

December 2007

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx
Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

December, 2007

By the time you read this you've already digested your turkey or ham and are starting to think about dropping some of the weight you gained eating that Thanksgiving feast. One way would be to splash down a river casting for steelhead or salmon. I'm sure you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving enjoying family and friends.

As the holiday season approaches, allow me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year from the Board and its officers. As December approaches and the Christmas season is just around the corner, it's time to get out the old wallet or plastic and think of your family and friends again. This would be a good time to add that fly rod to your Christmas wish list or that reel you need, or perhaps even some new fly line. The choices are endless, and I'm sure the wives will all be more than eager to head to the local fly shop to purchase those items on your wish list. (Tongue in cheek).

Speaking of the Board, two new members were welcomed to the Board Wednesday the 21st, Mike Sanone and Earl Summers. Earl was absent from the Board for a year to complete many "honey do's" and has returned with fresh ideas. Mike is a welcome new face to the Board, and he has already presented some new ideas to keep the club moving forward. The Board has elected its new officers for the coming year. They are myself as president for another year, Charles Edwards as vice-president, Dean Watson has already stepped into the secretary's shoes as Steve von Berg has Wednesday evenings now devoted to school meetings where he works. Of course last – but certainly not least – is Bruce Rollans continuing on as our treasurer. He's done a bang-up job for this club already. I am looking forward to working with the Board and officers for the coming year as they are the ones that make me look like I know what I'm doing. All the present committee members listed in our newsletter remain in their respective positions. We all are open to contact by you the members for fresh ideas for the coming year.

Beginning in January the Board will begin work with the committee chairperson planning the outing schedule for the New Year, Marty Kjelson and even Grady Lee. I invite any of you who have some areas you would like to see the club put on the schedule to please contact Marty, Grady or anyone else who will pass the word along. Speaking of January, Al Smatsky is going to deliver 20 discounted tickets for the Pleasanton fly fishing show held on or around January 19 to me for distribution to those of you interest in attending. Contact me for those tickets later this month.

In closing I want to remind you of our kickoff to the New Year on January first below the Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery. This event is a great get-together for members to tell stories, some over-exaggerated, and plan upcoming trips. Earl Summers, Jim Rich and Rick Greene are excellent hosts for this event, and it's held in the fog, rain or even sunshine so plan to drop by for some food and maybe elbow your way through the crowd to try and catch fish on the river as the season opens that date.

In the meantime get those new flies tied and equipment in order for the new season so you can keep those flies in the water.

Herman

Membership Form

Membership Form - Regular membership is: \$25 and a Family Membership is: \$30.00 or \$20.00 for 62 years or older. New members please add \$5.00 one time new member initiation. Dues are for one year September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. Please fill out then mail to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Check one: New membership _____ Renew membership _____

Regular Membership for one year \$25.00 _____ Two years \$50.00 _____

Family Membership for one year \$30.00 _____ Two years \$60.00 _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Phone: 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:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Knot Tying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Outings | <input type="checkbox"/> Float Tubing | <input type="checkbox"/> Pontoon Boating | <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Trout Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Shad Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bass Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Striper Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Water Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Water Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rod Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting a Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Entomology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | |

Please describe what you would like help with _____

If you need further information, please contact the Fishing 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

A Whiner's Tale

It could have been the long drive. Maybe it was the hotel mattress. Possibly, the waffle and orange juice caused the problem. Whatever the source, I had a really hard time bringing fish to the boat! On the other hand, nothing seemed to affect Sallye. She slept fine on the drive up to Redding. She slept fine on the same hotel mattress. She ate the same breakfast. She caught fish every time I blinked.

We did a float Monday, October 29, with Ryan Miller. Even though I seemed to have one of those "rare" occasions wherein I could only bring one out of four rainbows to the boat, Sallye bloomed.

The float started at the Bonnyview Ramp on the Sacramento River in Redding and went for about 12 miles. The day started with thunder and lightening. Shortly thereafter it continued with hook ups at the front of the boat. Right, I was in the stern.

It turned out to be a beautiful day. We floated by a half dozen bald eagles. We saw some very colorful rainbow trout. We had the river pretty much to ourselves. Finally, the guide, Ryan Miller, proved himself to be knowledgeable of the river and the fishery even though he is much younger than I anticipated.

Ryan is in his senior year at Chico State College, majoring in business. He has been guiding for five years on the Sacramento, Feather, Yuba and American Rivers. After graduation, he anticipates moving to Sacramento and continuing in the



November FFF

Growing Together Through Education

Anyone who has ever taught another person to fly fish knows how rewarding it is to help someone discover a new passion. The great satisfaction that comes from teaching is all the reward that most of us need and hundreds of FFF members are volunteering their time and talent to teach others. Every time that we teach someone new to fish we are giving them the gift of a lifetime of enjoyment. Teaching others to fish is a great way to give back to the sport and now it can also be a great way to grow the FFF and our clubs. Growing Together is a new program that uses our strength as an education organization to build the membership ranks of our clubs and the FFF.

The basic program is simple. With support from the FFF the club organizes a fly fishing class that is marketed to new fly anglers. Everyone taking the class is charged a fee for the class which is used to purchase one year memberships in both the club and the FFF. Thus, for each class student both the club and the FFF get a new member.

Many clubs are already offering classes in their local communities and it will be easy to add the membership fees to the existing program. However, some clubs have never conducted a class and might find the idea to be daunting. Fortunately, the FFF is making it easy by offering Growing Together participants assistance in setting up a class.

Each club that conducts a Growing Together class can request a free copy of the "FFF Fly Fishing Instructors Handbook" by contacting Matt Wilhelm at educate@fedflyfishers.org. This great educational tool contains all of the information you need to put on a successful class. It includes information on how to teach, what to teach, lesson plans, resource materials and much more. The FFF typically sells these handbooks to clubs for \$50.00 but under this program the manual will be free to any club that participates.

We won't just support you with a book. Matt Wilhelm is one of the leading fly fishing educators in the country and Matt will be available to offer you all of the assistance you need in putting your class together. From the early planning through the after class follow up Matt is available to help you plan for success.

If tools and equipment are a problem, the FFF's equipment loan program can help fill the need. Through this program any club that is teaching a class can borrow rods, reels and fly tying equipment from the FFF. The only fee for this is the actual cost of shipping the equipment. However, there is a limited amount of equipment and it is offered on a first come first served basis so be sure to let us know right away if you want gear for your class.

With all of this support from the FFF it is very easy for a club to put together a top notch class that people will be happy to sign up for. Of course, by including the cost of a membership in the club and the FFF in the registration fee your club will automatically grow through this program. And until 12/31/07 the new members will count for credits towards the current rod incentive program.

Growing Together is a great opportunity for us all to work together in a way that provides great rewards for everyone involved. The people we teach get a great exposure to the joy of fly fishing and receive a quality introduction to the sport.

Our clubs benefit greatly as they gain new members that look to

the club to be their focus of fly fishing, get additional exposure in their community through the classes they teach and through the free fly rod they earn in the program. And, the FFF benefits as our clubs are strengthened and become more vital, and as we grow the FFF membership. This program benefits everyone involved and we want to be sure to include your club. For more information please contact the FFF Headquarters Office at 406-222-9369 ext 103 or educate@fedflyfishers.org

Common Questions

How do we get started? The first thing is for your club to decide that you want to participate and that you have people willing to teach a class. Once you have this you need to attend to a few basic details; what will the class be, when will it be taught, who will teach it, where will it be held, etc. At this stage you might begin to have questions or you might be looking for direction so be sure to contact Matt Wilhelm at the FFF. Matt can help you identify everything that you need to arrange. Once you have the basic details arranged be sure to contact the FFF so that we can get you started in the program and make sure that you have access to all of the support available.

How do we find students? You should view finding students as a club building opportunity not a difficult task. There are a lot of different ways to publicize the class that will get the name of the club in front of the public. This means that you will be getting positive exposure just through the process of finding students. The first place to check is with your local newspaper. Many are happy to give an article or mention to classes that are offered by non-profits and are of interest to the community. You can also check with the local adult education classes who will often help to promote the class. Fly shops and sporting goods stores are great places to get the word out. A simple flyer hung in the store will often do the job. However, this is a great opportunity to develop a strong relationship with the shops.

One of the main objectives of this program is to introduce new people to the sport and these are potential new customers for a store. Many shops recognize this and not only will they help you sign up students but many will want to help with the class in some way. One of the very best ways to fill a class is to have your club man a booth at an area outdoor show. These shows have become quite common across the country and most will provide free booth space to your club. This is a great way to get exposure for the club and if you schedule your class for the weeks after the show you will probably fill the class at the show.

Where can we find help with teaching the class? Your first place to check is with the FFF. There are more than a thousand FFF Certified Casting Instructors across the country and many of them are willing to help teach. The FFF office can put you in touch with Certified Instructors in your area. There are other possibilities for assistance as well. Through our membership in the Alliance for Fly Fishing Education we have access to many expert instructors in all areas. Often we can help to find someone to assist. We also work closely with a number of other organizations and can often find help. Finally, if you are unable to find experience instructors don't worry. The FFF Fly Fishing Instructors Handbook contains everything needed for an experienced fly fisher to teach a class of beginners. This handbook combined with the assistance available through Matt Wilhelm will allow you to step up and teach a great class.

DFE Officers**President**

Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

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Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

2nd Vice President

(Open)

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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

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

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 - 815-6887

Membership

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Outings

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Publicity

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Programs

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

John Keagy 209 - 369-5690

Property

Jacob Loyko 209 - 468-2664

Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209 - 477-6644

Trout Bout

Charlie Reames 209 - 369-6053

Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

Web Site

David Coon 209 - 239-9936

Fishing Buddy

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Ron Pettit 209 - 931-2997

Help support your club by buying and using club merchandise.

Polo Shirt w/club logo sale	\$26.00
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Ball Cap	\$11.50
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Club Patch	\$5.00
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Lapel Pin	\$7.00
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Lic. Plate Frames	\$3.00
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Official coffee mug	\$5.00
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Also the club has a video library

Videotape Rentals	\$2.00 Per Video
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See Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on

merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

November 14

November Board Meeting

November 21

December Newsletter

The deadline for the November issue is November

Words of Wisdom Gathered by Ron Newman Taken from the Kaweah Flyfishers Newsletter

Here are some words of wisdom regarding fly fishing that I found in the net.

Life is more than a can of worms but is less than a Royal Coachman.

Like hatches, most things in life occur in cycles. If you know the cycles will be successful.

Even beautiful things sometimes have a barbed hook.

Trout have shown me that you can get into trouble by opening your mouth.

Flies do not make very good earrings, particularly if you have never had your ears pierced.

De-barb your fly before trying it on as an earring or catching a fish you intend to release.

Never criticize anything prepared by the camp cook unless you are willing and able to take over his job.

Don't plan your evening meal around fish that you haven't yet caught.

If you consider the landing of a fish as a 'bonus', then you will always enjoy fishing.

If what you are trying isn't working, then try something else.

If you will need something while fly fishing, then don't keep it in your fishing vest.

Removing the barb doesn't decrease your effectiveness.

If you are observant it will improve your success as well as your enjoyment of the sport.

It takes more than expensive equipment to be proficient at what you are doing.

The joy of fly fishing is lost when you have a beer can in one hand and your rod in the other.

Fly fishers will share their knowledge, flies and gear but never their secret fishing lake.

One good vise is enough for any fly tier.

If you rock the boat or make waves, expect the skittish fish to scatter.

Don't wade into chest deep waters if you are only wearing hip waders.

A bad day of fly fishing is better than a good day at work.

Unless you enjoy fishing in a crowd don't advertise when the fishing is good.

A wind knot is a casting knot made when there were no witnesses.

The heavy-handed fisherman and his fish are soon parted.

Our trout have marvelous growth rates. They double in size each time story of their catch is retold.

About 20% of the fishermen catch about 80% of the fish.

What causes stress is different for fish than it is for people but the reactions are often the same.

Large fish establish and protect a territory leaving the smaller fish to school and compete with each other.

T' WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CADDIS
BY RICHARD FRANK

Twas the night before Christmas when down by the stream
The full moon looked out on a chill winter scene.

A lone trout was sipping a midge in his brook,
Untroubled by worries of fishers with hooks.
Ten from above a small sleigh did appear
Pulled by a brace of eight tiny reindeer.
It swerved of a sudden and down it did glide,
Settling its runners along the streamside.
The fat, jolly driver dove into his sled
And emerged with his three weight held high over head.
“Thank you my elves for this wand smooth as silk.
This break will be better than cookies and milk.”
So saying, he jumped from his sleigh with a chuckle,
Hiked up his boots and cinched up his belt buckle.
Santa meant business that cold winter’s eve.
A fish he would catch - that you’d better believe.
Looking upstream and down, he spotted that trout,
Then he open his flybox and took something out
“Size 32 midges are only for faddists
I’ll go with my favorite tan reindeer caddis.”

So he cast out his line with a magical ease
And his fly floated down just as light as you please.
And it drifted drag free down the trout’s feeding lane,
But the fish merely wiggled a fin of disdain.

“Oh Adams, oh Cahill, oh Sulphur, oh Pupa,
Oh Hopper, oh Coachman, oh Olive Matuka!
I’ve seen every fly in the book and the box.
I’m old and I’m wary and sly as a fox.

To catch me you’ll need an unusual gift,
For a present this common no fin will I lift.”
Old Nick scratched his head for his time it grew short
The reindeer behind him did shuffle and snort.

He looked once again in his box for a fly
When a pattern compelling attracted his eye.
“The Rudolph!” he muttered and grinned ear to ear
“Far better to give than receive, so I hear.”

So he cast once again and his magic was true,
And the trout it looked up and knew not what to do.
“This fly has a body of bells don’t you know,
And if that’s not enough there’s a shining red nose!
I know it’s fraud and I know it’s a fake,
But I can’t help myself. It’s I gift I must take!”
So he rose in swirl and captured that thing,
Flew off down the stream. Santa’s reel it did sing.

“Ho!” shouted Santa, “You’re making my day.
If the heavens were water, you’d be pulling my sleigh.”
So, Santa prevailed and released his great rival
First taking great care to ensure its survival.
He then mounted his sled and he flew out of sight
Shouting, “Merry Caddis to trout and to all a good night!”

December’s Membership Meeting

DECEMBER 12th Next regular meeting

You are the speakers for this meeting. Any of you who have had a great fishing trip over this past year, this is the time to brag – or tell your story – about all the fish you caught. Marty Kjelson is looking for volunteers to tell their story at this meeting. So bring your pictures and let us know how your trip turned out. You don’t have to be a professional to present your story, and if you need the Power Point for your presentation, let Marty know ahead of time so he can schedule a computer and projector.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meet- ing 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 December 8	Rancho Seco Lake	Outing To Rancho Seco Lake
Wednesday December 12	John R Williams School	Member Meeting Member's Annual Presentation
Wednesday December 19	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Teusday January 1	John Van Assen Park Clements	Mokelumne River Outing
Jan 10 - 13, 2008	San Mateo County Event Center	ISE San Mateo
January 17-20, 2008	Cal Expo, California State Fairgrounds	ISE Sacramento
February 22, 23, 24	Alameda County Fairgrounds Pleasanton, CA	2008 Fly Fishing Show West

DECEMBER 8, 2007 - RANCHO SECO OUTING

This Month's DFF outing will be to Rancho Seco on Saturday December 8th, at 8 am. According to info from Rancho Seco they have been stocking fish, what size we are not sure. We do know that Amador is not stocking the fish this year. This will be your last chance to try and qualify as a 2007 nominee for Incomplete Angler, so be on your best behavior. For more information, call Grady 951-3623 or Marty

JANUARY 1st, 2008 – MOKELUMNE RIVER

Come rain, snow sleet or sunshine come and enjoy telling fish stories, recent trips or just visit with your fellow members. Donuts and coffee are ready at sun-up to noon when the chili beans get good and hot. We all look forward to seeing you all there.

Reds of Savannah

We left Sacramento early Saturday, flying the friendly skies and had a low country dinner about 12 hours later in one of Savannah's historic district restaurants. This district is a scenic location used by the film industry. It is built on a grid system with varying sized parks at the center of each grid, but enough about the city.

Sallye and I were scheduled to fish 3 days, but a storm front with high winds cut us down to about 2 days. By far the best was the first day out. Our guide, Scott Wagner of Savannah Fly, took us on a 20-minute boat ride off the Intercoastal waterway and into several adjoining skinny water "ponds." Shortly after we got into the first of these small waters, we were watching birds dive into top water baitfish. Suddenly, reds were everywhere. A few times it was difficult deciding which direction to cast.

The water out of Savannah was far more clear than that in the estuaries out of New Orleans making sight casting somewhat easier. In fact, all of our casting was to targeted fish; either to reds reflecting light just beneath the surface, fish tailing while feeding on crabs or reds in water so shallow as to expose their backs to us. We landed fish to 10/11 pounds this first day.

The second day we moved to an entirely different spot near the Georgia-South Carolina border. The tide was dropping rapidly and the wind was growing strong. After only 2 reds it proved near impossible to either spot fish or cast to them so we called it a day. Scott dropped us off at a Savannah River dock only a few blocks from our downtown hotel.

The 3rd day out with a different guide, we continued to have wind problems, but did land several 5/6 lb reds and 1 speckled sea trout. We were impressed enough with Scott Wagner to start planning another trip next November; one with more fishing and less sightseeing.



Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing Newsletter

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