

February 2008

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx

Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

February, 2008

By the time you read this newsletter, there should be just a few days left before our annual dinner. Charlie Reames and John Keagy will also be looking for volunteers to handle the front desk before entering the dining room and then once inside taking in the money for the raffle tickets you buy. Bill Laughlin again has some terrific raffle items, so bring lots of green. There will be several "bucket raffles" around the perimeter to toss those tickets into so you can get a chance to choose the prize that you really want. This is our best event of the year and a chance to show your support for our club by attending and adding your two cents to the stories that will be going around the room. We're looking for a big turnout and a good time to be had by all.

We are now down to one Sportsman's Exposition Show left for the start of this year, The Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton, February 22-24. Rumor has it some of these shows have been downsized due to the cost of setting up a booth which is being attributed to the slowdown of fishermen passing through the doors of their local fly shops. Whatever the case may be, the Fly Fishing Show is the one aimed specifically to the fly fisherman. Talk it up with your fellow members and pool together to attend the show in one car. After all, going green is the thing this year.

Speaking of green, as fly fisher persons, we I'm sure all take an interest in conservation and preservation of our fisheries. In case you haven't read it, it's on our web site under our mission statement. Some of you may or may not be aware there is, among the many conservation organizations out there, a group called Friends of the River abbreviated FOR. They, along with Trout Unlimited, Cal Trout and the Fly Fishing Federation to name a few, are a very concerned and active organization that keeps a watchful eye on governmental agencies and legislators regarding issues pertaining to preservation of rivers, streams, lakes, deltas, etc, regarding issues that may impact those areas. FOR specifically is California's statewide river conservation organization headquartered in Sacramento and found on the Internet under friends of the river.org. They publish a newsletter called Headwaters three times a year summarizing their activities and actions taken by their legal departments. The reason I mention this is there is an interesting article in their Winter 2007 issue regarding our Delta that sits in our own backyard. Since we are going to be bombarded between now and November regarding two competing bond issues to be placed on the ballot, they have some interesting comments in their article Dam Facts, Dam Lies, and Statistics: Reality Takes a Back Seat to Hyperbole in Water Debate written by Steve Evans, Conservation Director.

The article sets out various comments by different politicians, including the governor, regarding the water transportation system passing through the Delta. I urge you to read the whole article to get the full gist of its premise. First of all, let me state I am not suggesting a position to be taken by this club on either side of this issue, but I'm attempting to report on articles I consider of interest to what the newspapers are calling the Delta in crisis. I feel we should be aware of what's happening in the Delta since it is located just west of Stockton. This club as a group cannot take a position politically one way or the other on any issue due to the fact we could lose our 501c(3) status faster than our heads can swim. We as individuals, however, can write our congressmen and women stating our ideas and suggestions thereon.

Here is a sample of what the article is commenting about: The Governor has been reported in the press as saying we haven't built a dam since the '70's and that our population is growing rapidly but our statewide water storage system has not been improved in 30 years. FOR's research has shown that 6.2 million acre feet of water storage has been developed since 1990, including 5.3 million acre feet of groundwater storage in the San Joaquin Valley plus three dams all completed in the last 10 years paid for by the ratepayers who directly benefit from the increased surface storage, not the state or federal taxpayers.

As to the comment by Dianne Feinstein in August last year, 25 million people do live south of the Delta but few depend exclusively on the water from the Delta. Of the people downstream of the Delta only about 16% of the water used in the Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, Tulare Basin, Central Coast, including LA and San Diego comes from the Delta. Nearly 80% of the water exported goes to agriculture or about 500 farmers who receive more water every year from the Delta than does the LA basin and Bay Area combined. Conserving water is one possible less costly solution; however it is the farmers who by adopting high-tech water conservation pay the most. The question is who will foot the bill.

In an editorial from the Executive Director's desk from the same newsletter, Peter Ferenbach suggests perhaps tax breaks for the farmers who invest in water conservation or state programs to make those technologies more widely available and affordable, but there should be more options on the table.

There is certainly so much more information available that we as conservation-minded fishermen and women need to keep our eyes and ears open so we can make an informed decision on issues to be put before us in the November election. It would sure be nice to tell our godchildren look at our legacy we left you, go forth and catch those fish that we helped in our own way to continue to live and prosper.

Herman

www.deltaflyfishers.com

Membership Form

Regular membership – \$25*

Family Membership – \$30*

62 years or older – \$20.00*

*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 \$25.00 _____ Two years \$50.00 _____

Family Membership:

One year \$30.00 _____ Two years \$60.00 _____

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 gmississippi@aol.com

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



Trinity River Steelhead

Marty proved the reports that there are still Steelhead in the Trinity River. But it's cold there in late October.

Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout



Saturday February 2, 2008 is the date for the annual Bob McMillan Trout Bout. Again this year, Delta Fly Fishers will be helping out the San Joaquin County Department of Parks and Recreation. We will be selling coffee, doughnuts and hotdogs to help raise funds for our club. We will also be giving demonstrations on casting, fly tying and helping the kids catch fish. We are always looking for help so if you have a few hours on Saturday come on by and give us a hand. We start setting up at 6:30. For more information, call Steve Cooper at 956-1032.

New Year's Day Outing



This year's New Year's Day Outing brought dry weather and lots of sunshine. A few members actually fished and even caught a few (few being the optimum word). But, lots of stories were exchanged (some might have even been true), coffee was drank and hot dogs and doughnuts were eaten.

CONSERVATION

By Ron Forbes

The Delta Fly Fishers has been asked to help with a conservation project on Murphy Creek which flows into the Mokelumne River just below Comanche Dam. Those who have fished the area realize it has been overgrown with non-native plants. These non-natives have been to the detriment of native plants and aquatic species and to the environment in general. This includes all the animals in the river from the phytoplankton to the trout, steelhead, and salmon. One of the major problems along the Mokelumne has been the invasion of Himalayan Blackberry. A local group has tackled the black berry issue and I have been told they have it under control.

Joe Merz has ask for Delta Fly Fishers help in planting native trees along the creek These trees will help establish a more natural environment for all the species, especially the fish.

Saturday, the 16th of February is the date chosen. At this point all of the details have yet to be filled in, but will be provided in the next two weeks.

We will need to bring warm clothes and boots to keep our feet warn and dry. A change of clothes and towel might be a good idea also. Please bring your own digging tools. Also you will need to provide your own lunch and plenty to drink. These trees will be saplings, so deep digging won't be required. The trees will be provided.

Joe was hoping to be able to plant 200 on this outing. If you have any questions and if you want to join us sign up please call or e-mail me at:

Ron Forbes
209-368-5767

Or
bluse02@yahoo.com

At our board meeting in Jan. 10 of our members signed up! After talking with Dr. Merz, he has expressed interest in involving us in a project that would last several years and be of benefit to our area in a very positive way.... more on this later when more details come out.

One of the stated goals of Delta Fly Fishers is an active involvement in conservation. This project is a chance to "get the ball rolling" in the right direction.

And the beat goes on.....

In the middle of January, several major newspapers have published articles showing that many of those who purpose building the Peripheral Canal and would benefit the most from the canal have still not paid for their previous water projects.

Those who oppose the canal are angered by the history of money spent, the huge debt which is still not paid, and the continuing financial recklessness of taking on additional projects. All of this at taxpayers' expense for the enrichment of groups like the Westland Water District. Westland is the nation's largest and wealthiest water district.

In the 1960's Westland and other smaller groups borrowed in excess of \$449 million. To date they have yet to repay \$372 million.....just 15% of the debt and the debt is interest free. George Miller, D-Martinez was quoted in saying that if they were home owners, they would have been foreclosed on.

In 1986, Congress passed a law requiring Westland totally repay the debt by 2030 and with no interest. However, in 2008-22years later-they have just repaid 15%. And now they are asking for total forgiveness of the loan.

One wonders when Congress or the State of California will ever learn or if they will ever protect taxpayer interest.

Good Fishing,

Ron

FFF Conservation Updates

Contact Leah Elwell for additional information on conservation issues at conserve@fedflyfishers.org

Announcements:

Grant ideas for clubs and councils –The FishAmerica Foundation provides funding for hands on-projects at the local level. These projects enhance fish populations, restore fish habitat, improve water quality, and advance fisheries research in North America and Canada—thereby increasing the opportunity for sportfishing success. Learn about their specific grants on their website: <http://www.fishamerica.org/grants/>

Positions & Letters:

An important part of conservation work within the FFF is providing a voice for fisheries and anglers across the nation. By communicating with legislators, agency leaders and other conservation organizations, we create a working relationship that helps protect fisheries. Below are letters we sent to define our position and protect the fisheries and habitats.

Joined with conservation organizations in a holiday advertisement placed in major national newspapers; the following is an excerpt of the message – Give your child a gift that will last a lifetime: Pass on your love of the outdoors. When you take a child fishing, hunting or camping, you open up a world of wonder. Get out there together.

FFF Foundation

In 1995 the Federation of Fly Fishers established a foundation to provide as a vehicle to receive endowment type gifts, the principle of such gifts to remain in perpetuity, to build a base of long term funds to support the objectives of the FFF. This foundation, originally named the All Fish, All Waters Foundation and subsequently renamed the Federation of Fly Fishers Foundation (the FFF Foundation) is a 501(c) (3) tax exempt public foundation and all gifts are fully tax deductible. It is easy to make your long term commitment to the world of fly fishing and to the education and conservation efforts of the FFF. To read more on this subject please visit

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Portals/0/The%20Federation%20of%20Fly%20Fishers%20Foundation%20Rettig%20Nov%202007.doc>

Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

Membership Meetings

DFE 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

Mike Sansone 209 - 951-8189

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

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

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 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.

No Meeting

Annual Dinner

February 9

February Board Meeting

February 20

February Newsletter

The deadline for the February issue is February 25th.

Fly Fishing Film Tour

The face of fly-fishing is changing and AEG Media is the leader at bringing this new adventure to the big screen, by introducing the Fly Fishing Film Tour. Members of AEG Media: Chris Owens, Thad Robison, Justin Crump and Brian Jill, known as the "AEG Fish Bums", founded the film tour in 2006. This annual event will be traveling to 125 U.S. venues this year. In 2009, AEG Media will take the film tour international to destinations including Europe and Japan.

As pioneers of the first annual fly-fishing exclusive film tour of its kind, we have successfully created a new market in the fly-fishing industry. With established nation-wide and international distribution channels in several countries, the word is out and will continue to spread.

The new generation fly fisher has been typically ignored in the past and we are changing that. Last year, the 2007 film tour screened to over 5,000 attendees. Several venues sold out with over 500 seat capacities, and pre-show lines that have been compared to block buster movie premiers, the film tour far exceeded any expectations.

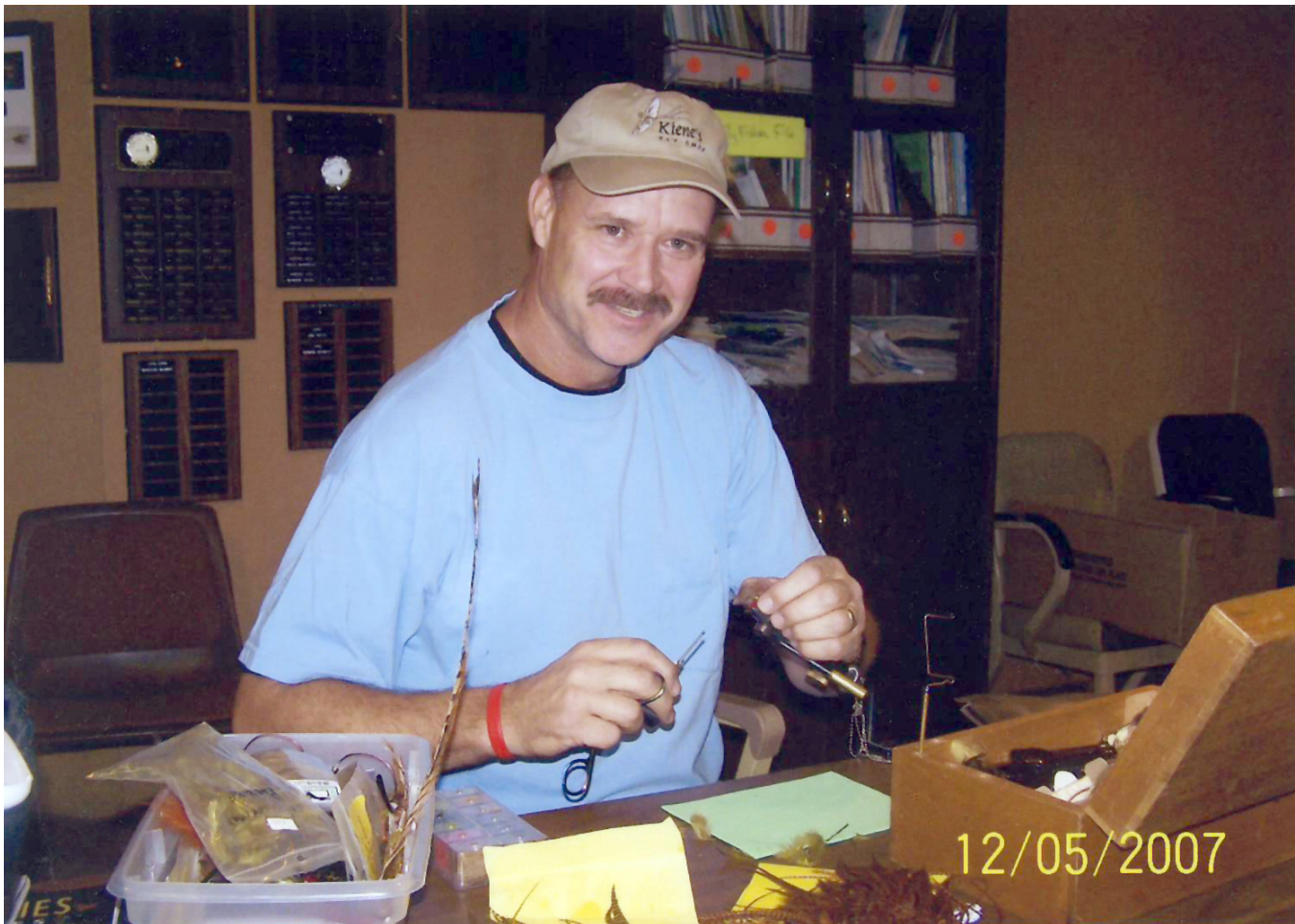
AEG Media is launching the 2008 film tour this winter. With an aggressive marketing and advertising campaign we are increasing the number of venues and plan to boost the number of attendees to over 50,000.

What can people expect to see at the Fly Fishing Film Tour?

Films shot in extreme, exotic and distant locations; epic scenery, cutting edge music, and conservation pieces that are as entertaining to watch, as they are important; and of course gigantic fish on the end of a fly. Our credo: "No stereotypical instructional programs." PERIOD!

The films we select to take on tour focus on action, adventure, excitement, humor, and lifestyle. AEG Media is taking people on a journey to see what it takes to be truly committed to capturing fly fishing adventure on film. If you fly fish you are going to be blown away, if you don't fly fish you are going to be inspired.

For more information log onto our website at: www.flyfishingfilmtour.com



Wednesday Night Fly Tying

Joe Balderston is pictured here tying flies on one of the Wednesday nights at Oak Grove Park. Now that days are shorter and Fly Casting classes have ended, members are showing up to tie flies. There is a nice combination of new members who are interested in learning and experienced tiers who are eager to help. There are some who just enjoy watching the process and ask questions with an opportunity to join in on the general bull session. These sessions go well beyond fly tying, good information on fly fishing, techniques, gear, equipment, tackle and good fishing spots.

On one occasion, Leo Gutterres had the whole group making ferruled leaders. On another Bob Sousa showed members how to tie a particular knot and everyone joined in and were tying and testing knot breaking strength. When the Shadow shows up the bull flies. Everyone wants to nail him. These Wednesday meetings are a good way to keep in touch during the winter months. They keep us up to date on our sport and possibly pick up a tip or two that will help you next season.

Special thanks go to Leo Gutterres, Don Gillette, Joe Balderston and Dean Watson, for providing flies and poppers for our monthly raffles. Their donations upgrade our raffle program tremendously and I greatly appreciate their generous contributions.

Remember the 1st and 4th Wednesday of each month, at Oak Grove Park off Eight Mile Road, just east of 1-5 exit, meeting time is 6:30pm to 9:00 pm Club room inside the park.

Please join us.

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
Saturday February 2	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout
Saturday February 9	Best Western Inn 4219 East Waterloo Road Stockton, CA	Delta Fly Fisher's Annual Dinner 6:00 p.m. - Dinner Served at 7:30 p.m
Wednesday February 16	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
February 22-24, 2008	Alameda County Fairgrounds Pleasanton, CA	The Fly Fishing Show
March 15 or 29	Salt Springs Reservoir	Monthly Outing
April or May	Kelsey Ranch	Annual Bass Fishing Trip
May 10	White Pines Lake	Annual One Fly Contest
May or June	Davis Lake	Monthly Outing

February's Monthly Meeting and Outing

Since this is the month for our Annual Dinner and the Trout Bout, there will be no monthly meeting or scheduled outing. If you have a desire to go fishing, call a buddy and try one of these waters:

Rancho Seco Lake, Amador Lake, Comanche Lake (south Shore Pond), Lower Mokelumne River, Calaveras River, Tulloch Lake, Lower Stanislaus and Toulumne Rivers (check flows first).

Bob Nakagwa at Sierra Anglers in Modesto has up-to-date fishing reports for the area. You can also get some information from the Stockton Record on Wednesdays.

Delta Fly Fisher's 2008 Annual Dinner



Delta Fly Fishers, Inc., cordially extends an invitation to all to attend our Annual Dinner & Raffle on Saturday, February 9th, 2008, at the Best Western Inn located at 4219 East Waterloo Road in celebration of their 32nd year operating as a fly fishing club. A no host bar will be opened at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:30 p.m. Your choice of prime rib, chicken or vegetarian lasagna dinner is the evening menu.

This year's annual Dinner Raffle will be the biggest ever don't miss it! Fly Rods, Reels, Line, Fly's, Poppers, Guided Fishing trips, Fly Tying tools and Materials and a huge array of Fishing gear. With the emphasis on quality you won't be disappointed in the profusion of choices available.

Last year the Ladies prizes were increased from 10 to 25 and this year we want to increase it yet again. We hope that they are equally pleased with prizes created especially for them.

Our last dinner proved to be a great time for all; we enjoyed a lot of conversation and laughter. We are looking forward to making this next one even better. Don't miss a wonderful time and the opportunity for winning great prizes with terrific deals on great merchandise. Make the extra effort to attend we won't disappoint you!

Please call Charlie Reames at 369-6053 for further information. We look forward to seeing you at the dinner.

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing Newsletter

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WWW.deltaflyfishers.com

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www.americanfly.com

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