

August 2008

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx
Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

September, 2008

Okay, it's back to work as normal now that the Olympics are over. What a fantastic show. I'm wondering if we can get about 15 fly casters together and synchronize their casts like the participants in the opening and closing ceremonies did and demonstrate some formations like the Chinese. Oh, well, enough of the Olympics.

I would like to alert any of you members traveling out to Oak Grove Park on off-meeting nights, on Wednesdays, there soon will be a change regarding our parking status. The Parks Department of the County is initiating a new policy for parked cars after hours when the park closes to the public; they want us to display a parking permit in our windows on the driver's side while parked and either casting or inside the Nature Center tying flies. We are in the process of providing a list of up-to-date members so the county can print parking permits for each of us. Any car not displaying a parking permit when the county sheriff comes around will get ticketed. Presently Jim Rich and Rick Greene are providing temporary parking permits to those of you who come out to the park. Once the county gets the proper number of permits printed, we will have to replace our temporary ones with the county's permit.

Unfortunately any guest non-member who comes out to participate in our casting instruction or learn fly tying on Wednesdays will have to pay the usual parking fee. If there is no one at the check-in booth when you come out, there are envelopes to deposit your money into and deposit it in a box. The same applies to anyone who volunteers to work the Catfish derby or Trout Bouts. The parking fees are \$3.00 weekdays and \$5.00 weekends.

We're now heading into the home stretch for the Festival of Fly Fishing to be held this year at Hutchins Street Square, Lodi. I've been getting several questions from you members wanting to know how the planning stages are coming along. There will also be vendors there so you can see the latest equipment you may want to purchase. First of all, our committee chairs are as follows: Programs, Steve Cooper; Registration, Jerry Neuburger; Raffle/Silent Auction, Dan McDaniel; Publicity, Doug Ridgway; Exhibitor/vendors, Charlie Edwards; Fly tying theater is Dave Kruss from the Federation; Casting clinics is Eric Sherar, also of the Federation, and finally myself and Dustin Rocksvold of the Amador Fly Fishers are co-chairs overseeing the event. There will be several affiliated fly clubs with booths to advertise their club activities and tempt the public to join same such as our club – Bob Souza is the member in charge of our booth – Tracy Fly Fishers, the newly formed Stanislaus Fly Club from Modesto and, of course, NCCFFF and Cal Trout among others.

To date we have set up an interesting group of speakers to entice you to sit down and listen to their ways of fishing different waters, including advanced pontoon boat techniques, Delta largemouth bass, how to visualize your cast, techniques for Northern California steelhead, of course fly fishing the Delta with our featured speaker Dan Blanton as well as Jerry Neuburger, warm water fishing opportunities, even sail fishing Guatemala and of course our own Leo Gutierrez on top water bass as well as Al Smatsky on salt water destinations. Guy Manning will give a talk on breaking the fish, not the rod. Other than those speakers heretofore mentioned there will be Steve Cooper, Michael T. Williams, Dave Scadden, Ray Hutcherson, Jay Murakoshi, Andy Guibord, Frank Pisciotta, Jim Roberts and Ralph Wood. In the casting category we'll have Mel Krieger talking and demonstrating the essentials of fly casting, Floyd Dean improving & perfecting your double haul. For a \$20 fee you will get some individual casting instruction in a class of no more than 10 from Al Kyte and John Till. This will be an opportunity for you new members – and veterans alike – to find out from the best instructors how to go about perfecting your casting. I realize most of you newer members are not familiar with the fly fishing folks I've listed above, but this will be a great opportunity for you to come out and see what it's all about, and, it's in our own back yard.

At our September meeting, we'll be passing around a paper for any of you members to sign up as a volunteer so we'll have a head count to know how many others we need to get involved from the other local clubs. Our October potluck is the Wednesday before the festival so we'll have a question-and-answer period to let you know what's involved. Of course there will be a Friday chili feed and a Saturday sit-down dinner with auction.

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



Another Blind Squirrel Finds Another Nut(s)

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing Tip:

Terrestrials and midges have been the hot surface flies for the past couple weeks along with nymphs and streamers. Although terrestrials are not a mainstay item in a trout's diet, they do play a significant part in their behavior. One of the reasons that large trout cruise the inlets and shorelines is to feed undisturbed while getting a change in diet from bugs that enter the lake through wind-drift or just fall from the trees and bushes overhead or nearby. These morsels seem to excite large trout into showing a little "dorsal". Try fishing parallel with inlets where overhanging pine trees, shrub willows or brush that would protect any type of these tasty morsels when the wind is in your favor.

Used an emerger late last evening and had the pleasure of seeing a pig-of-a-brown take a bat off the surface of the lake just as it was dipping into the surface. It was quite a sight to see such surface disturbance, and he did it twice Incredible! Just when you think you have your evening fly patterns down, this jumbo brute makes a horses-pituti out of you. Must be some bat patterns out there.

Weather

The Eastern Sierra has returned to normal for August, the heat is on and lower elevations are suffering from above the "hundred" mark. Last year this time we had received our first snowstorm of the season, but that is not likely to happen this year.

Legislation

Dave Cogdill's AB7 was reinvented with SB1262 to give DFG some latitude in their production time and with their species breeding. It's a bit difficult, without a law degree, to actually determine what this all means. We have not seen much of an increase in the stocking even though the region was to get 250# per lake throughout the stocking season. I've printed the original bill and printed SB1262 and without a copy of the DFG Code it is hard to determine just exactly what the changes on page 2 really mean. "Fish produced in mitigation hatcheries shall be excluded from the computation of the 25-percent restoration goal required by this paragraph". According to AB7, "Existing law requires the DFG by 7.1.11 and according to a specified schedule, to ensure that 25% of the fish produced by state fish hatcheries are used for the purpose of initiating and managing the restoration of naturally indigenous stocks of trout to their original California source watershed". So if you can read between the lines, fish have been excluded. Everything that the Department is experiencing in their budget with regard to stocking, mud snails and the logistics has not changed.

News: Recent flooding that occurred the weekend of the 11th of July practically ruined Mt. Whitney hatchery and the 30 plus years of brood stock that had been managing there. No plans in the works to get it up and going again, but there is speculation as to what type trout would handle the conditions.

ROCK CREEK AREA and MOSQUITO FLATS – Are doing well and the mosquitoes are virtually gone for the season. Small to medium dries are working in the upper basin, and streamers and large dries along with some caddis patterns.

UPPER OWENS – Has been the hot spot for stream fishing with a variety of nymphs getting the most action, and dries late afternoon. Flow is down but it's still fishable. I did almost 1 mile in 3 hours and caught about 10 good size bows and two wild browns. A two fly rig is still a great way to get into browns, so try using Micro midges, hare's ear, prince nymphs, and tiger and zebra midges. I'm still a slow set, but working diligently on it, and I hate using a 3X tippet but it doesn't break off. Please remember to wash your equipment as mud snails are everywhere and not going away.

HOT CREEK – Water is at 50cfs and having one of its best years. The trout are demanding your best ability. Flies that have been

working in the morning and mid-day are EC caddis, light Cahill's, grasshoppers, pheasant tails, scuds and disco midges. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail and fish during the coolest times of the day to minimize the stress on the trout. I'm need a good recipe for barbequed snails served on a French roll with honey mustard. **CROWLEY** – Water temperature is near the 70 degree mark except in McGee Bay, crooked creek and the mouth of the Owens, as reported by Kent Rianda of the Trout Fly, and he suggests gray/black #16 Optimidge mornings, then switch to calibaetis. Try stripping just over the weeds, and stay in the weed seam and use an intermediate line.

UPPER OWENS – Is now at 58cfs below East Portal gauging station and minimal water is being diverted from Grant Lake into the Upper "O" so the river is lower than usual for August and is totally fed by the springs and the water that comes in from Hot Creek mid-way down. Midges, trico's and caddis are the mainstay, but Spinners have been doing good mid-morning with good afternoon hatches. Fish are taking everything with a delicate touch so be extra alert.

MAMMOTH BASIN – Good to excellent action found in the basin tugging bugger or minnow patterns with a dropper using a nymph or small midge deep and near weed edges. Try Griffith's gnats, midglings, small baetis #18-22, and callibaetis dry's.

SAN JOAQUIN – Is low but and you will have to walk the area for the pools and turnouts where fish are holding. Try some large dries like humpies, stimulators, and Royal Coachman's where you think fish are holding.

RUSH CREEK – Flows are up and down due to the water man at the top of the tracks at the base of Gem Lake. Reports coming from the area are good with lots of fish being taken on large terrestrials (ants, and hoppers)

JUNE LAKE – Is constantly getting their infusion of Cutthroats and doing well with standard streamers in dark patterns near weedy areas of the lake will get hit, the west end and on the northeast shore just west of the "beach". Watch for feeding trout early evening and tug, Woolly Buggers, Doc's Twin Lake Special in Black or Olive and brown Leeches are all doing the job

GULL LAKE – Is fishing fair to good but check with Gull Lake marina for the latest stocking and what has been getting grabs.

SILVER LAKE – Most of the fish coming out are being taken near the Rush Creek inlet area. Brown and some purple woolly buggers and Rainbow Hornbergs for those Alpers browns.

VIRGINIA LAKES – Action had been good late evening with small dries. That brown has my number, and he's giving me indigestion. The plant numbers holding regardless of the distance of the hatchery where the fish are raised. Flies that have been working are Olive Elk hair Caddis, Mosquito, Black Gnat, large Black Ant, Doc's Twin Lake Special in black and olive, and the number one fly is the Grey Hackle Yellow. Some emergers have been working and also RS2s. Last couple nights the EC Caddis Emerger in black did exceptional on 6x fluorocarbon tippet.

EAST WALKER – Flow is at 112cfs. The water is way too warm and the fish are sluggish, it is my suggestion not to fish the river until the temperature drops below 70.

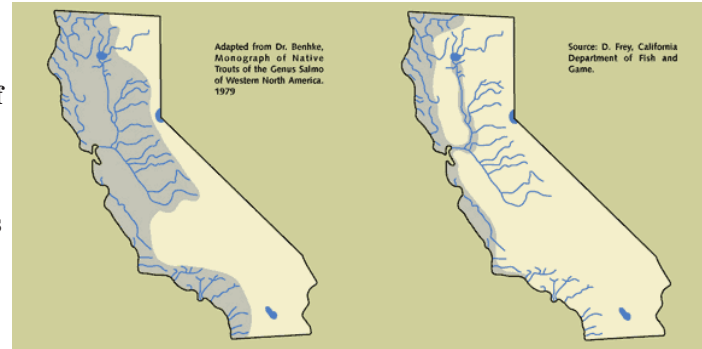
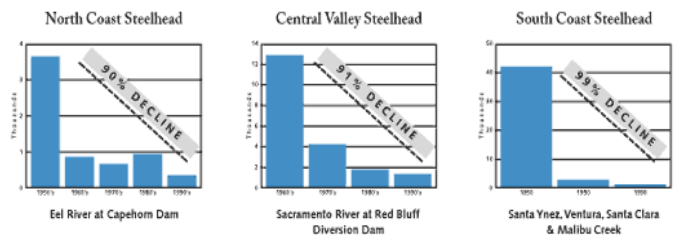
BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR – Is very warm but the fish are active in the middle of the lake. Fish are holding at about 12-15 feet of water and fish near Rocky and Rainbow point. Damsels are the number one bugs of the Rez.

WEST WALKER – Is 43cfs and the best spot would be just past the bridge down to the first campground. Large dries with a small dropper about 18" below, or use 2 small flies. Prince nymph has been good as a bottom fly, but mending is a bit of a challenge.

STEELHEAD RECOVERY STATUS from Cal Trout

Estimated California Steelhead Populations by ESU

Like wild trout, California's native steelhead are subject to a multitude of threats. The three biggest factors are inadequate stream flows; blocked access to historic spawning and rearing waters by dams; and human activities that discharge sediment and debris into watercourses.



The map above presents National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) designation of steelhead listings throughout California by Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESU's). A brief assessment of the health of steelhead in each of the State's six ESUs is presented below.

Klamath Mountain Province. ESU 7, Status: Listing Not Warranted.

Steelhead in this ESU were originally listed as Candidate status which means that NMFS did not consider them endangered or threatened, but warranted monitoring. A legal judgment required NMFS to re-evaluate their decision and on March 28, 2001 NMFS declared the ESU as Not Warranted for listing. This no-list decision was based on evidence indicating the ESU was at a lower risk of extinction than at the time it was originally proposed for listing. This ESU includes coastal river basins from the Elk River in Oregon to the Klamath River in California. This ESU contains populations of both winter and summer steelhead. The historic range of the steelhead on the North Coast has not been reduced as drastically as it has in other areas of the state and, consequently, is home to the most abundant populations. The Klamath-Trinity river system supports the greatest number of steelhead in California. Steelhead runs in North Coast drainages are comprised mostly of wild fish. Adversely impacting North Coast stocks are logging, agriculture, water diversion, gravel mining, migration barriers and introduction of exotic species.

Northern California. ESU 8, Status: Threatened

This ESU includes California coastal river basins from Redwood Creek south to the Gualala River. The life history of steelhead in the Northern California ESU parallels those of the Klamath Mountains Province ESU. Steelhead within this ESU include winter and summer steelhead, including what is presently considered to be the southernmost population of summer steelhead, in the Middle Fork Eel River. As with the Rogue and Klamath Rivers, some of the larger rivers in this area have year-round migrating steelhead as well as seasonal runs. While there are no recent population estimates for this ESU, the substantial declines in run size at the region's major dams indicate an overall decline in abundance from historical levels.

Central California Coast. ESU 9, Status: Threatened

South-Central California Coast. ESU 10, Status: Threatened

Historically, most streams along the Central Coast had healthy populations of steelhead. Of 122 streams south of San Francisco Bay known to have contained steelhead, 47% have reduced production from historic levels and 33% no longer support populations. Central Coast stocks of steelhead have been impacted heavily by urbanization (particularly in the greater San Francisco Bay Area), agriculture, water diversion, migration barriers and habitat loss. Populations aren't as healthy as northern stocks but less imperiled than southern stocks.

Southern California. ESU 11, Status: Endangered

Southern steelhead were once found in many of Southern California's streams and rivers -- as far south as steelhead populations. Numbers have declined drastically in nearly all streams where they exist, and runs have been wiped out from many others. Urbanization, water impoundment and diversions and man-made migration barriers have all contributed to this decline.

Central Valley. ESU 12, Status: Threatened

Steelhead ranged throughout the tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers prior to the frenzy of dam construction, water development, and watershed perturbation in the 19th and 20th centuries. Populations have been most severely affected by dams blocking access to the headwaters of all major tributaries; consequently, most runs are maintained through artificial production. The decline of naturally-produced steelhead in the Central Valley has been more precipitous than that of the hatchery stocks. Wild stocks are mostly confined to upper Sacramento River tributaries such as Deer, Mill and Antelope Creeks the Santo Domingo River in northern Baja California. Originally, Malibu Creek in Los Angeles County was thought by NMFS to be the southern-most stream containing a known spawning population; a recent discovery of steelhead in San Mateo Creek in San Diego County has led NMFS to extend this ESU boundary to that point. South Coast steelhead are the most jeopardized of all of California and the Yuba River. Remnant populations are believed to be rebounding in San Joaquin tributaries such as the Stanislaus, the Tuolumne and the Merced rivers.

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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

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Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Ron Petitt 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.

August 13
August Board Meeting**August 20**

May Newsletter

The deadline for the September issue is August 25th.

2008 Bridgeport Outing

September 19, 20, 21, 2008



It's that time again to make plans for the annual family outing to the Eastern Sierra which is always well attended and offers a wide range of fishing opportunities. 20 to 50 fish days have been common for a lot of DFF members in the past.

This year's dates, for the Bridgeport outing, will be September 19th, 20th and 21st. Grady Lee has volunteered to be this year's Fishmeister. Headquarters for the DFF will be Robinson Creek Campground (take Twin Lakes Road east out of Bridgeport for about 10 miles and look for the sign for the campground).

Ron and Sandy Pettitt will be holding a wine & beer reception, in honor of their wedding, at their trailer from 5-6 PM just before the evening BBQ at Bradley's on Sept. 20th. It is an open bar so everyone is invited.

The potluck barbecue at Bob Bradley's trailer Saturday night. Cocktails at 6pm and dinner will be around 7. Bring a dish or snacks to share, your entree to barbecue, along with the beverage of your choice.

Directions: Getting to Bridgeport takes about 4 ½ hours by car or longer by RV. Hwy 88 to 395 is the best RV route. By car Hwy 108 over Sonora pass to 395 is a bit quicker. Don't try this route with an RV.

Renewal Notice

Annual Dues

It is that time of year again, when your annual dues become payable to keep your membership in Delta Fly Fishers current. Dues are payable in August and become delinquent in October. If not paid by November 31st, we must drop you from our membership roster.

It is my sincere hope that you continue your membership in our club. We have an exciting list of upcoming activities and outings for 2008- 2009 which I am sure you would like to participate in.

Dues are \$35 per year for the entire family. Regular membership is \$30 per year; Seniors (62 & over) pay \$25 per year. You will find the membership form below. Check renewal box and mail in with check. Please make your check payable to: Delta Fly Fishers.

If you have any questions, contact our membership chairman. Bob Souza at 478-8344 or e-mail at suzasbs@clearwire.net.

Respectfully, Delta Fly Fishers Membership Chair

Bob Souza

_____ please detach and send with check _____

Membership Form - Family Membership is: \$35.00 ,Regular Membership \$30.00, or \$25.00 for 62 years or older. Dues are for one year September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009. Please fill out, then mail to: DFF Membership c/o Bob Souza 8452 Mason Dr. Stockton, CA 95209.

Family Renewal _____ Regular Renewal _____ Senior Renewal _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____ Cell (____) _____ - _____

Phone: Work (____) _____ - _____ E-Mail Address _____

I would like to receive newsletter via e-mail (check here _____)

Please renew your membership, if you have not done so. If you are not sure, check the mailing label for your current status. If you have any questions or problems please contact: Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or e-mail at suzasbs@clearwire.net.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	FLY CASTING Contact: Jim Rich 477-6404 Rick Greene 477-1488
Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690
Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Wednesday September 10	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Walter Heady of UC-Santa Cruz
Wednesday September 17	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
September 19th, 20th and 21st	Bridgeport, CA	Monthly Outing Bridgeport, CA

The Delta Fly Fishers September Program

The September program will be presented by Walter Heady of UC-Santa Cruz. He will speak on rainbow trout and steelhead movement, growth and survival in relation to habitat in the Mokelumne River. His research involves tagging trout with acoustic tags and monitoring their migration path ways, timing and mortality using an array of recording station along the River. He is associated with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Cruz and EBMUD Fisheries and Wildlife.

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

NCCFFF 2008 Conclave General Admission Events

See Registration Form for General Admission Fee - Pre-Register Prior to October 1 and SAVE!

Exhibit Hall - Exhibitor Booths and Fly Tying Demonstrations

The Learning Center - For Beginners of All Ages - Continuous Activities Including:
The Basics of Fly Tying, Casting, Knots, Reading The Water, Insect Life and more!

Casting Ponds - Available for Rod Evaluation and Open Casting

Programs

Friday, October 10 - 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Fishing

8:30 - 11:30
12:30 - 1:30
1:45 - 2:45
3:00 - 4:00
4:15 - 5:15

Cottage

Speaker / Program

Master Casting Instructor Certification, Written Test
Leo Gutterres - Top Water Bass Techniques
Steve Cooper - The West's Best Smallmouth Bass
Michael T. Williams - Wilderness Fly Fishing
Dave Scadden - Advanced Pontoon Boat Techniques

Pisano

Speaker / Program

TBA
Ray Hutcherson - Sail Fishing Guatemala
Jerry Neuburger - Delta Large Mouth Bass
Jay Murakoshi - Warm Water Fishing Opportunities

Casting Pond

Lawn Area 1

2:00 - 3:00

Floyd Dean - Slack line casting & mending for more fish

Programs

Saturday, October 11 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Popper Clinic

9:30 - 11:30

Fly Tying Theater

Leo Gutterres' Balsa Wood Popper Clinic. You will learn how to make Leo's famous poppers. Limit 8, \$50 Fee*

Fishing

9:30 - 10:30
10:45 - 11:45
12:00 - 1:00
1:15 - 2:15
2:30 - 3:30
3:45 - 4:45

Cottage

Speaker / Program

Dave Scadden - Advanced Pontoon Boat Techniques
Dan Blanton - Fly Tying With Dan
Jerry Neuburger - Delta Large Mouth Bass
Dan Blanton - Delta Striped Bass
Andy Guibord - Peacock Bass
Woody Woodland - New Ways To Visualize Your Cast

Pisano

Speaker / Program

Ralph Wood - Yuba River Trout
Guy Manning - Breaking The Fish, Not The Rod
Al Smatsky - Salt Water Destinations
Frank R. Pisciotta &, Sawmill Joe Cernigia
Fly Angling Opportunities in Tahoe Area
Jay Murakoshi - San Luis Striped Bass
Jim Roberts - N. California Steelhead Techniques

Casting

9:00 - 10:00
10:00 - 11:00
11:00 - 12:00
1:00 - 2:00
2:00 - 3:00
3:00 - 4:45

Casting Pond

Mel Krieger - Essentials of Fly Casting
Floyd Dean - Improve & Perfect Your Double Haul
Mel Krieger - Essentials of Fly Casting
John Till - Beginning Fly Casting (Limit 10 - \$20 Fee)**

Lawn Area 1

Al Kyte - Fine tuning your cast (Limit 10, \$20 Fee)**
Al Kyte - Fine tuning your cast (Limit 10, \$20 Fee)**

* All equipment and supplies necessary for you to learn to tie your first fly will be provided.

** Bring your own rods, reels and lines.

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing Newsletter

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