

# Delta Fly Fishers

August 2007

Rx

Flyfishing

## President's Message by Herman Spalinger

August 2007

Here we are at the latter third of the summer fishing season looking forward to fall and winter when the big ones seem to be more active. After leaving our Manzanita Lake and Mt. Lassen outing June 23rd and 24th, I forged north pulling my trailer to Oregon to meet up with my son camping on a medium-high elevation lake on the western slope of the Cascades called Olallie Lake. My son has fished there for the past several years and has found it to be a nice soothing experience after working in Newport, Oregon. My experience on fishing Olallie Lake will be the topic of my presentation at our August meeting out at Oak Grove Park Nature Center (they couldn't find a speaker for this meeting so I'm on the hook - pardon the pun). It was a nice camping experience and we were able to "feel the force of nature" around us. By the way, fair warning; there will be no "fish porn" as one of our earlier speakers described pictures of folks holding fish.

Judging from the scuttlebutt I've heard since returning, a lot of you folks have been out enjoying the great outdoors at some of your favorite fishing "holes." Our club members seem to be covering the Western Hemisphere from Mexico to Alaska and points east some close some far. Sounds like some of you could prepare a little presentation for the Club's Member's Presentation at the November meeting. I'm sure there are some memorable experiences to share with all of us.

As you might be able to glean from this message, I've got a little "writer's block" and seem to be wandering from subject to subject trying to fill up this column. Our September outing is our usual Bridgeport trip that several members use as a spring board for a trip to Upper and Lower Virginia Lakes. This is the domain of C.J. Webb and I discovered a background sketch of her, from the GGACC Bulletin, that I'd like to share with you. I hope I'm not infringing on any copyright laws. As you all know, C.J. fills our newsletter with reports from the Eastern Sierra focus each issue. Maybe some of you who have not met her might like to read a little background about her expertise. First off, personally I met her about three years ago on one of my forays from Bridgeport to the Virginia Lakes area at her resort. A Virginia Lakes excursion seems to be one of the things to do while camping at Robinson Campground. I introduced myself and immediately she began telling me what the fish seemed to be focusing on at that time and even offered me several flies from her box in the store that she sells to others not so fortunate. I even offered to pay for them and she would have none of it.

C.J. Webb and her husband have owned and operated the Virginia Lakes Resort for the past 33 summers. As you may know, Virginia Lakes is above 7,000 feet elevation, and so there's not much winter fishing due to the snow pack. They open their resort when the snow pack allows. C.J. does extensive one-day hikes into the backcountry looking for large golden trout and has had great success over the many years. She's hiked every major drainage from Bishop to Highway 88 and can tell you a lot about the areas she's hiked. Her goal has been to teach everyone interested how to catch fish regardless the manner. She likes to get kids off bait and onto a fly and bubble and then progress to a fly rod from there. She'll diagram drawings for rigging anything people want to fish with and keep it as inexpensive as possible. "Angling opportunity is what makes the sport, and once you get them catching fish, making it easier is the fun part." I hope those of you who attend our Bridgeport outing September 14th through 16th get an opportunity to meet C.J., which could be a challenge when she's behind the counter as she's a rather petite woman barely rising over the counter.

Well, I'm looking forward to the remainder of the year and wishing you all come away with a good feeling and experience attending some of our upcoming outings. Even if Lake Alpine isn't on our schedule for an outing, I'm looking forward in trying to hook one of those "monsters" that cruise around the dam in October.

Remember to keep your flies in the water and your lines tight.

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](mailto: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](mailto:suzasbs@clearwire.net).

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or [gmississippikid@aol.com](mailto:gmississippikid@aol.com)

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

# The Truckee River Outing



By Bill Laughlin

We had eight club members' sign up for this outing. Leo Gutierrez provided his house located in Truckee, high up on a cliff overlooking the Truckee River. Four bedrooms, three and a half baths, large family room, kitchen and dining room, patio balcony, in short it was beautiful and comfortable. We had made up the menu; (Leo's menu) purchased the food and departed Thursday. The plan was to go to Kiene's Fly shop, American Fly Fishing Co.; Fly Fishing Specialties then meet Jim Rich, Rick Green and Larry Schmidt at the Fresh Cut Restaurant in Granite Bay at 4 for dinner. After dinner we went to the Granite Bay Fly Fishing Club house, at Folsom Lake, for a Spey Casting clinic at 5:30. Everything went as planned (although we had to stop three times for directions. But, Leo was smooth as silk. He always stopped by a good looking lady and said "Pardon me can you help us, we are lost"). We did find the restaurant. Upon conclusion of the clinic we left for Truckee and Leo's house, arriving around 8:30pm.

Everyone was up at 6:30. Leo had hot cakes, coffee and a fruit salad for breakfast. Dean Watson, Joe Balderston and Jacob Loyko, came up on Friday, fished the afternoon and met us for dinner. We started fishing the Truckee River across from Leo's house. The action was not fast but we had some fish, the scenery was beautiful and we were having a good time. We went back to the house as Leo said lunch was being served at noon, homemade onion soup with French bread topping, chili con carne, fruit salad and tossed green salad. When we finished we decided to take an afternoon nap as the fishing had slowed and probably wouldn't pick up till later.

We went back out at 4pm to fish till 8; Leo said dinner was being served at 8:30. The fishing was slow but as we came back for dinner no one was complaining. Leo had dinner ready, an eight pound sliced and smoked ham, fruit and tossed green salad, vegetables, French bread. The ham looked like a basketball at first but with the help of Jacob we turned it into a softball, just enough for ham, eggs and pancakes the next morning.

Saturday Charlie Edwards joined us, coming in from Reno. We all decided to fish the area by the Reno Bridge. We got into fish, Joe had a nice 16" rainbow but the action was slow Leo served lunch at 12:30 and we were there. Minestrone soup, French bread and cheese topping, tossed green and fruit salads, watermelon. Again we decided to take an afternoon nap and then fish from 4-8.

The fishing hadn't picked up much; some went back to Reno bridge area and the rest across from Leo's house. Joe, Dean and Jacob did the best below the bridge. Dinner was served at 8:30. Rib eye steak baked potatoes, steamed broccoli, sautéed mushrooms, tossed green salad, fruit bar, red wine, French bread. We all slept well that night.

The only complaint we had all weekend was from Jacob, he said my choice of beer (Coors Lite) was poor as it is made from the spillage of Budweiser. But; being, that we didn't run out the whole weekend it wasn't all that bad. At some point Leo barbequed buffalo wings that were excellent. I think it was one of our lunches. We all had breakfast Sunday morning and had a round table discussion about our weekend, a lot of laughs. We were all tired and sore from wading the rivers for three days. We looked at each other and said; "Can you believe this weekend".

We thank you Leo, your beautiful house, excellent cooking, great conversations, laughs, fly tying lessons, as Jim said "It doesn't get any better than this".

Thank you again Leo.

Jim, Larry, Dean, Joe, Jacob, Charlie, Rick and Bill

## Conservation by Ron Forbes

On July 2, the U. S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Natural Resources held an oversight field hearing, in Vallejo. It was entitled "Extinction is not a Sustainable Water Policy: The Bay-Delta Crisis and the Implications for California Water Management". If you haven't attended a congressional hearing, it's well worth your time to attend. It gives you a chance to watch your government in action, for better or worse.

This hearing was rather clear cut on the issues about our Delta. As no surprise to anyone, the sides were rather clear cut. The south and farmers from the western valley (including Westland Water District) endorse the Peripheral Canal and the farmers and people of the central valley and north state oppose the canal. People on both sides entered their testimony into public record.

The most interesting part of the meeting however were the comments made by George Miller (D, CA) to Steve Thompson, Manger, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and L. Ryan Broddrick, Director of the California Dept. of Fish and Game. He asked both of them why they chose to change science to their advantage and to change facts to suit their political purposes. Basically he was calling them liars and demanded to know when the truth was going to be told. Frankly both Thompson and Broddrick were shown to be less than forthright and neither answered the questions directly. Neither one would say when they were going to when they would be honest about correcting their pseudo-science nor when they willing to reinstate the scientist fired for Thompson's or Broddrick's political purposes. They lied and now have been caught. We haven't heard the last of Mr. Miller's actions regarding their activity.

Miller also attacked B J Miller who has introduced a paper claiming the pumps in the Delta have nothing to do with loss of smelt or other fish. He claims that the fish loss is due because of changes to the subspecies that the smelt feed on. B J Miller paid no attention to the possibility that the pumps were killing the fish. He is employed by the group who operates the pumps. After his presentation, George Miller referred to B J Millers' work as useless and basically junk science. Looks like things are heating up and people are beginning to show their real colors. Again it showed B J Miller's lack of good science and only attempts to further B J Miller's pseudo-science for his and the Mendota canals purposes and political advantage.

In the middle of July many of us received a letter from Keith Parker, a member of the Yurok tribe in northern California. Mr. Parker informed us that the salmon have shown up on good numbers in the Klamath's estuary this year and the fishing has been good. However, upriver the Klamath is again difficult to fish since the water temps have risen too high. The amount of grass and moss make it hard to fish. In July the water flows have been cut again. It's hard to believe but the temperature was as high as 76°F. The fish will not survive this temperature. If the temperatures are not lowered below 68°F, the salmon will again suffer exposure to "gill rot". And they will die in large numbers. The Bush people claimed only 4,000 salmon died in 2002. The true number was somewhat in the mid 65,000's and probably more. Gill Rot is always in the river, but with fresh water flowing and cold water it isn't a problem till the flows are cut and the temperature goes above 68°F. Again, if we do not allow cold water to flow and avoid the water cut-backs, we are again going to have a 2002 disaster with the same type of fish kill or worse than we had in 2002.

Again the EPR isn't taking notice. Another serious problem exists in Warren Buffett's Iron Gate and Copo reservoirs on the Klamath River. You are being ask to stay off the upper river due to an algae know as *Microcystis aeruginosa*. It's generally blue-green algae. Sometimes it is of a brown or white scum or foam color in nature. Swimmers, boaters and recreational and being warned to avoid using the upper river.

The *aeruginosa* cause:

- 1) Eye irritation
- 2) Allergic skin reaction
- 3) Mouth ulcers
- 4) Vomiting
- 5) Diarrhea
- 6) Cold and flu-symptoms

It has even caused liver failure and death when large amounts of the water have been ingested. Again the state has issued a warning but has done nothing more. You are should 1) avoid wading and swimming in the water, 2) avoid drinking the water 3) avoid having to touch the scum, especially young children 4) do not drink, cook or wash dishes in the water 5) only eat the fish after they have been cleaned and the fish have been cleaned in clean drinking water 6) pet and livestock should not drink the water, nor swim in the algae or scum and should not lick their fur 7) you should seek medical treatment for yourself, your pet, or your livestock if poisoning from the *Microcystis aeruginosa* has taken place.

As we all know many issues are coming forward regarding the San Joaquin/Sacramento Delta. No one has "the one" answer. And all answers seem to be more problematic rather than the total solution. The Governor's solution is typical of the problem. It does not address the total issue. Issues such as global warming, water needs of the Delta farming, loss of Delta animal life and the needs of our population for water are but a few of the issues needed to be addressed. We as Delta Fly Fishers have a far better understanding of the issues and needs of our Delta than most. And we are lucky. An outstanding resource is close to home. The group is of, course, "Restore the Delta". We are lucky in having Barbara Parrilla as Director of Restore the Delta. And Delta Fly Fishers need to be more of an active part in the Restore the Delta. Ms. Barbara Parrilla is an outstanding resource regarding the Delta and will help us in any she can. To be part of the group for the Delta or to be a resource we need to help. Get in touch with Barbara at:

Barbara Parrilla  
209-479-2053  
barbara@restorethedelta.org

or

Restore the Delta  
restorethedelta.org  
PO Box 691088  
Stockton, CA 95269

Good Fishing,

Ron Forbes

## Delta Fly Fishers Official Club Merchandise For Sale

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.

## Membership Meetings

**August 8**  
**Oak Grove Park**

August Board Meeting

**The Board Meeting is**  
**August 15**

September Newsletter

The deadline for the September issue is August 25th.

## DFE Officers

### President

Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

### 1st Vice President

Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

### 2nd Vice President

(Open)

### Secretary

Steve Von Berg 209 - 327-6161

### 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

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



## New Orleans Redfish Report – By Al Smatsky

April 10th – 12th, 2007

Like a lot of you, I wondered just what New Orleans looked like after Hurricane Katrina. Well, the area surrounding New Orleans is still devastated with little signs of returning soon. The good news, the French Quarter, Garden District and parts of downtown New Orleans are up and running and back to business as usual. I would say the only disappointing part about our visit to New Orleans was the food; it's so good you just can't consume enough in one visit; we'll have to go back.

April weather can always be a question mark no matter where you travel and this was no exception. The first day of our three day redfish trip was a blow out due to a strong thunder storm that moved in from the gulf. The weather report was expected to be better the next day so we made arrangements to take a "Plantation Tour" with our wives who accompanied us on the trip. The 200+ year old oak trees that line the entrance to the "Oak Alley Plantation" was truly an impressive site. The tour guides here and at the "Laura Plantation" gave a descriptive picture as to what life was all about during this historic period. One can only wonder just how you would have fit in.

Our fly fishing guide, Captain Barrett Brown, was waiting for us in front of our hotel at 6:30 am. The day greeted us with "fog"; I was thinking that we were still back in Central California. As we drove out to the launch, we went through St. Bernard's Parrish; it was still suffering from the effects of Katrina. Since it was still foggy when we arrived at the launch, we waited a while for it to lift before we launched the boat. It was the GPS that saved our morning; we couldn't have made our way around the Bayou without it. Capt. Barrett was not impressed with the water clarity so he rigged up the fly rod with one of his favorite spoon flies. The sun started to burn through the fog as I started blind casting the shoreline in search of a cruising redfish, it didn't take long and I had my first of the day. Doug Fritz, my fishing partner, was next, the conditions had improved and he had several opportunities at visible redfish. His best of the day was a 14 pound redfish. We also caught several sea trout and Doug even caught one flounder, boy that's fishing the bottom.

The weather the second day was much improved with the expected temperature to be in the 80's. From the launch we made our way further out in the Gulf and found some clear water where we could site fish. Doug was first on deck and the wind was less than cooperative but we did see many, many redfish along the shoreline. Doug caught a huge "Black Drum" which weighed of 38 pounds. It was quite a dog fight getting this fish to the boat and in the net.

Now it was my turn, Captain Barrett poled the boat along the shoreline a short distance when he decided it was time to move. We drove several miles to a long skinny inlet off of one of the bayou channels. He quietly poled the boat to the back of the inlet where we could use the wind to our advantage. The water clarity was very good which made for some excellent site fishing. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw what appeared to be a fin pop through the surface some distance away. I asked Captain Barrett what was that? He said it was a big redfish. He hurried to get close enough for me to make a cast; I made several casts around the fish, trying to encourage him to come after the fly. But he wasn't interested in chasing anything, his nose was on the bottom and wasn't even aware that we were there. Captain Barrett said drop the fly closer to him, which I did, right on his head. One strip and fish on! This was a big redfish, which ran way into the backing several times. We didn't realize how big until I managed to get him back to the boat. After several more runs and several attempts to lift his head, Captain Barrett finally got him in the net. The redfish was 29 pounds our biggest of the trip.

This was an excellent introduction into the area and fly fishing Louisiana style. Can't wait to return, possibly this fall.

Recommendation: Even though the surrounding New Orleans area is still suffering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina, the redfish are still there. I would certainly recommend that you go and enjoy yourself. Captain Barrett said, "The guide business is nowhere close to pre-Katrina but it is picking back up".

You can get more information at Al's web site, <http://www.excellentadventures.org>

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meet- ing nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>FLY CASTING</b> Contact: Jim Rich 477-6404 Rick Greene 477-1488
Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM	John R Williams School Stockton	<b>Membership Meeting</b> Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690
Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>Board Meeting</b> All Members Welcome
August 8	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>Membership Meeting</b> The President's Program
August 15	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>Board Meeting</b> All Members Welcome
Sept. 14 - 16	Bridgeport, CA	<b>Bridgeport Outing, Fishmeister Bob Bradley 369-4048</b>
Oct. 13	O'Neil Forebay Santa Nella, CA	<b>Striper Outing</b> Fishmeister: Bob Souza 478-8344
November 17	Boat Dock Oak Grove Park Stockton	<b>Trout Bout</b>
TBA November	<b>Rancho Seco Lake</b>	<b>Outing</b>
TBA December	<b>Rancho Seco Lake</b>	<b>Outing</b>



**For Sale:** 8 ft. Fiberglass Pram built in 1988 by Outback, Richman, CA, Excellent Condition, Oars, 2 electric motors, battery and anchor. The pram has wheels attached for transport to water. Asking \$500. Call (209) 649-2598 ask for Pat.

Either Herman was attacked by another a deer or he is trying to install a floating outhouse.

# DFF and the California Bass Anglers of the Silent Society



# More Pictures From The Truckee River



## *Delta Fly Fishers*

Rx Flyfishing Newsletter

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209-951-9610



**President's Message by Herman Spalinger**  
July, 2007

We had a terrific turnout for the June 2nd Catfish Derby. I personally would again like to thank the particular order for their contribution to this county-sponsored event. First off, Earl Summers for arranging items; Bill Laughlin for buying the hot dogs and driving the cart around the pond selling food along with the donuts and being everywhere when needed despite a toothache; Walt Kotecki and Ed Sill for the details; Charlie Reames for setting up the fly casting and spin casting area; Rick Greene, Jim Rich, Harv



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