

March 2007

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

President's Message

February is a short month, and I don't know whether because of that this month has slipped by awfully fast or what, but it seems I just wrote the February President's message a few days ago.

First of all, I'm happy to announce the Board elected a new vice-president for 2007. Charles Edwards stepped forward at the annual dinner and said he was thinking of the vice-president's position. He came to February's board meeting to see how things are run. Well, he showed up at which time the Board immediately elected him to that position. Welcome aboard, Charles, we appreciate your volunteering. Please, take the time at our next regular meetings to greet our new vice-president, plus Jacob Loyko our new Property Chairperson. Jacob stepped forward at our dinner to volunteer for that position. His first project will be to convert our library of rental how-to fishing tapes into DVD's. We'll still hold on to the tapes for those of us who still drive around listening to our 8-tracks in our Model T's, but to those who have the new DVD format rental should become a little easier. The club has a library of around 60 tapes on various aspects of fly fishing that every member is invited to rent for a couple of dollars with no immediate return date. However, Jacob will keep track of who has what DVD/tape and will be on your case if it isn't returned within a reasonable amount of time.

I again would like to thank Bill Laughlin for his excellent job arranging his raffle display with the help of Dean Watson at our annual dinner. Thanks also should go to John Keagy for filling in for Charlie Reames who had to bow out after a stent operation. Charlie is back on his feet and attended March's board meeting and looking forward to attacking those fish again. Many thanks also to those who helped collect money for the raffle tickets and anyone else I've failed to mention by name.

You may remember my mentioning the passing of Jack Gordon during our annual dinner. One of Jack's favorite projects was the Kids Catch a Smile Trout Fishing Day for physically challenged youth. In keeping with a similar tradition, Eric Hamlow, of California Bass Anglers of the Silent Society (Cal BASS), started an educational program, with a hands-on experience and total communication for Deaf Youth. Eric is the father of Harvey, our new Board member. Cal BASS wants to offer a fly fishing education workshop, as a section of their youth program, and is looking to our club to help presenting a fly fishing program to those hearing-impaired youths. Cal BASS, through Eric, is asking that a few of our members make themselves available to demonstrate fly casting, fly tying and other aspects of fly fishing to about 30 youths. This is so they can see there is more to trout fishing than just dunking a worm or egg in the water and waiting for a bite. Details have yet to be worked out as to time and place, but May or July is the target month for this. It will be a one-day event with cook-out, refreshments and much more. The Board approved Harvey contacting Cal BASS to assure them we will be more than happy to demonstrate our skills as fly fishers for them. They will have interpreters signing for the presenters'. This looks like a tremendous opportunity for us to show Cal BASS that we are in whole-hearted support of such an event. Several board members have already shown a desire to demonstrate their fly fishing "prowess", and I'm asking any of you members who read this article to also consider volunteering for such an event. Complete details will be worked out in the future after Cal BASS meets on March 3rd. I invite you to keep yourself posted on upcoming notices of when and where this event will take place. It should be a learning experience as well for those of us who attend this event.

In closing I would like to pass on a very funny book my daughter in Carlsbad, CA, gave me for Christmas called Zipping My Fly written by Rich Tosches. It comes in paperback. Rich wrote for the UPI and Los Angeles Times. He was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for his Olympics coverage, has also written for Sports Illustrated, Modern Maturity and other magazines. He now lives in Colorado and was named Colorado's Journalist of the Year by the state's press association. He was once called "one of the funniest men in America" by Steve Allen. It's a pretty funny book - at times a little over the top - but a good read.

Until next month, keep your fly 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

Winter Season for Sierra Streams

Ten rivers in the Sierra will be open for catch and release during the winter. This is similar to the regulations for the Upper Sacramento above Lake Shasta. These new regulations are shown in the new 07-08 freshwater sport fishing booklet. The following rivers are included: American, Hot Creek, East Fork Carson, Little Truckee, Upper Owens, Pit, Truckee, Tuolumne, East Walker and the North Yuba. Make sure to read the new regulations for specifics before you go! These changes appear to go into effect immediately. Yes trout are known to take a fly when snow is on the bank! - Hope this helps. I know a lot of folks aren't aware of this information.

Annual Shad Attack is Close!!

Come to the Shad Clinic at Oak Grove Park to find out how to catch these great sport fish on fly equipment. The date is May 2nd Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Nature Center Building.

There will be a basic tackle discussion and fly tying demonstration on fly patterns for Shad in our local waters. For more information call Bob Souza at (209) 478-8344, cell 209-607-6604 or e-mail at suzasbs@clearwire.net



DFE Annual Club Shad Outing Saturday May 19th

Delta Fly Fishers Shad outing will be held at Goethe Park on the American River. There will be fishing buddies and extra tackle for the first timers. You will be helped with the proper presentation to fish for these great sport fish on fly tackle.

Directions for this outing are, from Stockton north on hwy 99 to east hwy 50 , take Bradshaw Rd off ramp ,left at stop light, then right at Folsom Blvd to Beaudry Dr. at park entrance gate you will have to pay \$4.00 per car. Then drive to the horse area sign make a left turn at the sign follow road back to the fishing area.

Contact person, Bob Souza 607-6604 or suzasbs@clearwire.net



Grady's new Pontoon boat
Converted from an old Confederate Navy gun boat

Delta Fly Fisher's Annual Banquet Happy 30th Anniversary



DFE Officers

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Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

1st Vice President

Charles Edwards 209 - 951-0391

2nd Vice President

(Open)

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Steve Von Berg 209 - 327-6161

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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

Steve Cooper 209 - 956-1032

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

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 Bob Bradley 209-369-4048 for info on merchandise

Membership Meetings

March 14th - Ralph Wood - Yuba/Truckee River

Trout fishing.

March Board Meeting

March 21

Free Fly Tying

Fly Tying will be held at Oak Grove Park every Wednesday except meeting nights. Information: Jim Rich 209 477-6404

March Newsletter

The deadline for the April issue is March 25th.

The Rancho Seco Fishing Contest

Ron Forbes has set the date for the Rancho Seco fishing contest with the California Fly Fishers United of Sacramento for March 17th. Ron has read some of the insults from said club at our membership meetings. Rules for the contest are still pending. A lunch will be served with a heavy dose of humble pie for the losers or possibly heavy helpings of Mississippi tri-tip or caviar with some road kill as a side dish. Here is an excerpt from an e-mail between members of CFFU. (Said e-mail was intercepted and decoded by a member of the DFFBI aka Delta Fly Fishers Bureau of Intelligence) "I am with you 100%!!!!!! We will nail their (I assume the reference is to the honorable DFF) slimy butts to the wall. Or sink their Styrofoam? Electrical tape float tubes..... which as you know are only kept afloat by the tremendous amount of hot air expelled by operator of said "crafts". Power bait? They should aspire to such heights.....no that is one step above their current talents....."

Dear fellow members how can we allow such to insults to continue to sully the honorable name of the DFF? I know we can respond with much more intelligent insults. Please send any and all to me and I will forward same to Ron Forbes, who I am sure will make sure that any messages are "intercepted" by the CFFU Bureau of Intelligence (what an oxymoron).

One Fly Contest

The Calaveras Club has set the date for the One Fly Contest on May 5th. Circle that date on your calendars. We have a great time with these guys and they serve a great lunch. More on this as the time gets closer.

Conservation - By Ron Forbes

Several weeks ago I received several e-mails that had some good news regarding the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP). This plan has been controversial from its beginning. As you will recall the basic idea was to build massive barriers to prevent the intrusion of more salt water into the Delta. However, at the same time more water was to be pumped south, about 27% more. At present, DWR and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) want to sell the additional water to agribusiness (Westland Water District (et al)) and to water suppliers in Southern California. All of this was to be done despite the lack of good science showing what the effect will be on the Delta, which is now in serious ecological trouble.

However, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has notified both DWR and USBR that it has suspended its formal review of the SDIP. They said that there are "areas of significant concern" with the SDIP's environmental analyses. Studies done by DWR have been referred to as "junk science" produced to allow the project to continue.

By suspending its review, NMFS has taken a major stand for environmental protection and good science. It is felt that because of NMFS position on the SDIP the project, they will have to produce better science to continue. This will delay the start of the SDIP for at least a year. Some feel this may stop the SDIP.

In early February the Modesto Water District's case was to begin. As you will recall the case was brought to delist steelhead from endangered to threatened. We, along with NCCFFF, are intravenors in the case, on behalf of Earth Justice. Dougald Scott of NCCFFF attended the opening of what was to be the beginning of the trial. The judge has some problems with issues presented to him by the Modesto Water District and postponed the trial until April.

At the last meeting of NCCFFF's Conservation Committee, there were several items of interest discussed. The guest speaker was Roger Bloom of DFG. He spoke on several issues including the problems facing DFG in the area of enforcement. At present we have 170 wardens for the entire state and the new commissioner feels we need 700 to effectively patrol the state. The chief problem for finding the new wardens is the low pay. There is no pay parity with other law enforcement agencies that have similar jobs in the state. Of the last 8 hired to take the training, 5 have since quit. One of the major problems facing DGF according to Bloom is the unchecked poaching. Bloom claimed that the poachers are devastating the Striped Bass populations in the Delta.

Bloom also spoke on the DFG's California Heritage Trout Challenge. The challenge consists of catching six different forms of native California trout in their historic drainages. The trout that are considered in the contest are: Coastal Cutthroat, Eagle Lake Rainbows, McCloud River Redband, Goose Lake Redband, Warner Lake Redband, Kern River Rainbow, California Golden, Little Kern Golden, Lahontan Cutthroat and the Paiute Cutthroat. There is no time limit in the contest and all one has to do is submit a picture of the trout and the drainage where the fish was caught. As a prize you receive a picture of your trout painted by illustrator Joseph Tomelleri that will fit in a 16x20 matted

frame. It is a fun challenge and the State's idea is that you will learn more about our native trout and what being done to preserve then thru conservation efforts. You can find the details at DFG's website.

A new idea seems to be coming from DWR. The idea is referred to as the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The concept is that all groups in a regional watershed area meet and collaborate on plans for the area's water needs. The idea is that it would help to end closed "backroom" meetings in which special deals are cut to the advantage of some and disadvantage of all others.

An IRWMP has been formed in the Placerville area and is known as CABY (Cosumnes, American, Bear, and Yuba Rivers). Its members represent all groups interested in these river's watersheds. The group has almost 30 diverse members and has been working on diverse issues, and doesn't take just one area for one group's interest. The Gold Country Fly Fishers are members and have effectively made their concerns known and taken into account. CABY's plan for its area has been voted on, approved and will start in 2007. All members of CABY have an equal vote. Areas of concern are included in the plan, including conservation issues. They will seek funding from money that the State has set aside for regional groups under Prop 50 (\$220 million) and Prop 84 (\$1 Billion). It's an interesting concept and some politicians seem to like the concept because it takes some heat off them. Contact Liz Mansfield, Project Director at 530-642-4101.

Tight loops,

Ron Forbes

The Federation of Fly Fishers

The Federation of Fly Fishers is disseminating information about a new threat to our waterways called "Rock Snot." It looks just like what comes out of your nose. The FFF is leading an international effort to reduce the spread of this disease called *Didymosphenia geminata*. This alga is native to many cold water streams in the northern latitudes where it usually presents no problem. However, biologists in recent years have discovered the alga has become an aggressive invader. It is spreading around the world and is forming impenetrable mats that can be up to two feet thick and covers the entire bottom of the stream and makes it impossible to fish. It is already having biological impacts and the science community has yet to discover all of the damage that it causes. At this time it has and is spreading to Arkansas, West Virginia, North & South Carolina, Texas, Missouri and almost every western mountain state. It is a national bio-hazard and threat in New Zealand and has also spread to the UK and much of Europe.

FFF is one of the leaders in educating the public regarding these issues and implementing programs that will serve to protect and restore our aquatic resources. It is recommended at this time that we take the following steps to prevent spreading this invasive alga. They are:

- 1 - Make sure to wash your gear before you leave a stream.
- 2 - Inspect your gear to make sure you are not transporting mud, vegetation or any other visible material.
- 3 - Dry your equipment thoroughly before you use it on another water.
- 4 - Never transport live fish or other organisms from one water to another.

More information can be obtained about invasives at <http://fedflyfishres.org/conInvasiveSpecies.php>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	FLY TYING Contact: Jim Rich 477-6404
Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Contact Steve Cooper 956-1032
Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
March 14th	John R. Williams School Stockton	Ralph Wood C&R Guide Service-Yuba/Truckee River Trout Fishing.
March 17th	Rancho Seco Recreational Area	Rancho Seco fishing contest with the California Fly Fishers United of Sacramento
March 21st	Nature Center Oak Grove Park	Board of Director's Meeting
April 7th	Kelsey Ranch Snelling, CA	Kelsey Ranch Bass Fishing
April 28th	All Over California	Opening Day of the General Trout Season
May 2th	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Shad Clinic at Oak Grove Park
March 19th	Goethe Park American River	Goethe Park on the American River Goethe Park on the American River
May 5th	White Pines Lake	One Fly Contest With The Calaveras Club

Invicta Flies - Damselfly

Hook: Mustad 94831, #12
Thread: 6/0 black
Extended Body: blue deer hair
Wings: gray fox guard hairs
Legs, Back, & Head: blue deer hair



Tying Instruction:

- 1) Cover the front half of the shank with the tying thread. Clip a bundle of blue deer hair that is about 1/4 matchstick in diameter. Clean out any underfur and even the tips in a stacker. Measure for length (tip of tail should extend a full hook length beyond back of bend) and tie in at half shank by the butt ends. First straddle the shank with the fibers. Hold the bundle in place while you tighten the thread. The fibers should completely cover the rear half of the hook shank.
- 2) Still holding the deer hair bundle, slide your fingers back and lash the fibers to the shank in spiral wraps to the bend. Once at the bend, spiral the thread around the deer hair only, stopping about 1/4 inch from the tips. Take a couple extra turns of thread to secure, then spiral back to the half shank point, creating the segmented body. Clip the excess butts. Cement the securing wraps of thread near the tip of the extended body.
- 3) Bring the thread forward to about two and a half hook eye widths behind the eye. Clip a bundle of hair from a gray fox hide and remove the soft underfur. Stack the guard hairs in the stacker. You will have to make a judgement as far as how many fibers to use. Usually it is something less than 1/4 matchstick. Remove from the stacker and measure for length, which will equal the extended body section (from the half shank point to the tip of the tail). Tie this on top of the shank, tips forward. Divide the bundle into two equal parts and figure-eight wrap the thread to hold the division. Take four turns of thread around the far wing, then pull back with the thread to position and immediately take two turns of thread behind to hold in place. Do the same with the near wing.
- 4) Prepare another bundle of blue deer hair, same size, and even the tips. Measure for length- the tips will be the legs and should be equal to the hook shank in length. Straddle the shank with the bundle, the tip below the wings and pointing out beyond the hook eye, the rest above and to the rear of the fly. Hold in place as you take a couple loose turns of thread and tighten to secure and flare the tips. Wind back tightly with the thread, lashing the remaining hairs to the sides/top of the shank all the way to the end of the extended abdomen.
- 5) Bring the thread forward to two thread wraps behind the wings. Pull the deer hair forward and lash down here, working the thread between the flared tips. This helps flare some of the tips to the rear, other to the front. Take two tight turns of thread, lift the butts, and bring the thread under the remaining deer hair over and between the wings to the far side just in front of the wings. Stroke all materials back and two or three turns of thread to anchor it in place.
- 6) This next part can be a little tricky. Hold the legs back out of the way while at the same time pulling the deer hair forward again between the wings. Lash this down just in front of the wings, creating a bulging thorax, with two or three tight wraps of thread.
- 7) Lift the butts and tie a whip finish knot around the shank only. Trim the deer hair to shape for the head, then cement the whip finish knot. Trim the leg fibers so only a few are left flaring out to the sides.

Winter Fishing With Bruce and Sallye

Delta Revisited

Sallye and I fished the Delta Valentine's Day with Mike Costello. Most of day was spent searching for fish. The Mokelumne River, near New Hope Landing, looked more like coffee than river water due to the rain a few days earlier. Although Fish and Game was in process of releasing Steelhead smolts, we could not locate any stripers; much less get them to target our Clouser type, jig head flies. Hog and Sycamore sloughs were clear, but no takers. Finally, just as the tide was reaching its peak we found allot of fish in Beaver Slough. For one and one half hours we had a total of 15 fish to the boat, the best at 8 lbs, with most at 5 lbs. It was one of those rare events in which 10 of these fish were on my fly. Sallye just could not seem to hang onto most of the fish she hooked.

San Diego Harbor

The day after fishing the delta Sallye and I traveled to San Diego to see our son (my excuse for a fishing trip or two in the harbor). We fished with John Grim, aka Salty Doc, Friday, February 16. Fishing began at 6:30 a.m. and ended at 12:30 p.m. Much like the Delta two days earlier, the 15/16 fish we landed were taken near the peak of the tide in an hour and one half. We had Pacific Halibut, Pacific Mackerel, sand bass and spotted bay bass. We were throwing 200 grain sinking lines on 7 weight rods.

This winter's weather has been hard on Harbor fishing. With virtually no cloud cover the water temperatures have dropped and stayed low causing those fish that normally move into the harbor in the winter to stay out in the kelp beds.

We were booked to fish the harbor Monday, February 19, with Jeff Stock, but a storm moved on shore late Sunday night. We saw the heavy downpour and high winds the next morning we were glad not to be out in white capped harbor.



Grady's Confederate Navy Houseboat



4140 Chum Creek Road ♦ Redding, California 96002 ♦ Ph. (530) 222-3555 ♦ FAX (530) 222-3572

The Fly Shop's Opening Day Party Friday, April 27th, 2007

Featuring:

- Free Food
- Fly Tying Demonstrations by Mike Mercer, Tim Fox, and Justin Miller
- Fly Fishing industry reps
 - Local Knowledge
 - DFG representative

Free food from 11:00 am – 5:30 pm

Tim Fox's Fly Tying @ 1:00 pm
Mike Mercer's Fly Tying @ 3:00 pm
Justin Miller's Fly Tying @ 5:00 pm

Delta Fly Fishers

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