

October 2006

# Delta Fly Fishers

Rx  
Flyfishing

## President's Message by Marilyn Mowry

We had another board meeting with a full quorum and attendance by a few former board members and a new member. We welcome their participation as they always have some great ideas. All club members are welcome and we encourage your attendance. I appreciate our outstanding board and all they have accomplished this year.

We have the potluck coming up in October. It is always fun to get together and share lies, I mean stories. There is a rumor the raffle is looking pretty good, too. Take a look at the food assignments in this newsletter. Also, take a look at the outings coming up. We have our Steelhead Outing coming up on November 4th. Bob Souza will be doing the instructing. Wednesday night fly tying is also going on every Wednesday at Oak Grove Park (except for meeting nights). And we have the Trout Bout coming up on November 18th at Oak Grove Park. Chairman Charlie Reames is always looking for more volunteers for that.

Newsletter Chairman Doug Ridgway will be looking for your fall fishing photos and stories. Please send them his way. Program Chairman Steve Cooper wants to remind anyone going to the NCFFF Conclave to keep your eyes open for potential speakers. If you hear a good presentation or hear of a good speaker, grab a business card and get it to Steve so he can contact them. If you are going to the conclave, get your reservations in quickly as the clinics fill up very quickly.

Delta Fly Fishers donated \$250 to the John R. Williams School in Stockton, CA. This is a donation used by the school's Parent-Teachers Association for benefit of the school and its student body.

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

October 11 - Annual Pot Luck Dinner

November 8 - Captain Conway Bowman-Mako Shark

December 13 - Annual Member's Show

## October Board Meeting

October 18

## October Outing

October 14 - Alpine Lake

## November Newsletter

The deadline for the November issue is November 25th.

## Free Fly Casting

### Delta Fly Fishers Free Casting Lessons

Fly casting lessons by expert casters from the Delta Fly Fishers are provided every Wed. except the 2nd Wed of the month from 7pm until dark in Oak Grove Park.

Equipment is provided by the club. Information: Jim Rich 477-6404 or e-mail [jrich1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrich1@sbcglobal.net)

# 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](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:

Ron Petitt at 209-931-2997 or [floatubefisher@aol.com](mailto:floatubefisher@aol.com)

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

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

## Beware of the Ides of March

Julius Caesar was warned of the Ides of March before he was assassinated on the 15th of March a few years ago. I wasn't quite assassinated on the 15th, but my unlucky number is 13. I've broken my left arm in a car accident in France back in 1960 on Friday the 13th. Between then and now I've had three fender benders each on the 13th, two on September 13th.

Throwing caution to the wind, pardon the pun, I left for the Bridgeport outing on Wednesday the 13th to get a jump on the fishing in Twin Lakes. Upon arrival, at the Robinson Campground, I chose a site behind John Rehn and Bob Bradley. The wind began to pick up while I'm putting up my tent trailer. This of course happened after I started putting up the awning over the door. Soon the awning started to separate from the runner that holds it to the trailer. I put the awning under the trailer. After getting all set up for the evening and dinner, I settled down for a good night's sleep. Have any of you ever tried to sleep in a tent trailer when the wind is howling and the tent portion is flapping back and forth? So I slept that night in the van where it was much quieter. The next morning I went to breakfast with Harvey Hamblin at Upper Twin Lakes. The wind was blowing so hard over the lake the spray from the whitecaps was blowing half way across the lake. There was to be no fishing this day.

That afternoon while looking over a map a gust of wind hit the front of my trailer so hard it bent the aluminum support over the bed and knocked it to the floor. Now I had to tie down the loose tent to keep it from flapping all over. My cell phone had no service so Bob was kind enough to let me use his, but I had to drive about three miles down the road to get through. After leaving a message with my wife, I returned to find another gust of wind had bent the other aluminum support pole over the other bed. By now the clouds were forming and it was beginning to rain, more heavily over the lake than the campground, but it sure looked like it was coming our way. I'd had enough! I packed down the trailer before the rain really hit and headed home at 6:00 p.m.

After a quick dinner in Gardnerville, I headed up Carson Pass for home. After crossing the summit and just past the turnoff to Upper and Lower Bear Reservoir and rounding a corner at a safe speed, a deer turned to stare at me in the middle of the road. She of course chose to run to my lane of travel, I swerved to the right as far as I could, but she ran right square into the tent trailer. That was the last straw - really! By the way, deer can't survive a run-in with a tent trailer even at 35 miles an hour. Now I have a nice hole in the storage box on the trailer with the hot water tank hanging out a little as well.

But my "luck" wasn't over yet. I was pulled over in Jackson by the CHP because I had no running lights on the trailer and now only one brake light worked. They were actually quite nice about the whole story of the deer, handed me my driver's license back and told me to be careful driving to Stockton. As if I wasn't already driving cautiously! It wasn't until I got home that my wife reminded me the 13th wasn't my lucky number due to the aforementioned accidents.

Please, Mr. Outings Chairperson, don't schedule any outings on or near the 13th of the month in the future.

By the way, Grady, this does NOT make me a choice for the John Fanucchi Incomplete Angler award - I didn't get to fish! -  
Herman Spalinger



## Of Special Interest at Sugar Pine Reservoir

I found an article in the August edition of the California Fly Fishers Unlimited newsletter of special interest. Ross Boehm reports in an article titled Mother Nature can Strike Back of three attacks by an otter, one on a girl, one on a man, and another on a CFFU member having to feign it off with an oar from his pontoon boat. The man was bitten on the face and both ears and will need reconstructive surgery. The CFFU member was attacked in his pontoon boat and was concerned what float tubers would use as a defense. The local rangers believe the otter was a female protecting her two young.

Remember, the next time anyone goes to Sugar Pine Reservoir keep one eye on your line and the other out for otters!

Herman Spalinger.

## **October 14 - Alpine Lake Outing**

Sat. Oct 14 will be the outing to Lake Alpine. Outing chairmen are Jim Rich, Ron Forbes, and Grady Lee. From Highway 99 in Stockton turn east on Highway 4 and continue to Angels Camp. Continue east on Highway 4 for approximately 51 miles to Lake Alpine. We will park and launch from the west parking lot and boat launch. Look for the sign for the launch ramp on the right, turn right and follow the paved road for about 200 yards turn left for the launch ramp.

We will meet for breakfast 6:30-7am at Rod's Grille in Angels Camp. Rod's Grille is on the right going down the hill just past the Chevron and Shell Stations. Lake Alpine is set at the 7,320 ft. level just above where the snow plows stop in winter. I will be fishing the lake this week so I will give a fishing report shortly after and let you know what they are hitting if anything. Bring your own lunch to Lake Alpine. Any questions give any of the chairmen a call or e-mail.

Grady

## **October Membership Meeting**

This Oct. program is the annual potluck at John R. Williams on the 11th. Look at the list below, find the first letter of your last name and see what you should bring.

A – I Main Dish

J – Q Salads

R – Z Desserts

Raffle chairman Bill Laughlin has some great prizes lined up so bring extra dollars.

Remember, the December monthly meeting is our annual member's 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

# Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

## Fishing Tip:

Beginning fishers often purchase the “boat”, when trying to equip their fly boxes, only to find that they have way too much of what they will never use. Getting advice at your destination fly shop might be good, but are they trying to be helpful or just sell flies. I always ask “newbies” to let me see their flies and try and get them to use and try everything. Learning about flies is a process we all go through especially if you have got the “bug” for fly-fishing. Narrowing down your first selection can be a tough compromise, so if you stay with 3 nymphs, 3 streamers, and 3 dries, 3 terrestrials, then you can expand from there, into size and color range. Of course this is not the “law”, but it will save you money for the other great gizmos and gadgets you will eventually end up buying. Next month I’ll give you my selection for each category.

## Legislation:

There still has not been any funding released through AB7 legislation that was signed by the Governor to maintain and enhance the state hatchery system.

## Fishy News:

Susanville Browns have started to show, but unfortunately fly fishers aren’t the ones doing the catching.

## Weather:

Mother Nature looked around last week and noticed that the Eastern Sierra had enjoyed TOO MUCH warm weather past the time allotted in “her” schedule, so we were dealt 48 hours of the most brutal wind she could whip up. The temps fell to record lows in some areas driving the fish deep. Water temp is currently 54 degrees on Little Virginia, and cooler toward the bottom. The Aspens got burnt and started their annual color change and should peak around Oct. 2nd. Remember to come prepared for weather this time of year, and don’t be fooled by the warm days, as the evenings are cool. Come for fall fishing and don’t forget the camera, as you can email me and I’ll send you my list of the flaming hot aspen areas. vlr@qnet.com

## Fishing Report:

**ROCK CREEK** has been doing great on beadhead wooly buggers in black and dark brown #12 or Doc’s Twin Lakes Special (DTLS), damselfly, and Hornbergs with standard dries hitting early and late. For some nice dry action in the Mosquito Flats area try using a #18 Griffith’s Gnat. There’s still a big brown (22”) waiting for my dry in Marsh Lake. I think I need to visit it once again as I hate the smell of skunk.

**CROWLEY** – Cold nights with wind cleaned up the algae and the fishing is much better. Try a Perch fry, Matuka, or a Hornberg and strip slowly for the best bite. Some midges are working, crystal, zebra, and tiger even a Z-wing.

**UPPER OWENS** flow is around 88cfs and is doing well below the bridge towards the lake, try the hopper/dropper or nymphs. Use Tricos in the am and Caddis in the early evening. San Juan worms, Copper midges, and a wet Western Coachman (hard to find), so you better make friends with someone that ties them up. They are really easy to tie.

**HOT CREEK** is very good and there’s been a great am caddis hatch through early afternoon. Tie on a #18 light green caddis pupa, or serendipity under a #16 parachute caddis or a #18 yellow humpy. Evenings will vary with temperature changes for the dry over a scud or midge.

**CONVICT** tubers are still tugging buggers, leeches, damselfly and spruce flies around the southwest section of the lake near the inlet and about 50 feet away from the outlet, so try some purple, white and olive wooly buggers with a prince nymph dropper, it will put you into the bleachers.

**MAMMOTH BASIN** – Twin and Mamie are doing great on brown and olive Docs Twin Lake Special (DTLS), Olive Matuka, or a leech pattern with a nymph dropper #16 or #18.

**SAN JOAQUIN RIVER** has been good on dry/dropper using standard dries that imitate hoppers or a parachute caddis patterns with and hares ear, pheasant tail or serendipity at the drop.

## JUNE LAKE LOOP

**GULL** has been great on brown DTLS and Pheasant Tail dropper.

**JUNE** has done well on burgundy or olive leech patterns, the “staple” Hornberg with a hare’s ear dropper.

**LUNDY** has produced some great action over the past several weeks on olive and black wooly buggers, dark rust and dark brown. Hornbergs have also got a lot of action so bring plenty, they get lashed and die after 5 fish. Who ties these so poorly!

**VIRGINIA LAKES** has seen the some great action on black ants, and just about any ant pattern will work so bring your arsenal of ‘em and see if you can do a Grand Slam minus the golden. Also working well are tent wing caddis #16, Griffith’s Gnat #18, Grey Hackle Peacock #14-16 and a #16 sow bug. But the best has been a black beadhead wooly bugger tied with grizzly hackle, its dynamite.

**EAST WALKER** is at 193cfs, and has seen some double digit browns on free lining a secret fly and I saw the pictures, 9lb and a 10lb, he’s a dirt bag for keeping them, but they eat their weight often, as I’m sure they have been munching down the fingerlings that were stocked a couple weeks ago. The river has had good days and tough days, so be patient, and not every day is going to be great. For the dry use a yellow Stimulator, yellow humpy or yellow hopper, and a Prince, PT, chamois, Z-wing or swimming caddis for the drop. Flows have been inconsistent, and it goes out according to water needed down the line for irrigation and cattle.

**WEST WALKER** flow is down to 80cfs but looked a bit higher yesterday when I went down to the flats. Small hoppers in tan and cream, and I used a little bleach to soften them, but of course they fell apart as I hit the thread by mistake. Q-tips work the best but since I didn’t have any I tried a piece of tissue. The flats were ok, and I saw one of the Susan browns rise to check out my hopper, and snubbed it, and got a nice bow instead. Droppers work well here but I prefer to rough it with a single dry. It was better toward the town of Walker.

Credit goes to Michelle and Eric Gehring not Jeff Wenger for raising the brown trout at Paradise Shores.

See you on the water! CJ

## Conservation - By Ron Forbes

As most of you are probably aware, last week the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and other allied groups won what is being considered a historic settlement in the 18 year legal battle to restore the San Joaquin River. In the agreement the Central Valley farmers and the Bush administration will restore the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam near Fresno. Friant Dam has held back nearly all of the water since the 1940's destroying the rivers outstanding salmon runs and leaving the river dry for months at a time. This settlement is being considered one of the most important river restorations in our nation's history. The three groups (environmentalist, farmers, and the federal government) all compromised to reach this decision.

The cost to restore the San Joaquin is expected to be between \$250 and \$800 million. On average, 15% of the water will be released into the riverbed every year. The farmers agreed to the settlement because the government assured them of price breaks for water during wet years. At this point it is felt the first water release will be in 2009. Hopefully the start of salmon restoration will start in 2012 and continuing till 2016.

This settlement was possible because of the hard work on many groups. However, more work is needed. Because of the federal government's involvement, the settlement must be agreed upon by both houses of Congress. On September 21, the only hearing for the settlement was presented. Even though 90% of the water districts have agreed, some wish to see it changed from its present form. Senator Feinstein is to present a bill in support of the settlement and on how it affects the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The 109th Congress ends this December 31. This bill must be enacted before then!

Our elected officials must work hard to get this legislation through Congress before the session ends

You can make you feelings known by calling:

Senator Diane Feinstein

(415) 393-0707 (Dist. Office) or (202) 224-3841 (D.C.)

Senator Barbara Boxer

(916) 448-2787 (Dist. Office) or (202) 224-3553 (D.C.)

Rep. Richard Pombo

(209) 951-3091 (Dist. Office) or (202) 225-1947 (D.C.)

The United States Forest Service, under the Bush administration, arbitrarily chose to disregard the NEPA and the ESA consultation requirements and allowed roads to be built without regard to stream pollution or other environmental concerns which were addressed in the 2001 Clinton administration's roadless rules. The 9th District Court heard the case and ruled in favor of reinstating the Clinton 2001 policy. This is a win for clean, good quality water in our 58.5 million acres of US forest.

This last Tuesday, Sept 19th, I received a call from Steve Mashuda of Earth Justice. Earth Justice is asking our help in fighting a suit, of the Modesto Water District, which is either the same or very similar to the earlier suit against NOAA's NMFS filed in 2003 and 04. Basically they want to challenge the way NMFS counts the steelhead in the river systems. They want to count all steelhead, both hatchery and natural fish, and all trout as one unit. This would allow them to change the status of the steelhead from "Endangered" to "Threatened". This would give them more leeway in how they treat the status of the fish in their irrigation projects. This suit clearly has long range implications for steelhead.

Delta FF was involved in the previous suit. Bob Sousa and Steve Cooper gave a brief account of their involvement on behalf of Delta FF at our last board meeting. At that time, our board voted to give \$500 to fight the Modesto Water District. In the 2003/04 suit, the judge ruled in our favor. Earth Justice has again asked us for \$500. At our September Board meeting it was decided to give the requested \$500 as a donation at this time. The Board does not wish to become involved as an "intervener" until we can determine that we will not incur further unexpected cost or liability.

As discussed earlier this case appears very similar or is the same as the 2004 case. This will be heard by the same judge that ruled in our favor two years ago.

Tight lines all,

Ron Forbes

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	FLY CASTING 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
Oct 11	John R. Williams School Stockton	Annual Members Potluck
Oct 14	Lake Alpine	Lake Alpine, Hwy 4 Jim Rich 477-6404, Ron Forbes 368-5767 or Grady Lee 951-3623
Nov 4	Feather River	Steelhead Clinic Bob Souza 478-8344
Nov 8	John R. Williams School Stockton	Captian Conway Bowman-Mako Shark
Nov 18	Oak Grove Park	Trout Bout Charlie Reames 369-6053
Dec 13	John R. Williams School Stockton	Annual Member's Program Night
Dec TBA	Lake Amador	TBA

## DFE Officers

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Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Dean Watson 209-815-6887

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## Committees

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### Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

### Conservation

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Bob Laubengauer 916-725-0556

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Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

### Trout Bout

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

### Web Site

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### Fishing Buddy

Ron Pettitt 209-931-2997

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

## Gummy Minnow

Fly type, Bait Fish for Various Species of Fish

By Doug Ridgway

Tied by A. Rinaldin



When I went to Italy last year, I “tied” a few of these to take with me. Unfortunately I didn’t get a chance to try them. I did try them at Kelsey Ranch this Spring and caught 4 Black bass on them. The Gummy Minnow, a very nice imitation of a small baitfish. The fly is very effective both for fish chasing small baitfish near to the shore and for blitzing pelagics.

Sili Skin has been the latest revolutionary newcomer among the saltwater fly tying materials. A material with great qualities both for its mobility that remains also after various applications and for the high stretch and strength. Available in a beautiful variety of colors with shades and effects of great look, some more strong others more transparent. The Sili Skin is sold in adhesive back sheets and using it is not easy because more than being gummy and deformable, the adhesive back is very strong and allows no errors at all positioning it.

Hook: Mustad 34007 size 2.

Thread: Uni Big Flies, Uni Mono Nylon fine/clear.

Body: lead wire .30”, belly Sili Skin Metallic Silver, back Sili Skin Green Splash, outer cover Sili Skin Mother of Pearl

Eyes: stick-on Silver with black pupils.

1) Wrap 10/12 times the .30” lead wire to the hook shank.



2) Lock the lead with a strong thread.



3) Take a cm 2-9/16” x 1” piece of Metallic Silver Sili Skin and cut it at the middle for a length of 2”; remove the protective back and position the adhesive below the hook shank.



4) Fold the Sili Skin bringing it up and joining the two adhesive sides.



5) Trim with scissors forming the central stripe of the belly.



6) Prepare a 2-3/4” x .30” stripe of Green Splash Sili Skin



7) Place it over the belly stripe, fold it longitudinally and stick well the sides.



8) Position the eyes.



9) Cover the whole body with a 7,5x2,5 cm piece of Mother of Pearl Sili Skin sticking the sides with accuracy



10) Wrap the thread at the hook’s eye and finish trimming the fly in the right shape



11) The Gummy Minnow



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