

1st Vice President

Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

2nd Vice President

(Open)

Secretary

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

Treasurer

Bruce Rollans 209 - 274-0448

Directors

Joe Balderston 209 - 474-8515

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

Harvey Hamlow 209 - 467-8370

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Committees

Education

Joe Balderston 209 - 474-8515

Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

Conservation & NCCFFF Member

Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

Catfish Derby (June)

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Historian

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

Membership

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Outings

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Publicity

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Programs

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

John Keagy 209-369-5690

Property

Jacob Layko 209 - 468-2664

Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames 209 - 369-6053

Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout

(February)

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

Web Site

David Coon 209 - 239-9936

Fishing Buddy Program

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Ron Pettitt 209 - 931-2997

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 Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

December 10

December Board Meeting

December 17

December Newsletter

The deadline for the November issue is December 25th.

Fishing the Program

by Bruce Rollans

Delta Fly Fishers had a summer program presented by Craig Nielsen, who guides on the Sacramento, McCloud and Klamath Rivers in Northern California. During his presentation, Craig offered a guided special, which involved a second day at half price. Sallye immediately responded as though "Attention K-Mart Shoppers!" came over her internal speaker.

We floated the Sacramento River October 16. The McCloud River was higher than normal due to a generating station that was out of service. The Klamath was fishing well for trout and half-pound steelhead, but we were familiar with the float on the Sacramento River from Redding's Posse Grounds to the Bonneville take-out.

Craig covered virtually all the fish holding waters during this float, repeatedly rowing back up river to run a slightly different line. We used 6 weight, 9 1/2 ft. rods with an egg pattern and two flies beneath and indicator. The leader from indicator to bottom fly was about 11 feet. Commonly, we had Fox Pupas and Byrd's Nests, both bead heads.

This first day we had 20 deep-bodied rainbows to the boat (see photos); nothing below 17 inches. Most were 18-20 inches and one was 21 inches. We elected to do the same float for our second day with similar results.

Craig does considerable teaching of techniques that work for him. If you are willing to listen, you can learn something useful.



Simplicity

by Mel Krieger

"Have you ever thought, not only about the airplane, but about whatever man builds, that all of man's industrial efforts, all his computation and calculation, all the nights spent working over draughts and blueprints, invariably culminate in the production of a thing whose sole and guiding principle is the ultimate principle of simplicity?"

"In anything at all perfection is finally attained not when there is no longer anything to add but, when there is no longer anything to take away; when a body has been stripped down to its nakedness." Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Despite my feeling that the style and flair of Brownstones and Victorians have more appeal than the efficient geometric shapes of modern buildings, there is the strong ring of truth in Saint-Exupery's principles of simplicity. The perfect fly cast is a good example; straight lines of line and rod with no extraneous force or movements or motions of hand and body, all energy solely directed through rod and rolling line to the fly. These principles of simplicity are also an integral part of both communication and instruction.

Nelson Ishiyama, a friend and the editor of my fly casting book, did more than help me with words. Early in our work together, he asked me if the purpose of the book was to teach people to cast. The real truth was that I wanted to show my peers and the world that once and for all, the fly cast would be completely and perfectly analyzed and that it would be carved in stone forever and ever, and that Mel Krieger would be recognized as the author of fly casting's theory of relativity. Somehow I had trouble admitting this feeling, so I agreed to adopt the "Will this help someone learn to cast?" question to everything we did in the book. We spent a lot of time attempting to reduce complicated and involved theoretic concepts in fly casting to more basic truths and to simpler explanations. We eliminated photos and illustrations and many many words. A funny thing happened to me and, like my transition from killer to conservationist in catch-and-release fishing; I began to feel very good about this new direction, finally embracing it, not only for the book, but in all of my teaching.

Do not confuse simple with elementary teachings only, or for that matter easy instruction. In fact the reverse is usually true. Helping the advanced fly caster commonly requires the most fundamental of adjustments. It may happen, for example that a small change of hand position will solve a tailing loop, timing, velocity or any or fly casting instruction, all of many other casting faults. That fine tuning, finding a basic common denominator; does not come easy. Simplicity invariably requires more time, effort and usually experience. A famous author once said at the end of a letter to a friend, "My apologies for this long letter. If I had more time, it would be much shorter."

Over teaching, a universal problem in fly casting instruction, consists of two major parts; not allowing the student enough alone time - time to learn without the impediment of instruction, and of course, too much instruction. Have I solved this relatively easily explained problem? Hell no! My own biggest difficulty in teaching continues to be too much explanation, too many words, too much critique, too many "let me show you" casts --- in short -- over instruction. For all of us, however, understanding is the first step in improving that complex relationship (almost a dichotomy) that exists between the simple "helping someone to cast a fly" and the healthy ego that is a necessary part of a being a good instructor. I hope it also means that we will continue to grow.

FFF On-Line Auction

The Federation will be running an on-line, E-Bay, auction from December 1, 2008 thru early 2009. Here is an opportunity for all of us to make some money for our clubs, councils and for the national office. We have entered into an arrangement with E-Bay to host an online auction site for the Federation. E-Bay will be handling most of the necessary details and doing so at a special reduced rate. The national office will split net proceeds 50/50 with the club or council that generates the auction item. Please consider that we have 30,000 potential bidders in our clubs in addition to the E-Bay loyal followers.

What we need from all of you are the auction items. Think in terms of trips, art, condo or vacation home use, tackle and fishing related "stuff". We will endeavor to combine items into packages with a value of at least \$500.00. For example we already have guided trips with a casting lesson the day before, in my case two days drift boat fishing combined with two nights of donated motel rooms. Items will be offered regionally to best serve each Council and those looking for specific destination packages.

All items are to be communicated through the National office. Don't forget to remind potential donors that their gifts are tax deductible. This should be a terrific short and long term fund raising program.

Have questions? Contact Van at van@fedflyfishers.org or Josset at josset@fedflyfishers.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	WEDNESDAY EVENING FLY TYING Contact: 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
Tuesday December 9	Lake Amador	Midweek Outing at Lake Amador
Wednesday December 10	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Annual Member's Presentations
Wednesday December 17	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
January 1, 2009	Mokelumne River Day Use Area John Van Assen Park - Clements	DFF's Annual New Year's Day Outing
Jan 8 - 11, 2009	San Mateo County Event Center 2495 S. Delaware San Mateo	International Sportsmen's Exposition San Mateo
Jan 22 - 25, 2009	Cal Expo, State Fairgrounds 1600 Exposition Blvd. Sacramento, CA	International Sportsmen's Exposition Sacramento
January 31st, 2009	Italian Athletic Club 3541 Cherryland Ave Stockton, CA	DFF's Annual Dinner Installation of Officers

December General Meeting Annual Member's Presentations

On Dec. 10th the Delta Fly Fishers member will have the opportunity to share some of their fishing trips over the past year. This need not be formal, just come and share what you've learned and enjoyed. We'll be hearing from the guys about their bass fishing in Mexico, some new things from Steve Cooper, new flies from Joe Balderston, and requested input from all as to desired speaker topics and outing locations for the year 2009. Again we've like to hear from every member as to at least trip you've taken in 2008. Our January meeting will be our annual dinner at the Italian Athletic club on January 31. Our meeting in February will be a presentation on the Heritage trout program. We also plan to have a speaker covering outdoor photography techniques this spring.

Amador Outing By Grady Lee

December 9, 2008



Outing chairman Earl Summers has scheduled an outing to Lake Amador Tuesday Dec. 9. Breakfast 6:30 – 7am for those who are interested at the Country Cafe in Lockeford, it's on the south side of Hwy 88/12 in the middle of town. You can't miss it if you slow down! Otherwise, meet at the launch ramp parking lot at 8 am. Travel time is about one hour.

Warning: if you haven't fished Amador in the last 2 years you will be shocked, the lake is down 57 vertical feet. YOU CAN ONLY LAUNCH AT THE MAIN LAUNCHING RAMP, it is single file launching so have your boat and/or float tube prepared before you go down. There is room to walk your boat down even if big boats are launching. I walk my boat down (it's about a hundred yards) wait until a trailered boat launches, get in the water put on my fins and get out of the way before the next boat comes down. You can't see the water from the top of the launch ramp as the launch ramp now goes around a corner at the bottom. That's the bad news, good news is that they have gone back to the Donelson strain of Cutbow and they are great fun when you hook into one, average size is 18-20 inches. The 18 inchers are about 3 pounds, the 20 inchers 4-6 pounds very thick. They are stocking a few fish each week up to 7-8 lbs. Put on new leader and tippet, I don't recommend less than 4x, some of these guys are very hot. I had an 18 incher take me well into the backing last Tuesday. I'm running floating lines as these fish are feeding in the top 2 feet of water. Don't use beadheads or weighted flies. Bite rate goes up about 95% when there is a breeze. Black or olive woolies, Tippy's, Red Ryders, and large colorful dries. There is a morning breeze which dies out around 9-10 and may not come back for an hour or two. Even then it will be intermittent, as you are sitting way down in a big bowl.

Information: Earl Summers 957-6756 or Grady Lee 951-3623 (I [probably won't be able to make the outing as I have shoulder surgery Monday, but will be happy to give any of you more detailed info via e-mail or phone.) PS: The Calaveras Fly Fishers have scheduled the One Fly Contest for Sat. May 9th. New rule: No pre fishing the morning of the contest.

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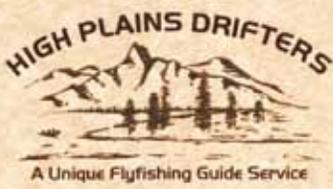
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