



# Rx Fly Fishing!

The monthly newsletter of the Delta Fly Fishers!

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Jerry Neuburger, Editor

Stockton, California

## In this Issue

- Page 2— [Topwater Bassin'](#)
- Page 2— [FlyDay Night Tying](#)
- Page 3— [The Bob McMillan Trout Bout](#)
- Page 3— [FOM, the gurgler and flip flop poppers](#)
- Page 3— [Salmon in the Classroom](#)
- Page 4— [The Pyramid Outing](#)
- Page 5— [Woman's Fly Fishing weekend](#)
- Page 6— [Fly Fishing Day](#)

## February Calendar

- March 7 Bob McMillan Trout Bout, Oak Grove Park
- March 11 GM Meeting, John R. Williams School
- March 13 FlyDay Night Tying
- March 18 BOD meeting, Oak Grove Park.
- March 21 Fly Fishing Day, Sportsman's Warehouse
- March 22 Woman's Day on the Moke
- March 25 Fly of the Month, Oak Grove Park.

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## Fly fishing is an ever learning affair. We have some fantastic teachers in our club

I go fishing every chance I get. Given that we only have a few local rivers and I can often only dedicate a few hours for an outing, it is pretty easy to figure out where I fish. I often encounter people I know and people from the club on the water. This is exactly what happened the other day on the water when I ran into club member, Greg Pettis.

Greg is an amazing angler and a heck of a nice guy. I was fishing but hadn't caught anything yet. I had just decided that there just weren't fish there today. This was a bit of a leap because I was fishing very fishy waters-riffles and deep pools. These are places that I could normally find fish but not today.

Greg came up and said hello. We talked fishing and how we were approaching the river that day. I have fished with Greg before. Not only can he fish- he is kind and generous with sharing what is working and always willing to provide a helpful tip. I fished a hole and came up empty handed. Greg and I both said that there should be fish there. He asked if he could give it a try and immediately pulled out two beautiful and big fish. It was awesome!

Greg and I fished together until I had to leave. He caught several more fish and it was a joy to watch. He was disappointed because I was not able to do the same. Greg is a great example of how fly fishing gets passed on. He will take his time and knowledge and readily share it. He finds joy in other peoples' fishing successes. I had a great time fishing with him and would fish with him anytime!

Our club is filled with

awesome anglers like Greg. People who share knowledge and find joy in sharing fly fishing with others of all skill levels. These people are the heart of fly fishing and the heart of our club. As we move forward this year in trying to provide opportunities for our club membership to fish new and familiar waters, socialize, help and be helped in developing skills, and serve the community, we rely on this willingness to share time, knowledge and effort from our membership. Everyone has skills and interests and we hope each of you are able to take a few minutes to look over the upcoming activities and find something that strikes your fancy!

Our March activities begin with a great service tradition for our club- the Bob McMillan Trout Bout. Volunteers are needed to man the snack bar and drive the golf carts. Sign up and weigh help is also needed. We look for fly tiers who want to demo throughout the day too. Early shift starts at 5:30. Things wrap up around 1 pm. Come on by Oak Grove Boathouse that day!

Our March 11th membership meeting features our very own Captain Jerry Neuburger highlighting Delta bass. As Jerry has transitioned from his boat to a more personal watercraft, he will be able to share tactics for those of us who fish from smaller vessels. Fly of the month will be a Delta relevant fly or two to support your bass catching efforts!

March 21st is our second annual Fly Fishing Day at Sportsman's Warehouse. From 10 to 2 we will join forces with other local clubs to man ten information booths. Invite all of your

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

friends and anyone interested in fly fishing. Come down that day if you can and help at a booth. This day will be followed by an on-the-water clinic specifically designed for women anglers. We will have anglers move through 7 hands-on stations designed to develop fishing skills and comfort on the water. I am looking for volunteers to help this day too.

Our busy March will end with a really fun multiple day outing at Pyramid Lake on the 27th through the 29th. This amazing fishery has been producing enormous Lahontan Cut-

throats lately. This outing will provide multiple days to catch these amazing fish along with some shared meals and camaraderie with other DFFers.

A special thanks to everyone who has been of service to the club already this year. You are all doing amazing things and you are appreciated. Your officers and board are looking forward to not only maintaining traditions but also exploring new activities so keep your eyes peeled! Let any of the officers or board members know if there is something you would like to see happen in the club! Hope to see you out there!!!

## The March Program:

# Topwater Delta bassin' is a heart stopper

The March program is being presented by one of our own, Jerry Neuburger. Jerry guided the Delta for stripers from 2003 to 2914 and while doing so, discovered a thriving largemouth bass fishery. In fact, the fishery became his prime target from late May through August.

Those twelve years of on the water experience helped him learn the habits of what some people call America's Game Fish, and hone his fly fishing skills and techniques for hooking this exciting species.

Jerry will cover the recommended equipment for "topwater bassin'", the techniques and presentations, and the where and when to fish for this species.

In addition to the speaker's presentation, Mike Dempewolf will be there with a tray load of goodies to eat and coffee and soft drinks.

The monthly raffle will feature an eight weight

rod, Okuma reel (donated by Sam Thompson) and a 9/10 floating line, perfect for topwater bassing on the delta as well as topwater striper presentations.

The meeting will take place at the John R. Williams School, 2450 Meadow Avenue, Stockton, on March 11th. The doors open at 6:30pm, program starts at 7. The public is encouraged to attend.



David Lee with a nice Delta Largemouth. Photo by Jerry Neuburger

## Flyday Open Tying, March 13th

Join us for a casual gathering at House of Coffees in Lodi on March 13. Members meet from 5 to 7. Many bring tying pro-

jects. Some bring an appetite for one of the yummy Paninis, craft brews, hard ciders, coffees or teas. Join us!

### DFF Officers



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Amy Terra

[dffwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:dffwebmaster@gmail.com)

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Karen Keagy

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209-482-8742

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Gary Tecklenburg

Thomas Mason

Nancy Baker

Mike Dempewolf

Randy Baxter

Bob Fujimura

### Committees

Beginner's Fly Tying

Amy Terra

Bob McMillan Trout Bout (March)

John and Karen Keagy

Catfish Derby (June)

Chair needed

Conservation/Restore the Delta

Ron Forbes

209-368-5767

Education/Outreach

Dena Mason

Fly Tying/Fishing Mentor Program

Neuburger/Terra/Mason

Membership

Dena Mason

Monthly Raffles

Jerry Neuburger

Outings

(Volunteer needed)

Programs

Al Smatsky

209-368-9261

Bob Sousa

209-368-2683

Property/Historian

John Keagy

Refreshments

Mike Dempewolf

Rod Building

Bob Fujimura

209-339-0683

Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames

Webmaster

Amy Terra

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Time to pay things back

# The Bob McMillan Trout Bout is this Saturday, Calling all volunteers

Club member Charlie Reames has stepped up (again!) and is heading up the coming Trout Bout. He needs your help. The club's community service at the San Joaquin County Parks and Rec's three fishing derbies is a way to pay the county back for the use of Oak Grove Park and the Nature Center. The relationship has gone on for well over 30 years.

Charlie and a few others will have purchased the supplies but need help setting

up. Five volunteers are needed to arrive at the park about 5:45. They should enter through the maintenance yard entrance and go directly to the boat house on the west side of the park. Another dozen volunteers are needed between seven and eight to prepare the food, man the golf carts and work the food counter.

The event ends early, with awards to the winners passed out at 1pm. All the volunteers are usually able to finish shortly after.

NEW MEMBERS, while this is a public service project, it is also a great way to meet other club members. The club's monthly meetings are by far the worst way to get to know other club members since the meeting structure does not allow much in the way of conversation. The club's other activities, fly tying, casting, outings are all better venues. And it seems that the trout bouts are the premium meeting events.

## Fly of the Month

# The Gurgler and the Flip Flop Popper

With top water bassin' the topic of this month's program and Kelsey Bass Ranch the primer April outing, the FOM will focus on two proven top water patterns for bass.

Program presenter, Jerry Neuburger will demonstrate both patterns at the March FOM meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 25th, 6:00 pm start time at the Oak Grove Park Nature Center.

The gurgler has been around for a long time and is a proven fly for many species from smallmouth to dorado and sailfish. As a plus, it's an easy tie and can be modified to resemble many topwater tasty bits from frogs to baby birds. A video of one of the variations of the gurger can be

seen on you tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdYiMz5-ovg>

Jerry will also show how to make flip flop poppers. These poppers resemble a traditional fly but make use of sandle foam for the bodies. They are quick to tie and are almost indestructible.

Because these flies are so easy to tie, the target for the evening will be two flies of each pattern with additional supplies for the quick tier.

These flies have proven successful on the Delta for smallmouth, largemouth and stripers and have also scored at Kelsey Bass Ranch.

Come on out for a fun evening. A \$5 fee will be charged for tying supplies. The session is closed and is only available to Delta Fly Fishers members.

## Salmon in the Classroom, an opportunity for giving

This year 37 classrooms are involved in the Salmon in the Classroom (SITC) program, 19 of which are Delta Fly Fishers-funded tanks. These 37 classrooms represent about 810 students being exposed to the valley's fisheries and the obstacles faced.

DFF have been involved in SITC for over 30 years with thousands of kids participating in this worth while effort. The club

tries to maintain a float of about \$2,000 to fund tanks annually. Right now, the balance is about \$1400. We are seeking additional donations of \$300 and will match that amount, bringing the total to \$2,000. DFF is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and any donation towards the program is tax deductible. Donations should be given to any DFF officer, especially Dena Mason, chair of the SITC program.



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# About a dozen DFFers will give Pyramid Lake a try at the end of the month

Pyramid Lake is a mystical fishery with monster trout possible to those fishing the lake. Seven DFFers will stay at an Air BnB in Sparks for the last weekend of the

month and be joined by about five others staying in separate facilities.

The current plan is for people to arrive at the lake through Friday, some arriving

early and fishing during the day, and others driving up after work. Fishing will continue through Saturday with a group spaghetti dinner

planned for Saturday night.. Both those staying at the BnB and those with other accommodations are expected for the dinner.

Fishing will continue through Sunday with the group heading home, most around mid day.



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## On the Riffle Guide Service

I am dedicated to giving you the most memorable day of fishing on the Sacramento River. My passion for fly fishing and the years of meticulously studying the river have helped me to put my clients in the best situation to catch fish. Whether a beginner or

experienced fly fisher, man or woman, you will have an incredible time.

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Scott Sugimoto

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[scott@ontheriffle.com](mailto:scott@ontheriffle.com)

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## Rx Fly Fishing! Advertising Rates

2 column inches each newsletter issue for the year for \$400 or in-kind goods and services, six months \$200, quarter \$100, one month \$40. The ad may include artwork and will link to the advertiser's website.

Additional column inches of ad space may be purchased at \$200 for the year, \$100 for six months, \$50 for a quarter year, \$20 per month.

Included:

A digital subscription to the club's monthly newsletter.

Permission to post specials and other advertising on the [club's Face book page](#), 2 per month.

For additional information please phone or



## Stockton Store Hours

Monday - Saturday

10:00AM - 8:00PM

Sundays

10:00AM - 6:00PM



10536 Trinity Parkway  
Stockton, CA

Tel. (209)851-7400

Store Manager: Aric Emery

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**WOMEN'S  
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10-2, OPEN WORKSHOPS  
COMPLETED AT YOUR OWN PACE

WITH A

MARCH 22 ON THE WATER WORKSHOP  
10-12



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Sunday's on the water  
women's clinic is **FREE** but  
requires pre-registration at  
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On the water clinic requires  
2020 fishing license and  
steelhead card, waders and  
wading boots. Liability waiver  
must be completed prior to  
participation.

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March 22<sup>nd</sup> on the water clinic  
will take place at Van Assen  
Day Use Area on the  
Mokelumne River



# **FLY FISHING DAY AT SPORTSMAN'S WAREHOUSE**

**Come and learn about all things fly fishing!**

This FREE fly fishing day at Stockton's sportsman's warehouse will run from 10-2 on March 21st. It includes skill and informational stations that can be explored at your own pace. Learn about flies, knots, casting, gear, fly tying, local guides and local clubs and earn entries into our raffle valued at over \$400! Special women's fly fishing activities available March 22nd on the water and a special women's raffle too. Need not be present to win. Earn extra raffle entries for liking and sharing this post on social media. Just show us your social media activity when you get to Sportsman's Warehouse that day for your extra raffle entry tickets!



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