

Delta Fly Fishers

October 2007

Rx

Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

October, 2007

Our September Bridgeport outing at Robinson Campground turned out to be a terrific time for those who were able to attend. We had a past president drive all the way from St. George, Utah, to fish and tell stories over the evening campfire at day's end. Clint Adams, past president of our club, enlightened us on what activities the club was involved in during his presidency in 1990. Ed Sill and Clint stayed down the road from Robinson Campground at Doc's Cabins. Larry Schmidt and Earl Summers staked a claim at the campground Monday with Jim Rich joining them Thursday and set out to find where the fish were biting before the rest of us arrived later Thursday through Friday. Ron Pettit and his fiancée Sandy had a trailer delivered to the campground Thursday and were waiting for the trailer to arrive when I arrived Thursday with my trailer. Charlie Reames pulled in Thursday evening. Don Gillett and Joe Dougherty and Marty Kjelson pulled in Friday. It was nice to see one of our new members joining us this year, Mike Sanone, who brought his two daughters and mother along to sit with his girls while he fished the upper lake. He actually caught some fish as well. Jim Rich, Bill Laughlin and Earl Summers shared Larry's trailer with Earl being the outcast behind the trailer in a tent. Maybe it was his wild man look that kept him from sleeping in the trailer with the others.

This year found Bridgeport Reservoir to be full of algae and not really worth the effort to fish. Charlie, Marty and I headed to the East Walker below the reservoir Friday morning with limited success. The river, just below the dam, was close to 65 degrees and not a good temperature for fish to feed. However, Charlie and Marty found out Sunday that about a mile or two downriver the water temp dropped and found a few willing fish eager to hit a fly. Most all of us fished Upper Virginia Lake the entire time we were there since Lower and Upper Twin Lakes were really low due to the lack of winter snow runoff. Lower Twin was a good 20 feet down leaving the area around the boat ramp almost out of the water and a lot of mud to drag your pontoon boat through if anyone so desired, which none of us tried. It was the usual story, some of us were able to find the fish at Upper Virginia and some of us floated or finned in between the fish and came back to camp wondering if their fly had a bad odor. As it turned out, the most productive fly was good old reliable Red Ryder in either black or olive with a few other "secret" flies attracting a fish now and then. The fish were not hitting that hard and a whole lot of fish just bumped and ran before you could set the hook.

Although there were stories going around of bears circulating amongst the shore fishermen at both Upper and Lower Virginia, none were spotted by any of us during our stay. It was interesting to learn Robinson Campground had installed bear-proof storage containers to keep your food in so the bears couldn't feast on our steaks or chew up our ice chests. Visiting with C.J. Webb and her husband John, we learned a good-sized bear had been making the rounds on Lower Virginia scaring the shore fishermen away so he could feast on their fish stringers. One even tore up a float tube sitting on shore when the occupant left some desert in the zippered pocket. If the bear didn't find any food at Lower Virginia, he'd head to the upper lake to harass the shore fishermen there.

All in all it was a terrific outing as we thoroughly enjoyed each other's company while fishing and especially back at camp over the evening campfire. The weather actually cooperated with some wind gusts but not anything like last year. More of you club members need to make the effort to attend next year's Bridgeport outing as this is the one outing that has been going on for a long time where our members really have a great time. Even though the Shadow was not in attendance this year, word got back to Wednesday's meeting that one of our distinguished club members left his fishing license home and had to get another one which put him in top contention for the John Fanucchi Incomplete Angler award to be presented at our February annual dinner. Members, be aware: This Shadow guy gets around!

www.deltaflyfishers.com

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

Bridgeport Outing

September 14, 15, 16 2007



The Three Musketeers

Back Row: Ron Petitt, Ed Sill, Clint Adams,
Larry Schmidt, Charlie Reames, Earl Summers,
Marty Kjelson
Front Row: Herman, Jim Rich, Bill Laughlin

October's Alpine Lake Outing

We had to cancel the striper outing scheduled for Sat. Oct. 20 to O'Neil Forebay. Bob Souza had an unexpected commitment for that date. Instead we will have an outing to Lake Alpine Sat. Oct. 13, weather permitting (new moon on the 11th). Grady Lee will be the fishmeister, for the outing. Bring your own lunch, breakfast at Rodz Grill in Angels Camp at 7am for those of you who wish to join him. Grady hopes to be pre-fishing Alpine weekly until the outing. For more information contact Grady at 951-3623 or gmississippikid@aol.com

October Conservation

by Ron Forbes

For over fifty years the native fish populations of Alameda Creek have had their migrations blocked. This includes the migration of both the federally threatened steelhead and salmon populations. Alameda Creek is the largest tributary of the southern San Francisco Bay and the area to be restored will include at least twenty miles of the creek and a watershed area of about 633 square miles.

In 1997 the nonprofit Alameda Creek Alliance was formed and has grown to about 1,450 members. This year it celebrates its 10th year of working to restore Alameda Creek. Over 70 local and regional conservation and fly clubs have worked on the project. This includes a lot of hard work by members of NCCFFF.

In October of 2006 seventeen public and nonprofit organizations signed an agreement to collaborate on a study of the stream flows and habitat need to restore the steelhead and salmon runs. The hard work of the groups involved will result the removal of four obsolete dams, two cement stream crossings and the building of two fish ladders. The Alameda Creek Water District will be working on three fish passage projects which are essential in restoring steelhead to the entire project. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has give \$500,000 for the installation of fish screens. An additional \$600,000 has been awarded from Prop 50 funds for additional ladders. These ladders and screens should all be in place by 2009. Other projects to enhance stream flows are also in the works. After fifty years of delays it is hoped the first runs of steelhead and salmon will be returning to Alameda Creek by late 2009.

The project he would like our help on is a side channel restoration project on the Stanislaus River near Knights Ferry. It will be similar to the project he did with EBMUD on the Mokelumne River that is working well. Along with the channel restoration they want to remove invasive plants and replace them with native vegetation. The native plants will enhance wildlife habit as well. He also talked about Delta FF becoming involved in the tracking of steelhead using acoustic tags. This project sounds very interesting and could be of great benefit to the steelhead population. They have tracked the Mokelumne River fish out the Golden Gate.

On the 4th of this month Cramer Fish Sciences will be explaining the project to the people of Knights Ferry. Joe said he would be pleased to make a presentation to our club and explain the details of the project and how we can be of help. Joe is sending more complete details of the project soon. It sounds like an interesting project and a project that will enhance the Stanislaus.

Another project in the works is a gravel enhancement project on the Calaveras River just below the New Hogan Dam.

FFF ITEMS OF INTEREST

2008 FFF Affiliate Club Dues Notices – FFF Affiliate club dues notices will be mailed in October of 2007. Dues will be due January 1st, 2008. The current dues structure is as follows: \$100.00 base rate plus \$2.00 per non-FFF club member (non-FFF member means that they are not a current individual member of the FFF). Maximum dues for the year are \$500.00.

FFF Club Opportunity to Sign Up New FFF Members at Discounted Rate – From July 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007 club members may join the Federation at the special discounted price of \$15.00 for a regular one year individual membership. You may use current FFF applications and cross off the normal 35.00 rate and write in 15.00. Membership form must be signed by the club president to certify that the applicant is a member of the affiliate club.

- These will qualify for credits towards Rod New Member Incentive Program during this promotion period.
- This is not for FFF membership renewals

FFF Life Member Promotion – July 1, 2007 until December 31, 2007

For Individual Life Membership - A price of \$750 it will include for a new member, choice of a Sage 590-4 Z-AXIS Series Rod in 5 wt or a Sage 890-4 Xi2 8 wt. Thus the new member gets a package valued at approximately \$1150.00 for his/her \$750.00 investment.

For Couple Life Membership – For the husband and wife who fish together, receive 2 rods and membership at the price of \$1,250.00

Note: Life payment plans do not qualify for this promotion. Full payment is required at time of sign up.

Mail a check to: FFF, 215 E Lewis, Livingston, MT 59047 or call with a credit card 406-222-9369 ext 106

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Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

Dean Watson 209 - 474-9776

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Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209 - 957-0170

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Ron Forbes 209 - 368-5767

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Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Historian

Dean Watson 209 - 815-6887

Membership

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344

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Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

Earl Summers 209 - 957-6756

Marty Kjelson 209 - 477-9618

Publicity

Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623

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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.

October 10**October Board Meeting****October 17****November Newsletter**

The deadline for the November issue is October 25th.

Eastern Sierra Focus - Continued

VIRGINIA LAKES – Action has been great with the lake turning over and the trout are much happier. Recent plants have been doubled and the first load of Tim Alpers IAG brown trout were stocked along with his beauty queens. Flies that have been working are Olive Matukas, Black Gnats, large Black Ant, Grey Hackle Yellow and Peacock, Doc's Twin Lake Special in black and olive. Also try some (James nor Eric) Leisenring spiders, March brown soft hackle or orange and partridge soft hackles. Also, Rickard's Stillwater nymph and a sheep creek are doing really well.

EAST WALKER – Flow is at 73cfs, which is down from 105 on the 15th. If your technique is good and your fly choice excellent, you will get tugs. Please only fish early morning and late afternoon when the water is the coolest in order to release the fish unharmed. Try some micro midges under a prince or vice versa.

BRIDGEPORT RESERVOIR – Just starting to cool and the fishing should turn red hot shortly as the fish are getting active. Fish are holding at about 7-12 feet of water and fish near the Rainbow point. Try damselfly, caddis and callibaetis patterns and there are also a few scuds and perch fry in and near the weedy areas. Guides have suggested using a 3 fly rig and you can check with local shops for patterns, or email me (vlr@qnet.com) if you go.

WEST WALKER – Is running 30cfs, which is up from 24 on the 15th. The best spot would be just past the bridge down to the first campground using large dries with a small dropper about 18" below depending on water depth and where fish are holding in the column, or use 2 small flies. Prince nymph has been a better bottom fly, but a good mend is the trick.

See you on the water! Cj 9.7

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Fishing tip:

When fishing the great caddis hatch at Hot Creek or Upper "O" or anywhere be sure to effectively fish your emergers to imitate hatching insects. The most important factor in the success of your emerger fishing is to imitate the natural behavior of the insect. This will determine fish or no fish. The correct size, shape and color are mandatory but you must make your fly behave like a real bug. There are different ways to fish emergers: close to the bottom, in the water column, at the surface or just below the surface. First you must determine where in the column the fish are feeding and meet them on their ground. If on the bottom, a nymphing approach is needed with the appropriate swing at the end of the drift. If the fish are near the surface, a surface or film emerger should be used. If fish are in the middle of the column, a hanging nymph or a micro/indicator or 2nd fly approach should be used. Once you have determined where the fish are, make your fly rise, swim or drift as needed. Gary Borger ties a fly called a Wet/Dry and it is simplicity plus. It's a light wire hook, dubbed fur body and a wind of partridge, woodcock or starling for the soft hackle. The more realistic the behavior the more it will determine your success. Like most fly-fishing techniques, emerger fishing takes research, practice and patience and more practice-practice-practice.

Weather

Eastern Sierra weather finally arrived with the first snowstorm of the season leaving only a couple inches from the 4-day storm. Temps slowly returned to normal but the fishing has improved greatly due to the cooler weather. Evenings are cool.

Legislation

Governor "S" cut the Fish and Game budget by 12%, and I'm amazed that he would even consider this as his pre-election flyers to get him elected stated that he was in support of outdoor enthusiasts. Everything that the Department is experiencing in their budget with regard to stocking has not changed.

NEWS: Apparently funding was allocated for two biologists to start searching for mud snails, and they have done a few lakes to date. We are awaiting the results of these waters surveyed.

Judd Hanna turned in his resignation last week giving up his recently appointed position on the CA Fish and Game Commission. Apparently Hanna's support of the banning of all lead bullets in condor country made him the target of Republican lawmakers, who barraged Governor Schwarzenegger with 34 requests to have him removed and the Governor asked for his resignation.

ROCK CREEK AREA and MOSQUITO FLATS – Doing fair to good and the mosquitoes are gone. Try the ponds just below the outlet and walk down the stream with a Zug Bug, Prince, or Pheasant Tail. Lake fishing is fairly close to Virginia Lakes report, but the stream is a lot more fun.

UPPER OWENS – Can only be described as AWESOME for the entire summer. Flows are around 99cfs with good clarity. Fish move, as the sun gets high in the sky seeking deep cooler water so move accordingly. Nymphing in the AM is best with a #16 Zug Bug, #16 Lightening Bug black or silver and a #18 tiger midge. Dries working are #10-14 hoppers, #10-16 Madam X, #14-16 Elk Hair Caddis, #18 e/c caddis, #20 Parachute Adams and #16-20 Griffith's Gnat. My choice would be olive larva lace nymph; orange soft hackle, La Fontaine cream bead head sparkle pupa and a black Copper John using a 2 fly rig soft hackle/pupa as the bottom fly. You don't want to miss out on this terrific fishery. I'm spending too much time here, oh well!

HOT CREEK – Water flow is 5cfs, weeds are up creating some challenges but dry flies has been the way to go in the afternoon before the storm hit and still doing well. Try #18 dark deer hair Caddis, loop wing Adams in the evening size #20 or 22. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail.

CROWLEY - Dropping but still fishable. Weed beds are toast but you will find trout in those areas chasing the perch fry. Water is clear to about 8' and Midging is probably the best way to go so try the North Arm, Green Banks shoreline and North-Landing Bay. Suggest using Blood Midge 14-18, #16 Black/red Optomidge, and #16 Stevies Wonder in Black.

CONVICT – No change from last report and so try some large streamers like Lobergs, Burgundy or olive/black wooly buggers, rainbow Hornbergs and Redeye Hornbergs.

MAMMOTH BASIN – Took a dive in action but should return in a couple days after the air temps warm in the basin. Try #10 Hale Bopp Leech wine or olive, #10 Doc's Twin Lake Special in olive or brown and a #12 Matuka with a #16 Zug Bug, or #16 Flashback PT as a trailer. Midges are still going off so try a #16 PT or Prince with #18 Optomidge in Gray/Black, and a #18-20 Tiger or Zebra Midge. Also, try some bushy standard dries sizes 16-20 CA Mosquito, #16 Stimulator and #14-20 Parachute Adams.

SAN JOAQUIN is low but fishing continues to be good. Fish all the curves keeping a low profile. Seven "bucks" will get your car into the valley. Saw lots of trout on the trip to the Falls, so try some small dries #18 elk hair caddis, #20 PMD's, Cahill light, and parachute Adams. Micro mayflies, olive AP nymphs, Zug Bug, Princes, PT's, and Copper Johns #18-20.

RUSH CREEK – There are discussions to turn sections into a premiere fishery between US395 and Mono Lake. To see the entire proposal for the Rush Creek Pond Scheme go to www.waterrights.ca.gov/hearings/mono-lake.htm. Water is low but still fishable, look for pockets and curves and stay out of sight with nice dries late afternoon before the sundown #18 or smaller.

JUNE LOOP - Still getting Cutthroats and doing well and standard streamers in dark patterns near weedy areas of the lake will get

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
Wednesday October 10	John R Williams School	Club Potluck
Sat. Oct. 13	Lake Alpine	AplineLake Fishmeister Bob Bradley 369-4048
Wednesday October 17	Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Sat. Oct. 13	Lake Alpine	Bridgeport Outing, Fishmeister - Grady Lee 951-3623
Oct. 19-21	Redding Convention Center Redding, CA	NCC/FFF 2007 Conclave 2007 Festival of Fly Fishing
November 17	Boat Dock Oak Grove Park Stockton	Trout Bout
TBA November	Rancho Seco Lake	Outing
TBA December	Rancho Seco Lake	Outing

DFF's Annual Club Potluck

October 10th

Our club potluck dinner is upon us again. If your last names begin with the following letters, please bring the following dishes:

- A – D A main course of hot food.
- E – G Hot vegetable plate, i.e. potato casserole, etc
- H - K Salad
- L – N Desert
- O – R Cold drinks, sodas or fruit juice
- S – Z Bread, butter and/or dinner rolls

Hope to see you all there with plenty of stories to tell. Also there will be some areas set aside in the hall for instruction on knot tying, leader-tippet selection, fly tying, rod selection, float tube and pontoon boat selection, how-to instructional books, etc, for all members new and old to become more acquainted with equipment selection.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

by
Bruce Rollans

Sallye took me striper fishing in the Delta the last Tuesday of September and it was a grand day. The air was clear and still. The temperatures were like early fall. The fish were unusually cooperative early in the morning. What more could we ask.

Typically we do not really get into stripers until the tide turns to an incoming flow early afternoon. In fact, we have thought of sleeping in during the morning to avoid all that unsuccessful casting. Good thing we did not this morning.

We traveled from Tower Park over to an area near Sherman Island. It was 9 a.m. when we began casting. Immediately and for the next hour we were into some very aggressive fish up to 8 lbs. Several times I struggled to bring what I thought were 12 lb. fish to the boat only to discover they were 5 lbs. By the time our hour was up and the fish stopped biting, we had brought 12 stripers into the boat. Surprisingly, this bite had been at the bottom end of an outgoing tide.

We moved upstream of the Antioch bridge where we fished over some flooded weed beds and brought a lot more stripers to the boat, but only two were of any remarkable size; the rest were very small schoolies.

We finally ended up casting to a rock wall in the Washington Cut area and located a big school of fish pushing bate against the incoming tide. We finished up the day by bringing 8 more very nice stripers into the boat. We lost 7 stripers during the day and sure fish we could have seen them, as they all seemed to be the big fish for the day. Fishful thinking?



Sallye's Striper



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing Newsletter

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