

Rx Flyfishing

President's Message by Steve Cooper

Thanks again to Doug Ridgway and Joe Mertz for an outstanding September program. We not only need to thank Doug and Joe for sharing their program, we should also be thankful for them as dedicated, fishery-minded folks who are working to restore the Central Valley Streams.

A personal thanks to club members Chris Simon, Herm Spalinger, and Jim Rich for helping out with fly casting at the Julia Morgan School Jamboree Night at Oak Grove Park. They pitched in at the last minute to greet and introduce 450 participants to the basics of fly casting.

And a final thanks to Earl Summers. Earl has been working hard all year to secure donations for our annual banquet and monthly raffles. He has done a fantastic job securing donations from a wide variety of donors. We all enjoy the raffles and they wouldn't be possible without his hard work.

For those interested in fishing Northern California and Southern Oregon, I have found a website with lots of local information. WWW.flyfishjefferson.com covers everything from the Trinity River in CA to the Umpqua River in OR. Good local information and fly tying information are covered. Give it a try.

Unfortunately back problems have kept me off the river for the better part of the summer. In between spasms, I did have a chance to fish the Rogue and landed several Salmon, Stealhead and trout. Just a

few days ago I was feeling sorry for myself thinking I had missed the season. After rethinking the situation, I realized one of the advantages of living in Central California. Fall trout are available in Sierra lakes till the roads close. Summer Stealhead fishing will run into winter Stealhead fishing with Delta Stripers bridging the gap. Winter Stealhead fishing will bring us to Spring lake fishing, river Shad fishing, and back into Summer Trout. There really is no down time here in the Central Valley. We have a year round fishery. WOW, I've talked myself into a deep depression...got to fix this bad back! Maybe a fishing trip is just what I need...

See you at the Pot Luck on October 13th. Weak back and weak mind, Steve

Tickets for the NCCFFF Festival of Fly Fishers, on October 15th and 16th, are regularly \$20 at the door. The club has purchased a block of 20 tickets for sale for \$10 each. Contact Ron Forbes at 209-368-5767 for more information. Everyone who has attended in the past has thoroughly enjoyed this event. Plan to attend!

By Ron Petit
Photos by Herman Spalinger

Bridgeport Outing Always A Success!

As usual, our annual family outing on September 11 & 12 to the Bridgeport area was a successful one. Some DFF members arrived on Wednesday preceding the outing and were able to fish Lower and Upper Twin Lakes as well as Big and Little Virginia Lakes. The catch rate at each lake varied with the wind and ambient temperature. At Robinson Creek Campground, site of the DFF trailing group, the weather was in the high 70's with warm evenings. At the higher elevation of the Virginia Lakes, we saw 60 degree days and some heavy wind. Fishing was better at the Virginias than Twin Lakes which we collectively surmised was the direct result of us following the Labor Day crowds who reportedly killed lots of fish. Fish & Game had not replanted the lakes so there were fewer fish to be caught. Don Gillette caught and released two Lower Virginia rainbows in the 5+ pound range, however only one caught on his famous RedRider fly! Bob Bradley landed a large rainbow there, also. Jim Rich and Ron Pettitt hammered the Big Virginia trout with Grady, Duane, Herman, Larry, John and Harvey doing their share of catching, too. Duane Martin (The Honorable) had to borrow fins to use with his new pontoon boat. Speaking of which, he paid the boat launching fee of \$5.00 to not have to carry his big pontoon boat down the bank to the water at Lower Twin. When the Harbor Master saw Duane's fishing gear he loaned him a rod and reel to use! The Saturday lunch at Lower Twin was attended by 18 people and 25 DFFmembers and guests showed up for the evening's potluck drinks, dinner & "B.S.". I may have missed a fish report from someone, so I apologize if I left your name out of this report. If you could not make this outing you missed a good one. There are more outings coming up, so check the website and newsletter for the dates.

Tight Lines, Ron

By CJ Webb

Eastern Sierra Focus

What to consider when you evaluate your success on the water might require a bit of honesty as to how well you cast, are your drifts good, what about your presentation (correct), and can you read water. If you are not catching and everyone is, you might want to consider some changes. I can say, I have a weakness in casting into the wind due to many factors. First, I've always believed I couldn't do it, thus I can't do it. While teaching casting the other day, I noticed a drastic improvement in my forward cast, breeze assisted of course, and turned around just as I was back casting; my back cast is more powerful than my forward cast. For those of you that have seen me, probably wonder how I can even get the line off the water, let alone into the air, not funny! I need to use as much power forward as I do behind (don't go there) and with a bit more drop, and forward push in the wrist so the line can cut through the wind.

Weather:

Fall approached with her veil of color and great weather with above normal temperatures. A low pressure crept in around the 18th dropping the temperature into the mid to low 20's. Forecast is for a warming trend through October 18th, and possibly longer. Note: The mosquitoes are back!

ROCK CREEK LAKE is spectacular with color and has mainly been getting fish on olive streamers, matukas or crystal leeches. The stream bite has been on caddis #16-18 when the temp is right (warm).

LOWER OWENS – check the flows prior to your trip. Flows have been in the 300's, and as low as 160. Try some midge and mayfly patterns, tricos, and caddis in late afternoon.

UPPER OWENS has done well but the weeds are as thick as the mosquitoes. Use caddis patterns in the morning and terrestrials in the afternoon. Regs above Benton crossing say maximum size 16" and 2 fish limit on artificial single barbless hooks.

Below Benton crossing through Brown's are where general regs apply, and below the monument to Crowley at the mouth the min. size is 18" limit 2 trout with artificial single barbless hooks. Clean your gear after fishing this area due to the mud snail. Clean your waders and boots per Ralph Cutter's instructions at flyline.com/environmental/nzms/

CROWLEY LAKE has been good in most areas except Hilton Bay (loaded with algae). Lake level is dropping as they hunt down perch fry. DFG started planting the 2005 crop and they are small but full of fight. Chironomid hatches have been "huge" at all times, so try emergers #18-20. The best bet is a Callibaetis nymph (red tiger midge, black optimidge) behind a streamer strip up from the bottom in 12-16 feet of water.

HOT CREEK has been fair with low water so try tiny dries, no indicator, and long leader. Bring out the arsenal and give everything a try, dry-dropper or two nymphs. Dries finally. Yeah! Remember not to wade in the water, let's try and stop the spread of the mud snail. Mosquitoes are back.

SAN JOAQUIN water is continuing to drop so pools, and undercuts on curves will hold trout. Standard dries again; stimulators, deceivers, royal humpy, and caddis patterns #16-18 are hot.

MAMMOTH LAKES waters are low as with the rest of the Sierra, but fishing is still considered "good" in most areas. Streamers, woolly buggers, and twin lakes specials in olives, black and dark purple and some caddis early and late.

JUNE LOOP has been doing nicely on trolling olive flashy funky buggers, crystal-flash leeches, and bunny leeches in black, olive, and dark rust. #8.

LUNDY is down due to work on dam, but producing on Pistol Pete's in black and rust, VL special matukas, and some mayfly emergers in the back ponds.

VIRGINIAS have been doing well on a variety of streamers, CDC emergers, VL Special #8, and funky flashy bugger in olive. When the temps are up so are the ants and hoppers, don't pass 'em by. Tie a nice fat body black ant with a large red abdomen. Wow, great results!

WEST WALKER flows are down so look for pockets, pools and deeper water for any holding fish trying to find their comfort level. Small caddis patterns in olive, sierra caddis, and small stimulators. Black fur ant has taken some fish on #14.

EAST WALKER flows have been steadily dropping due to the water being taken from the reservoir. Marinas are high and dry, and 1/3 of the lake or more is dry. Early Sept was around 200cfs, the 12th dropped to 155cfs, 75cfs on the 19th, 67 on 22nd, and currently 60cfs. The river was a bit off color but has cleared. Some midge patterns are working behind attractors, but where the bushes are overhanging try some hoppers and black ants. Terrestrials are heavy when the frost is off the pumpkin. See you on the water!



Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp

Have you been fishing the Mokelumne, the Calaveras or the Stanislaus Rivers? How about the Tuolumne or the Merced? Do you have a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp? How about a Steelhead Report Card? Bob Souza was recently stopped by Fish and Game and, luckily, he avoided a \$500 fine because he fishes for stripers and already had his stamp. He was not aware that it was required to fish our local rivers. Did you know that these rivers are considered "Delta?" Did you know you are supposed to have the Delta stamp and your steelhead report card with your fishing license? Make sure you comply with the regulation 1.18 to avoid the \$500 fine!

REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2004

Regulation sections that were amended or added in 2004 appear as shaded in

this booklet. Significant changes include:

1. A Bay Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp is required for all sport fisheries in tidal waters of San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, the Delta, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River system below the most downstream dam on major tributaries.
2. Feather River below Oroville Dam salmon season and bag limit changes.
3. Stream closures and season changes on steelhead streams in the South Central Sport Fishing District.
4. Stream closures on steelhead streams in the Southern Sport Fishing District.
5. Statewide hook size and weight restriction changes.
6. Extension of trout season in Inyo County to November 15.
7. Extension of salmon season in San Joaquin River and tributaries two weeks.

1.18. Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp.

A person shall not sport fish in the tidal waters of San Francisco and San Pablo bays east of the Golden Gate Bridge and west of the Carquinez Bridge, (i.e., all tidal waters, sloughs, canals and forebays within the area east of Highway 101, west of Highway 29, west of Interstates 80 and 880, and north of Highway 237, including the Napa River below the Trancas bridge in Napa, Sonoma Creek below the Highway 121 bridge and the Petaluma River east of Highway 101), the Carquinez Strait, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (i.e., all rivers, sloughs, canals, cuts, forebays, and flooded islands within the area south of Interstate 80, west of Highway 99, north of Interstates 580, and 205, and Highway 120, and east of Interstate 680), the Sacramento River below Keswick Dam, the Feather River below Oroville Dam, the Yuba River below Englebright Dam, the American River below Nimbus Dam, the Cosumnes River west of Highway 99, the Mokelumne River below Camanche Dam, the Calaveras River below New Hogan Dam, the San Joaquin River below Mendota Dam, the Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam, the Tuolumne River below La Grange Dam, and the Merced River below Crocker-Huffman Dam, unless he or she first obtains, in addition to a valid California sport fishing license and any applicable stamp issued pursuant to Section 7149 or 7149.05, a Bay-Delta Sport Fishing Enhancement Stamp and affixes that stamp to his or her valid sport fishing license.

2004 Freshwater Fishing Regulations can be found online at:

<http://www.fgc.ca.gov/2004/freshfishregbook04.pdf>
or pick up the booklet where you buy your fishing license.

By Marilyn Mowry
Photos by Nancy Sumner

Water Safety Class on the Mokelumne

Bruce and Sallye Rollans hosted a water safety course on behalf of the Amador Fly Fishers and the Delta Fly Fishers on the Mokelumne River on September 19th. Instructor by George Cecchetti, of The Reel Fly Shop, covered how to rig your pontoon boat or raft, how to move upstream or across the stream and how to avoid obstacles. A personal flotation device is required by law and George recommended a regular orange coast guard type life jacket. The lighter, more comfortable pfd's are appropriate for lakes, but if you hit your head while on the river, you will never have time to pull the handle to inflate. Other equipment considered necessary are safety lines on your boat, an extra oar, a pump, duct tape, a screwdriver to adjust oar locks, and the necessary straps to tie down the equipment. Oars should be attached with rope to avoid losing them if they slip out of the oar locks.

Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and lightning forced everyone off the water early and we were soaked from the downpour. But we learned a lot and it was a lot of fun. This class is highly recommended to anyone who is not completely confident in river safety. Thank you Bruce and Sallye for putting this class together.

Outing Chairman Needed, New Directors Needed

After doing a great job as Outings Chairman for many years, Grady Lee is stepping down due to travel plans for next year. The club is looking for someone to take over his job. Grady will be able to train the new chairman and will help out when he is not traveling. Please contact Grady Lee or Steve Cooper if you are available.

The club is also looking for anyone interested in becoming a director, committee chairman, committee member or officer in the club. We have several openings and welcome participation from new or long-time members.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Fly Tying Bob Souza 209-478-8344
Oct 13 (Wed)	John R Williams School Stockton	Fall Potluck Membership Meeting 7:00 pm
Oct 15 (Fri)	Mokelumne River Stanislaus River	Last Day to Fish Before Rivers Close
Oct 15-16 (Fri-Sat)	Redding, CA	NCCFFF Festival of Fly Fishing Headlines: Jack Dennis, Steve Rajeff, Scott Sanchez Fly Tying, Fly Fishing Techniques, Fly Casting, Instruc- tion, Travel Opportunities, Guides, Artists, Manufacturers Reps, Fly Shops, Fly Casting Tournament, Prizes, etc. Tickets Available call Steve Cooper 209-956-1032 DFF Member Al Smatsky will do a Shad demo www.nccfff.org
Oct 30-31 (Sat-Sun)	Trinity River/Lewiston Lake	Al Smatsky 209-365-7079
Nov 3 (Wed)	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting 7:00 pm
Nov 10 (Wed)	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting 7:00 pm
Nov 13 (Sat)	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Trout Bout Volunteers Needed 6:00 am to 12:30 pm Fly tyers, fish weighers, sign ins, food sales, cleanup Charlie Reames 209-369-6053
Nov 17th (Wed)	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting 7:00 pm
Nov 21 (Sun)	TBA	Steelhead Outing 209-335-7335
Dec 5 (Sun)	Mokelumne River	Mokelumne River Cleanup
Dec 8 (Wed)	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting 7:00 pm
Dec 15 (Wed)	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting 7:00 pm
Jan 29, 2005	Stockton Inn Stockton	Annual Dinner Speaker: Mel Krieger Bob Souza 209-478-8344

October Meeting

Fall Potluck Membership Meeting
7:00 pm
John R. Williams School, Stockton

A-G Hot Dishes
H-O Desserts
P-Z Salads

Deadline

The deadline for
the November issue
is October 22nd.

Editor's Message

The new deadline for the newsletter will be the Friday following the board meeting. The board meetings have been moved to the 3rd Wednesday of each month so we can get the newsletter out by the first of the month and still include the latest news and photos.

Ron Petit and Grady Lee are working on the details for a mentoring program so new members will have someone to teach them where and how to fly fish. Everyone at the board meeting thought this was a great idea and they hope to have it up and running soon. Watch for a questionnaire about it in an upcoming newsletter or on the website.

Marilyn Mowry
209-748-2254
mmowry@earthlink.net



Conservation



The New Zealand Mud Snail has invaded both the Mokelumne and the Calaveras Rivers as well as Putah Creek and the Owens River. The Department of Fish and Game is testing methods to clean waders and equipment and has received donations from equipment manufacturers and fly fishing clubs and organizations including: the Northern California Council - Federation of Fly Fishers, Cal Trout, the Granite Bay Fly Fishing Club and the Delta Fly Fishers. DFG currently recommends spraying gear with Clorox Formula 409, then scrub with a stiff brush to remove all visible snails. Then rinse with tap water. snails can collect under laces and in the felt soles of wading boots. Placing gear in water maintained at 130 degrees for 5 minutes is an alternate method of removal. For more information visit: <http://www.esg.montana.edu/aim/mollusca/nzms/id.html>.

Some Good Websites about Conservation and the New Zealand Mud Snail

<http://www.nccff.org/rivermouth/mouth.pdf>

<http://www.caltrout.org/>

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/>

<http://www.tucalifornia.org/>

<http://www.protectyourwaters.net>

If you find NZMS NZMS, call (888) 321-8913 or email DFG at invasives@dfg.ca.gov.

Turn In Poachers
1-800-DFG-CALTIP
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Dan McDaniel 209-951-7900

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Al Smatsky 209-368-9261

Jennifer O'Neill 209-369-8335

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Committees

Bulletin

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Dan McDaniel 209-951-7900

Bob Laubengauer 916-725-0556

Catfish Derby

Bob Bradley 209-369-4048

Historian

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Membership

Jennifer O'Neill 209-369-8335

NCCFFF

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Outings (Open)

Publicity

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Programs

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

Property

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Raffles

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Trout Bout

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

Web Site

Lavon Wiseman 209-952-9605

Memberships

September is the month to renew your dues. Please let us know if you would like the newsletter via email or regular mail.

Also, let us know if you would like to be on the board of directors or on one of the committees.

Programs Chairman Steve Cooper

Upcoming Membership Meetings

October: The annual club potluck. Watch for the food assignments in the next newsletter.

November: Pete Blackman from the American Fly Fishing Shop will talk about Fly Fishing in New Zealand.

December: Members Program. This is where members get to brag and/or lie about the fish they have caught. This is one of our most popular programs. Please contact Steve Cooper if you have something to share.

January: Renowned fly-caster Mel Krieger will speak at the annual dinner on January 29th. In addition he will teach a class on either casting or fly tying, or both.

If you have suggestions for future programs, would like to do a presentation yourself, have heard a speaker at another club, or have seen someone you liked at one of the fly fishing shows, please give Steve Cooper a call at 209-956-1032. He would be happy to hear any and all suggestions.

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, 2004 to August 31, 2004. Please fill out then mail to: Delta FlyFishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Name _____ Spouse _____

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I prefer to receive the newsletter via email _____ or mailed _____
(Please check one)

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:

Jennifer O'Neill at 209-369-8335 or email at: jenniferoneill@msn.com

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