

President's Message by Herman Spalinger

The following officers were elected by the Board of Directors at our Board meeting of December 20, 2006: President - Herman Spalinger; Secretary - Steve von Berg; Treasurer - Bruce Rollans. I announced at our December meeting that Bill Laughlin would probably fill the position of vice-president. Bill is already involved as Raffle Chairperson and sits on the Board of Directors. According to our By-Laws, no officer can fill a position on the Board therefore I would greatly appreciate a member in good standing who has been with the club for a couple years to please think about stepping forward and volunteering at our next regular meeting on January 10, 2007 to fill our open position as vice-president. I would also like to thank the Board in putting their trust in choosing me as your president for 2007. We have a very active Board and I look forward to serving the Board and our club next year.

For those of you who are not familiar with me or are new to the club, I was asked to join the club back in 2001 by then President Duane Martin. He caught me at work one day and asked if I would be interested in joining the club, and so I attended my first meeting after filling out a membership form. Then the following week he invited me to attend a Board meeting and see how the club operates. Little did I know he had an ulterior motive in mind? At the second Board meeting I attended he announced the club's secretary had stepped down, and since I was a court reporter, boy, would I make a good secretary. Before I could blink an eye, I was handed a pencil and note pad and told get to work. Now after five years serving as your secretary, I was relieved when Steve von Berg volunteered to act as secretary next year - provided, however, I serve as president. Again, another ulterior motive.

I certainly have appreciated the opportunity to serve as secretary because it helped me learn your names, and I was eventually able to put a face to most of those names. I also must admit I'm really rusty at public speaking because for 37 years in the court and deposition reporting field I only spoke when spoken to read back either a witness' answer or a previous statement made by counsel - all from fresh notes in front of me. As a result, I'd ask you all to bear with me as I get my "public speaking legs" under me.

This club has been a tremendous help in me getting back to fly fishing. My dad started me off fly fishing because he came from a family of five brothers who all lived in Oregon and they all fly fished. There was a little sibling rivalry between them. Back in the late 1940's it was all bamboo rods. There may have been some glass rods around then, but dad used bamboo so I was given a bamboo rod. I previously had learned to use lightweight tackle to catch fish, and when I was in what they now call the "tweens" the bamboo rod fit the bill for me. After I joined the club I discovered since buying graphite rods you could almost have a cup of coffee between your backcast and your forward cast as those old bamboo rods were rather slow action. All of my dad's fly fishing was dry flies so when I saw that first splash at my fly I set the hook so hard the fly, fish and line all ended up behind me. If that fish was three inches long before he hit the fly, he ended up being six inches after I set that hook.

For you newer members, who have just joined this club, please feel free to use our buddy program. Bob Souza and Grady Lee are more than happy to get you started in the right direction. Also Jim Rich and Rick Greene are always on hand at Oak Grove Park pond every Wednesday evenings during the late spring and summer from 6:00 p.m. to dark to fine tune your casting stroke or help you get started casting correctly. If you're new to fly fishing and you ask some of our members on what equipment you'll need, you'll probably get as many answers as there are members. I'd suggest Bill Laughlin, our Raffle Chairperson, would be a got start as he deals with a lot of equipment for our raffles, and he might have some great suggestions so you won't have to mortgage the house to pay for some new fly rods or waders. You might be aware of the down side when buying new equipment, though, as you'll probably drive your wife crazy spending money for equipment she might not use.

Again, I'd mention that every Wednesday during the year, except meeting nights, there are usually several club members tying flies at the Nature Center at Oak Grove Park from about 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Any one of several members, Bob Souza, Joe Balderston, Dean Watson, Steve Cooper, Jim Rich, or others who happen to show up, will be more than happy to help you get started in tying your own flies.

Another note for you newer members who attend our regular meetings, our Board members and regular members will strive to take the opportunity to introduce themselves to you and help you get acquainted with our club's activities and outings. We sometimes tend to be a little "caught up among ourselves" telling our fishing stories to each other, so don't hesitate to step up and kick a shin if you need to and introduce yourself as a new member so we can all become acquainted. My past experience with this club and its members has been stellar beginning with my first attendance at an outing up to the present time. I still remember Charlie Reames taking the time to meet me at Lake Davis to help me get my new float tube into the water and suggesting some nymphs to use. I actually caught a fish or two that day. As you can tell, one thing I lack, is knowing when to stop writing, and so I will strive to keep these future president's messages shorter. In the meantime, as they say in the fly fishing magazines, "tight lines".. Herman

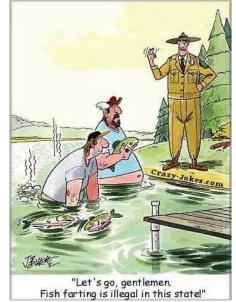
Membership Form - Regular membership is: \$25 and a Family Membership is: \$30.00 or \$20.00 for 62 years or older. New members please add \$5.00 one time new member initiation. Dues are for one year September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. Please fill out then mail to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, 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: ☐ Fly Tying ☐ Equipment ☐ Knot Tying □ Casting ☐ Attending Outings ☐ Float Tubing ☐ Pontoon Boating ☐ Stream Fishing \Box Lake Fishing \Box Trout Fishing \Box Steelhead Fishing \Box Shad Fishing ☐ Striper Fishing ☐ Salt Water Fishing ☐ Private Water Fishing ☐ Bass Fishing ☐ Selecting a Guide ☐ Travel ☐ Rod Building ☐ Entomology □ Other Please describe what you would like help with If you need further information, please contact the Fishing Buddy Committee: Bob Souza at 209-607-6604 or suzasbs@clearwire.net. Grady Lee at 951-3623 or gmississippikid@aol.com

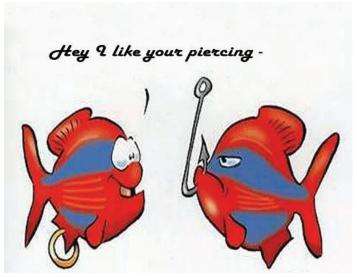
Mail the form to: Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

This and That Page

Each month it seems like it is getting harder and harder to find enough material to fill the 10 pages of this newsletter. I need the members to send me pictures, stories, classified ads and anything else you can think of to dsridgway@sbcglobal.net or doug_flyfisher@yahoo.com. For this month I have included a few jokes and cartoons to fill space. Some have something to do with fishing, some don't. I hope everyone gets a kick out of them.







Joe and Bob are out fishing, it's a great day for fishing and the fish are biting as fast as you can get your hook in the water. After a few hours of keeping every big fish they get they decide to head in for the day. After loading up their boat a DFG officer asks to check their licenses. Their licenses were valid. Then he asks to check the livewell. Upon looking in the livewell, the officer comes back and says, "You guys are 10 fish over your limit, so I am going to have to write you a ticket". Being that it was Joe's truck and boat, he immediately perked up and said, "No, we are not over our limit. I would never keep more than my limit. These are my pet fish and I take them down to the lake everyday to get some exercise. I let them go I whistle and they come back to me". The Warden says "Alright but you are going to have to prove it to me". Joe goes and takes out the 10 fish and put them back in the lake. Then the Warden says, "Ok, now whistle and bring all those fish back." Then Joe after a little giggle and smirk says "What fish?"

Rick was in Wal-Mart buying a large bag of Purina for his dog. He was in line checking out when a woman behind him, asked if he had a dog? Rick was feeling a bit fiesty so on impulse, he told her no, he was starting the Purina Diet again. He said that he probably shouldn't because he ended up in the hospital last time he tried it. But, he had lost 50 pounds before he awakened in an intensive care unit with tubes coming out of most of his orifices and IV's in both arms. Her eyes about bugged out of her head.

Rick went on and on with the bogus diet story and she was totally buying it. He told her that it was an easy, inexpensive diet and that the way it works is to load your pockets or purse with Purina nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The package says the food is nutritionally complete so he was going to try it again.

It has to be mentioned that practically everyone in the line was by now enthralled with his story, particularly a tall guy behind the woman. Horrified, she asked if something in the dog food had poisoned him and was that why he ended up in the hospital.

Rick said no....he'd been sitting in the street licking his butt when a car hit him.

The tall guy almost had to be carried out the door because he was laughing so hard.

I Dream of Genie

Pat and Mick are in a boat out at sea fishing. A bottle floats by and Pat picks it out of the water. Endeavoring to see what is in the bottle he rubs at the weed incrustation. Suddenly a genie pops out and says "What is your comand Master" taken completely by surprise he stammers "Ah! Ah! Turn the sea into beer." "Your wish is my comand Master" with a flash and a boom the Genie disappears in a puff of smoke and the sea turns into Beer. "Well", Mick says, "you'd be a bright spark"! "What's wrong with that?" Pat retorts. "It's obvious", says Mick "now we'll have to pee in the boat".

Two guys are fishing in a boat under a bridge. One looks up and sees a funeral procession starting across the bridge. He stands up, takes off his cap and bows his head. The procession crosses the bridge and the man puts on his cap, picks up his rod and reel and continues fishing. The other guy says, "That was touching. I didn't know you had it in you."

The first guy responds, "Well, I guess it was the thing to do - after all, I was married to her for 40 years".

Two blondes go on a fishing trip. They rent all the equipment - the reels, the rods, the waders, the rowboat, the car, and even a cabin in the woods, they spend a fortune!

The 1st day they go fishing, but didn't catch anything. The same thing happens on the 2nd day and on the 3rd day. It goes on like this until finally, on the last day of their vacation, one of them catches a fish.

As they're driving home they're really depressed. One blonde turns to the other and says, "Do you realize that this one lousy fish we caught cost us fifteen hundred bucks?"

The other blonde says, "Wow! Then it's a good thing we didn't catch any more!"

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

Annual New Year's Day Outing

The Delta Fly Fishers held their annual New Year's Day outing at Van Assen Park on the Mokelumne River east of Clements. Earl Summers and Jim Rich again provided the coffee and doughnuts at 8am and a barbecue lunch of chili, hot dogs, potato salad etc. at noon. Many tall tales and big fish stories were told all day and a couple of members actually managed to fish.





FISHING AND HUNTING STORIES IN PROGRESS PROTECTIVE BOOTS MAY BE REQUIRED



How Many Delta Fly Fishers Does It Take To Open A Can of Chili?



Chef Jim Rich Hard At Work.

"Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after."
-Thoreau-

Public Barbs Over Delta Pumping Proposal Build Into a Flood of Dissent

By Alex Breitler Record Staff Writer December 12, 2006 6:00 AM

TRACY - A fisherman who has trolled the Delta for 40 years. A homeowner concerned about property values. An environmentally aware eighth-grader completing a homework assignment.

Many voices have weighed in on a disputed plan that could send more Delta water to Southern California. And their general disapproval may signal years more debate before anything happens, some observers predict.

"The odds that this damaging project will be litigated are somewhat better than the certainty that Christmas will arrive on the 25th," said Bill Jennings, a longtime Delta environmentalist who heads the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance.

About 18,000 comments - a good portion of them form letters - poured in earlier this year as the federal and state governments continued to study the \$100million plan. Officials' most recent report, released last week, shows they're still considering increasing water exports from pumps near Tracy.

Those pumps are targeted by environmentalists who say they suck up endangered fish and draw in salt from San Francisco Bay, threatening the water supply for two-thirds of Californians.

One Discovery Bay resident told water officials earlier this year that sea lions are frequenting his town.

"It used to be a rare occurrence, and now I find them sleeping on my neighbor's dock," Jerry Creech said. "Farmers are finding salt on their land. This is a result of too much water going south."

While most of the public outcry is over increased pumping, there is much more to the plan. Its first goal, in fact, is to deter salmon from straying into the south Delta, where the pumps send an average 1.9trillion gallons of water south to cities and farms each year - enough water for about 5.9million families.

Four gates would be built to keep the fish away from the pumps and make it easier to deliver water to Delta farms, said Katherine Kelly, who heads the state Department of Water Resources' Bay-Delta Office.

Some channels would be dredged to allow faster flows, thus improving water quality.

A decision whether to increase pumping will come only after these improvements, which themselves have yet to be approved, Kelly said.

A range of scenarios ultimately could increase the pumping anywhere from 3 percent to 5 percent. That doesn't mean any more water would be exported, Kelly said.

"It would, however, give us more flexibility" to use surplus water, she said.

Rep. Dennis Cardoza, D-Merced, has called the plan "responsible" with only modest increases in exports.

The California Department of Fish and Game, however, recommended additional study. A gate at the head of Old River, for example, could keep fish out of the pumps but might not help juvenile salmon heading out to sea avoid a number of other hazards such as poor water quality and low flows.

Byron resident Frank Middleton, who has been fishing the Delta for decades, said the proposed barriers could restrict access to miles of prime fishing grounds.

"I really feel there's a lot of people it may affect directly or indirectly that maybe aren't even aware of it," he said.

Forging ahead with a major project when fish species are dwindling remains Jennings' greatest worry. The decline of the Delta smelt, for example, is an indicator of the overall health of the estuary.

"It's senseless given the present state of the Delta," Jennings said.

Contact reporter Alex Breitler at (209) 546-8295 or abreitler@recordnet.com.

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

January 10 - Randy Doughty- Tight Connection-

Trinity and Sacramento River Steelhead.

February 3 - Annual Dinner

March 14th - Ralph Wood -Yuba/Truckee River Trout fishing.

January Board Meeting

January 17

Free Fly Tying

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

February Newsletter

The deadline for the January issue is January 25th.

Delta Fly Fishers Board of Directors Resolution

The Board of Directors resolve effective November 15, 2006 the annual membership fee for that class of member known as Regular Membership shall be \$25.00 except that those 65 years of age and older shall be charged a reduced Regular Membership fee of \$20.00 and the Regular Membership fee will be waived for those determined to be Life Members.



I Think I Found The Perfect Hiding Spot ... Oops Maybe Not!

Conservation - By Ron Forbes

Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of meeting with Dr. Joe Merz of EBMUD. As many of you know Joe is an aquatic biologist employed by the water district to help in improving the situation on the Mokelumne. Joe is doing an excellent job and I feel together we will be able to contribute with some positive conservation efforts. The reason for the meeting was to discuss ways in which Delta FF might become involved in conservation projects along the Mokelumne River. He suggested several projects including river clean up, possible removal of non native plants and re-establishing the native vegetation which will enhance a better environment for the aquatic life including the fish. After the first of the New Year we will be meeting again. By that time Joe thinks he will have some ideas as to how Delta FF can be of the most help.

On a less friendly note, the new Peripheral Canal bill has been introduced into the state senate. This occurred in the first week in December. The author of the bill is Senator Joe Simitian (D). With this legislation he wants to solve the problems of:

- 1) Drinking water quality
- 2) Drinking water reliability
- 3) Water conveyance

There is no mention of "safety valves" for the environment and there is far less protection for the environment in this bill, than the one defeated some 20 years ago. Again.....no built in protection for the Delta. We need to keep informed on this bill's progress and do what we can to help defeat its passage.

As you may have heard, the Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Act has been signed into law. Rep. Mike Thompson sponsored the act. This bill will add 21 miles of the Black Butte River and its tributary, Cold Creek to the National and Scenic Rivers system. Both the Black Butte River and Cold Creek are important spawning rivers for both salmon and steelhead. Several years ago I hiked the Lost Coast Trail, on the north coast, and enjoyed its rugged beauty. This act will allow the area to remain wilderness. The trail is 26 miles of some of the most remote coast line in California. This bill adds 275,000 acres of new wilderness for the state including the Lost Coast, and additions to the Siskiyou, Trinity Alps, Snow Mountain and the Yolla Bolly Wilderness areas. Three members of NCCFFF have been given much credit in helping the passing the act. The members are Sandy Leo, Darrell Bridge and Michael Mac Williams. It's felt that Darrell and Sandy's work with former Rep. Pombo helped in keeping him from acting against the Act.

SOME NCCFFF NEWS

Striperfest 2006 was held on the 4th of November in the Delta at Sugar Barge Marina near Bethel Island. Again it was a huge success. Now in its 10th year, the event raised about \$10,000 for Delta restoration and preservation this year. The weather held and approximately 120 fly fishers had a great day. Evidentially everyone caught fish, with one striper going over 55 inches and weighted in at over 50 lbs. The event is in honor of Dan Blanton. Dan's website is www.danblanton.com. You will find it to be an excellent source for information on the delta and fishing for stripers.

This contest is always held on the first Saturday in November. More information can be had on Dan's website or at Doug Lovell's site, doug@fishfirst.com

NCCFFF is holding its annual Hall of Fame Dinner at the Fly Fishing Show, in Pleasanton, on February 23-25. This year Steve Rajeff and Bob Nauheim will be entering the Hall of Fame.

The event will be on Saturday evening February 24, 2007. Reservations are \$45.00 per person and must be made by Feb 12. More information can be found on the website: www.nccfff. org.

This year the show will be held at the Alameda County Fair Grounds, Pleasanton. The dinner is being held at the Palm Pavilion, less than 50 ft away.

The special live auction prize this year is a one week trip to Russia's Kamchatka for the famed rainbows. This year's Hall of Fame Dinner will be an outstanding event and you won't want to miss it!

Tight Lines

Ron Forbes

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
January 1	Van Assen Park on the Mokelumne River	Annual New Year's Day Outing
January 10	John R. Williams School Stockton	Randy Doughty- Tight Connection-Trinity and Sacramento River Steelhead.
Jan 11 - 14	San Mateo County Event Center	ISE San Mateo Sportsman's Show
January 17	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board of Director's Meeting
Jan 18 - 21	Cal Expo California State Fairgrounds	ISE Sacramento Sportsman's Show
February 3	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Bob McMillan Memorial Trout Bout
February 3	Stockton Inn 4219 E Waterloo Rd.	The DFF Annual Banquet will be held at the.
February 21	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board of Director's Meeting
February 23-25	Alameda County Fair Grounds Pleasanton	Fly Fishing Show
February 24	Alameda County Fair Grounds Pleasanton	NCCFFF's Annual Hall of Fame Dinner
March 14th	John R. Williams School Stockton	Ralph Wood C&R Guide Service-Yuba/Truckee River Trout Fishing.

DFF Officers

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Herman Spalinger 209 - 477-3412

1st Vice President

(Open)

2nd Vice President

(Open)

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Steve Von Berg 209 - 327-6161

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Bruce Rollans 209 - 274-0448

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209 - 368-5767
209 - 467-8370
209 - 477-9618
209 - 477-6644
209 - 957-0170
209 - 478-8344
209 - 815-6887

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 (OPEN)

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

Web Site

209 - 239-9936

Fishing Buddy

Bob Souza 209 - 478-8344 Grady Lee 209 - 951-3623 Bob Souza 209-478-8344

TYING INSTRUCTIONS - CLOUSER MINNOW By DEREK PORTER



Hook: Any standard streamer hook.

Ex. Mustad - 94833 or 3407 plated or 34011 stainless.

Thread: 3/0 brown prewaxed

Bottom Wing: orange buck or calf tail.

Flash: gold or copper krystal flash. Top Wing: brown buck or calf tail.

Note. I used Brown and Orange color combo for good contrast with white background in

Illustrations.

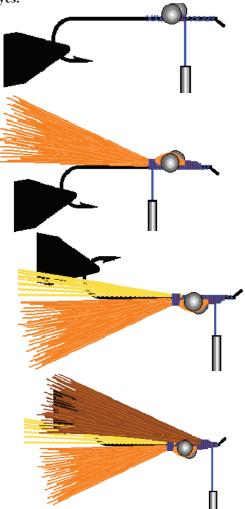
The Couser Minnow streamer is a fly that should be in every fly fisherman's fly box. The old saying "Don't leave home without it!" applies to this fly like no other. I have caught smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, sunfish, suckers, seatrout, flounder, brook trout, rainbows and browns with this fly. People I know have caught dozens of other species of fresh and saltwater fish using the Clouser Minnow. I know, it really is a lead head jig and technically is not a proper fly at all, but even you dry fly purist should have one tucked away in your vest where your buddies can't see it. It has saved many a slow day and produced the biggest fish of the day. The Clouser Minnow is tied in many color schemes and some with painted or chrome plated lead eyes.

1. Tie in Lead Eyes

2. Tie in Bottom Wing

3. Tie in Flash Under Wing

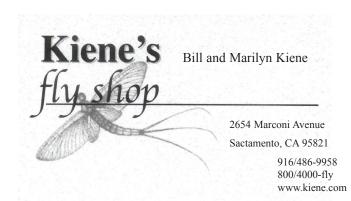
4. Tie in Top Wing



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