

December 2006

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx
Flyfishing

President's Message by Marilyn Mowry

Next month we will have new leadership for the club so make sure you come to the December meeting and participate in the process. You will be electing the new club officers and board members. I am proud of the accomplishments the club has made in the last two years from the completion of the tax exempt status to conservation, new members, newsletter, website, historian, education, raffle, meetings and outings. Every committee, every board member, and every officer has done an outstanding job and greatly contributed to the club. And they have a lot more they want to accomplish.

Every fall the big horse events happen all over the country and I seldom get to fish or attend the club functions. This year is no different and I apologize that I have not been able to be there for the tail end of my presidency and I appreciate all of you who have filled in for me in my absence. Hopefully I will get to fish more next year, but in the meantime I have fished vicariously through all of your stories and photos. So keep sending your stories and photos in to the newsletter and join in at the board meetings and help our outstanding board and new officers keep the club going in the direction you want it to go.

Thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way.

Happy Fishing, Happy Holidays and Stay Warm!

Marilyn

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

December 13 - Annual Member's Show

January 10 - Randy Doughty- Tight Connection- Trinity and Sacramento River Steelhead.

February 3 - Annual Dinner

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

December Board Meeting

December 20

January Newsletter

The deadline for the January issue is December 25th.

Free Fly Tying

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

Membership Form

Membership Form - 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 _____

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:

Ron Petitt at 209-931-2997 or floatubefisher@aol.com

Grady Lee at 951-3623 or gmississippikid@aol.com

Mail the form to: Ron Petitt, 10495 Hwy 26, Stockton, CA 95215-9579

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
MEMBERSHIP OF DELTA FLY FISHERS, INC.**

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Please take notice that the annual membership meeting of Delta Fly Fishers, Inc will take place at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 13, 2006, at John R. Williams School multi-use room located at 2450 Meadow Ave. The purpose of the meeting will be for the election of the Board of Directors, for the conduct of the annual meeting of the membership, and for such other lawful business as may come before the membership. The club By-Laws require this notice be given in advance of the November regular membership meeting.

The Board of Directors consists of nine members. Each serves as a director for one year. Currently the nominees wishing to serve another year's term on the Board are:

Joe Balderson	Marty Kjelson	Bill Laughlin
Ron Forbes	Doug Ridgway	Dean Watson

Two additional members have offered their names to be submitted for nomination and election:

Bob Souza	Steve Cooper
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Any member may nominate any other member to the Board of Directors at this meeting. One more member is needed to fill the Board.

In addition to nomination and election of directors, we have three committee chair vacancies that need to be filled: June Catfish Derby, Programs Chair, and Outings Chair.

Subsequent to the election of the Directors, the Directors will elect the officers of the corporation.

DATED: October 24, 2006

Delta Fly Fishers, Inc.

by Herman Spalinger, Secretary

December 13th : Members Program Night

Fly-fishing adventure from around the world! We have a great line up this year. Doug Ridgway will recap his trip through Colorado down to Texas. New Member August Welch will present a program documenting his travels to remote salt water destinations. Word has it August has pictures of monster Tarpon! Dan McDaniel will spill the beans on the great Alaskan Trip he took with Al Smatsky this summer. Huge Rainbows you won't believe.

Remember, the December monthly meeting is our annual members program night. This is your chance to shine. You need not fish exotic locations or catch giant fish to secure your place on the program. In fact wouldn't it be refreshing to see just one program where everything goes wrong? No fish. Crapy weather. Just a few good friends on a one week drunk. That's the program I'm waiting for. So, put together a short program, give me a call, and I'll make you a star. (Remember, this is the way Dave Whitlock got started).
Steve Cooper 956-1032

The Rogue Summer Run

Sallye and I did two steelhead floats on the Rogue River out of Shady Cove October 27th and 28th. Our first day began with a put in about five miles West of town. The weather was dry and warm all day. Our float was about 10 miles. Dave Tietzel, using seven weight rods and three flies beneath indicators, guided us. We had a total of seven hook ups. I landed a bright 24" hen for my only hook up; Sallye landed two of her six hook ups with one about 28".

The next morning we put in below the hatchery for the seven-mile float into town. The morning started extremely cold. We had ice in our guides for the first two hours. Sallye spent much of that time with her hand in front of a propane heater strapped to her bench seat on the 16' pontoon boat. This day we had five hook ups. I did not land either of mine. Sallye landed two of her three hook ups with a nice 27" male taken in a newly created run in the middle of town.

Wanted

New fishing partner. Must know absolutely nothing about fly fishing and be willing to regularly praise the skill demonstrated by the other fisherman in the boat. Also, must provide same or similar personal services as old partner on over night trips. Contact Bruce.

November Trout Bout

Special recognition should be given to the following members who helped set up the November Trout Bout, which was held Saturday the 18th, along with the County. Charlie Reames, Bruce and Sallye Rollans who helped set up the casting area for the young kids to try out fly casting or just cast with a spinning rod to a circle for a small prize. Also to Joe Balderston, his wife, kids and mother who helped set up the 10 and under area. The small fry who would put a bamboo pole over the "curtain" and Joe's kids would clip on a prize for the fisherperson.

Other members who attended to help at the trout bout were Jim Rich, Rick Greene, Steve von Berg, Dean Watson, Harvey Hamblin, Joe Dougherty and Ron Forbes at the casting area for the kids. Then of course there was Walt Kotechi and Ed Sill helping at the sign-in bench and not to forget Bill Laughlin and Earl Summers who drove around the pond in a cart selling hot dogs, hot chocolate, coffee, etc. Last but not least was Marty Kjelson who brought a few bottles of power bait to help out some of the mothers who needed help to get their kids all set up to fish.



Looking For The Big One



Trout Bout Sign In With Walt & Ed Sill



Small Kids Get To Catch A Prize



Trout Bout Prizes



Jessica Kimberling & Her String of Fish



Casting For Kids



Eager New Fly Casters



The Fish Behind The Screen



He Caught A Bubble Frog

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Little Virginia froze over on November 4th, and the ice is only approx. 1 1/2 inches thick, very unsafe, but is' fun to watch the big fish swim by totally unaware of who is watching them. All waters above 8,000 feet are frozen except for Crowley and June, they are always the last to freeze due to their size and elevation.

Fishing slowed down quite a bit if you compare the numbers of anglers versus the number of trout caught, then that could be good. As the temperature dropped around the 9th of November, so did the anglers along with the "window of warmth" during the day to about 3 hours of comfort. East Walker still did well even with low water, and way too many anglers to fish "my favorite spot".

Brook trout are almost done spawning and I've chased everyone out of there so they can procreate and rest over the winter months. Large terrestrials were still working as of the 4th before the lake closed off from ice, and some olive/black Matukas. I also tried the Skaterat (last issue of California Flyfisher mag), and it works great, if you had the patience for the cold temps. I looked in on the brookies yesterday and saw a couple real nice size fish. Look for them next summer, I know I'll be there.

There is some good news about the Legislation bill AB7, and it should be released shortly. Fish stocking will be increased throughout the state, hatcheries will be getting some maintenance, and added personnel along with the wild trout program. Look for more news as it is released. Also some news about the LCT after the meeting, but it's a secret.

See you on the water! CJ

T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CADDIS BY RICHARD FRANK

Twas the night before Christmas when down by the stream
The full moon looked out on a chill winter scene.
A lone trout was sipping a midge in his brook,
Untroubled by worries of fishers with hooks.

Then from above a small sleigh did appear
Pulled by a brace of eight tiny reindeer.
It swerved of a sudden and down it did glide,
Settling its runners along the streamside.

The fat, jolly driver dove into his sled
And emerged with his three weight held high over head.
"Thank you my elves for this wand smooth as silk.
This break will be better than cookies and milk."

So saying, he jumped from his sleigh with a chuckle,
Hiked up his boots and cinched up his belt buckle.
Santa meant business that cold winter's eve.
A fish he would catch - that you'd better believe.

Looking upstream and down, he spotted that trout,
Then he open his flybox and took something out -
"Size 32 midges are only for faddists
I'll go with my favorite tan reindeer caddis."

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

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

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

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

So he cast once again and his magic was true,
And the trout it looked up and knew not what to do.
"This fly has a body of bells don't you know,
And if that's not enough there's a shining red nose!

I know it's fraud and I know it's a fake,
But I can't help myself. It's I gift I must take!"
So he rose in swirl and captured that thing,
Flew off down the stream. Santa's reel it did sing.

"Ho!" shouted Santa, "You're making my day.
If the heavens were water, you'd be pulling my sleigh."
So, Santa prevailed and released his great rival
First taking great care to ensure its survival.

He then mounted his sled and he flew out of sight
Shouting, "Merry Caddis to trout and to all a good night!"

Conservation - By Ron Forbes

As they say in the old joke, "I'm from the government; I'm here to help you!" Since the government in Washington has become involved in the San Joaquin River settlement, things have changed. Both business and water users like the Modesto and Merced Irrigation Districts have met in secret with Senator Diane Feinstein. And again this hasn't worked to the advantage of us who are concerned about the environment.

At present the steelhead and salmon are listed as endangered. The Modesto Irrigation District wants to change the listing to threatened and have filed suit against the National Marine Fisheries Service. As you know, Earthjustice, NCCFFF, and the Delta Fly Fishers have join in this suit on behalf of NMFS to preserve the endangered listing. In Senator Feinstein's secret meetings, it was decided that the salmon would be listed under an Endangered Species Act division know as 10(j). This allows the salmon to be set apart from the other protected plants or animals. They will be termed as a, "non-essential population." In plain language this means that the water districts, businesses, or land owners can be held to account if their operations kill these salmon. Also at this time there is no additional protection for the salmon because these meetings did not provide for critical habitat protection. Critical habitat protection is considered essential for survival. The other sad fact of Washington's "we are here to help you" mentality is that only 500 "experimental" salmon will be introduced.

As you may recall, several months ago I mention that that State Senator Joe Simitian had introduced new Peripheral Canal legislation. And this bill was far less protective of the Delta that the last bill defeated over 20 years ago. It has been learned that he now plans to introduce draft legislation, as soon as it clears Legislative Council review. The new session will start Dec. 4th. Spokesmen for Simitian's office claim the new bill will benefit the Delta fisheries and the system. However it was learned that they did not consult any fishery biologists about effect on the fish populations. The point to this bill is threefold: 1) water conveyance (to Southern California), 2) drinking water reliability and 3) drinking water quality. It will be interesting to see this bill in total when it's introduced. A new wrinkle was mention by one of Simitian's people. They claim that our Delta adds 15-25% of the state's CO₂ emission and that this occurs through oxidation of the peat soil. It will be interesting to see the science on that one! This, along with the South Delta Improvement Project and the Intertie project, means we need to keep alert of what happening. None of these projects are to any advantage to our dying delta.

A week before the Thanksgiving holiday, I called a meeting of the Conservation Committee. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson (me). The treasure (me) read an account of funds available for projects, Next, minutes were read (by me) of the last meeting and were approved. In the second week of December, I have a meeting with Joe Mertz the aquatic biologist for East Bay Municipal Utility District, as to what the Delta Fly Fishers might be able to help him with on the Mokelumne River. On the phone he had several suggestions which sounded interesting and will have a positive impact on the river. After some discussion in the committee, we voted (1 to 0) to have this meeting and see what we can do to help the river.

The point to this silliness is that there are many things we as Delta Fly Fishers can become involved with to improve our fisheries. I would like to invite anyone interested in conservation issues to call me with ideas and to become involved. My phone is 209-368-5767 and my e-mail is bluse02@yahoo.com.

And let's face it....two, three, fours or more heads are better than one. This coming year is going to be very important in the preservation of our Delta and all our fisheries.

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
Dec 13	John R. Williams School Stockton	Annual Member's Program Night
January 10th	John R. Williams School Stockton	Randy Doughty- Tight Connection-Trinity and Sacramento River Steelhead.
February 3	Stockton Inn 4219 E Waterloo Rd.	The DFF Annual Banquet will be held at the.
March 14th	John R. Williams School Stockton	Ralph Wood C&R Guide Service-Yuba/Truckee River Trout Fishing.

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Steve Von Berg 209-327-6161

2nd Vice President

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Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Dean Watson 209-815-6887

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Raffle

Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

Trout Bout

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

Web Site

David Coon 209-239-9936

Fishing Buddy

Ron Pettit 209-931-2997

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Big Eye Spoon Fly

By Jason Akl

Fly fishing for Redfish in recent years has exploded in popularity becoming one of the most popular game fish from Texas to the Gulf of Mexico, the Florida Everglades and along the eastern coast of the United States. Redfish as a group, inhabit many different aquatic environments in the inshore and offshore waters along the coasts of the U.S. Redfish are voracious predators that will eat just about anything that is able to fit between their powerful jaws.

The most productive time for anglers to target these game-fish is when they come into the shallows in search of small crustaceans. Daily the Reds can be seen searching the shallow grass flats on the incoming tide, and up along the mangroves and oyster beds on the higher part of the tide. As the tide retreats the Reds will move back into the deeper holes and channels. The versatility of Redfish is almost unmatched as they can also be found making their way up inside marshes and creeks even into fresh water.

To target these finicky Reds, fly anglers need to understand their distinct feeding behavior. Above all else Redfish love crabs, shrimp and baitfish usually in this order. Serving them up a tasty crab imitation will definitely improve your odds of hooking up with quality fish. The big eye spoon fly is a fairly good imitation of a crab pattern but the wobble retrieve with this fly gets the Reds going wild.

Cast this fly to tailing Reds, slowly strip and pause the retrieve allowing the fly to fall to the bottom imitation a fleeing crab or injured baitfish. To get the most out of your fly be sure to tie it on with a loop knot. Feel free to try this fly on other salt-water species like Sea-trout, Snook, Striped Bass, Bluefish, and Mackerel who have all shown a weakness for its intriguing wobble and bright finish.

Materials Used in the Big Eye Spoon Fly

Hook: TMC 811 Size 4.

Thread: Yellow Uni-Thread Size 8/0.

Body: Prismatic Tape/ Stick-On Prismatic Eye.

Tail: Yellow Hackle Fibers/ White Marabou.

Other: 5 Minute Epoxy.



1. Start this fly by placing your hook into the vice securely and attaching the thread behind the hook eye. Select a small bunch of marabou fibers and attach them to the top of the hook shank with the thread. Wrap the marabou down to the shank with thread until you reach the beginning of the bend in the hook shank. Advance the thread to the back of the hook eye and repeat this process with the yellow hackle fibers (stack the hackle fibers before tying them onto the hook shank).

2. Take the prismatic tape and peel off the backing, exposing the glue and fold the tape over itself so that both sides are reflective. Cut out a tear-drop shape from the prismatic tape with your scissors making sure that it is approximately the same size as the hook shank. On the topside of the tear-drop shape you just cut out, stick on one yellow prismatic eye in the bottom portion of the tear-drop. Advance the thread to the back of the hook eye and tie in the teardrop to the top of the hook shank by its tip.

3. Place a drop of epoxy at the rear of the hook shank and hold the teardrop to the shank with your finger until the epoxy dries. Once the tear-drop is glued in place mix a second batch of epoxy and cover the entire body of the prismatic tape. Place the fly on your epoxy drier to make sure that the fly dries evenly.

Text & photo: Jason Akl © 2005

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx Flyfishing

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