

February 2009

Delta Fly Fishers

Rx
Flyfishing

President's Message by Stephen Johnson

February, 2009

Well for over two years you couldn't pick up a newspaper or watch news broadcast on TV without someone screaming for change. Well change has arrived at the DFF President's office (chair) as well, even though no one was asking for it. I would like to take the time to thank Herman for his time in the chair and hope I can only come close to keeping the lid on things during next year.

Folks you have a new Bona fide fly fishing "nut", with a passion of getting it done with vintage tackle. Bamboo rods and old "click and pawl" drag reels, just nothing sweeter. Trout, Steelhead, bass oh 'hell anything that swims is fair game as long as the laws and rules are followed.

Speaking of rules, I took a walk along the Stanislaus (up stream at 29 bar) and what a mess, who in the hell has left all that garbage, paper, cans and bottles and just plain junk. Are there really that many folks using our rivers leaving all this garbage or is it a few re-peat offenders? And what do you do about it when you see it?

Before I start ranting and raving on my soap box I would like to ask you (members) what you would like to see the club accomplish in the next year. Please forward any ideas to me or better yet, come to a meeting and we will discuss it.

DFF has been around for a loooong time (1976 I believe) and nothing has ever been accomplished by just one person, I would like to invite you and any NEW friends you have to come to the monthly meetings and sit down and give us your ideas and help. How can we get more new members? Any ideas short of bribing them? How about political activism by the club, especially concerning the Peripheral Cannel issue? After all if that monster is finalized we just might have to change the name of our club as the Delta would probably cease to exist.

Lots to talk about and many ideas in my head but I'm going to stop and use this "President's Message" as an introduction, and an invitation to you to participate, next month the gloves come off.

Stop by the camp and share my coffee or Tequila, take my last helping of beans, borrow a rod or reel, but don't kick my dog. "Kate" is a constant companion, don't go anywhere with out her...she'll be at the meetings and will have plenty to say...for a Labrador retriever she pretty well read. The following is one of her favorites she hopes you enjoy it.

"I fish because I love to: because I love the environs where trout are found, which are invariably beautiful... and...not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important, but because I suspect so many other concerns of men are equally unimportant-and not nearly so much fun."

John Voelker

Membership Form

Regular membership – \$30*

Family Membership – \$35*

62 years or older – \$25.00*

*New members please add \$5.00 Initiation Fee

Dues are for one year, from September 1 to August 31
Please fill out then mail to:

Delta Fly Fishers P.O. Box 77862, Stockton, CA 95207

Check one:

New membership _____ Renew membership _____

Regular Membership:

One year \$30.00 _____

Senior (62+) \$25.00 _____

Family Membership:

One year \$35.00 _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____

Cell (____) _____ - _____

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:

Casting Fly Tying Attending Outings Equipment

Knot Tying Float Tubing Pontoon Boating

Stream Fishing Lake Fishing Trout Fishing

Steelhead Fishing Shad Fishing Bass Fishing

Striper Fishing Salt Water Fishing Private

Water Fishing Rod Building Selecting a Guide

Travel

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

Wednesday Night Fly Tying



For years, the “secret” fly that everyone used, was Don Gillette’s Red Ryder. Now a new fly has emerged. It is unsinkable and is touted to catch everything that swims, except the Phantom of course. To find out who is daring challenge the Red Ryder, come to the weekly fly tying get together, at the Na-



ture Center in the Oak Grove Park at 6:30. The exception is the 2nd Wednesday night when DFF has its monthly meeting. Whether you are a novice and want tips on how to tie flies or an expert that wants an excuse to get out of the house, then come out for the camaraderie of other members. This is an excellent chance improve your fly tying and/or BS abilities. For more information contact Joe Balderston at 474-8515.

Eastern Sierra Focus

By CJ Webb

Thank You CJ



We want to take time to recognize the valuable East Side fishing report provided to us regularly by C.J. Webb. This report is always up to date, filled with great tips, stream and lake conditions, and interesting news on the great waters along CA 395. We all look forward to an annual outing in September in the Bridgeport area and many of us enjoy additional travel to that “Trout Mecca”. C.J. and her husband John own and operate the Virginia Lakes Lodge which provides lodging, good food, and fine fly fishing experiences. Stop by and say hello when you’re near there next season and give a personal thanks to C.J. for her articles that help make our newsletter a great monthly read. Thanks again, C.J.

To: DFF Officers and Board Members

Membership Committee Report January 2009

Our club membership to date is 109 members paid for this year. As of January 1st, 16 delinquent members have been removed from the clubs roster. Their names are held in an archive file.

Delta Fly Fishers Welcomes New Members for January they are: Mark Delabarre

Your dues are important support to the club for its programs throughout the year. Without this support we will not be able to support the programs without charging for them.

Thanks to all the members that are supporting the club.

Contact membership chairperson Bob Souza, at suzasbs@netzero.com or 209-607-6604, with any questions on your membership.

Happy Fishing and Thank You for your support

Bob Souza

Membership Chairperson

Conservation by Ron Forbes

This year will be a monumental year in California's ongoing fight in the water wars. Given the strong possibility of a third year of drought, farmers, urban water districts and environmentalists-fishermen see 2009 as a year in which decisions will be made that will affect our state for decades to come. Some of the major issues will be Schwarzenegger's ongoing push for a peripheral canal, the decline of pelagic animals in the delta, pollution (toxins) in our water ways, the reclaiming of the San Joaquin River, the continuing loss of our salmon and steelhead and the ongoing demand for more taxpayer subsidized water for corporate agribusiness. These are just some of the issues in front of us this year, and there will be others.

We really need to keep our attention focused on the governor's actions. Arnold Schwarzenegger approached, then, President-elect Obama to suspend or eliminate the National Environmental Impact Review in Obama's proposed economic stimulus in California. He has also is trying to weaken California's environmental laws to help him proceed with construction of a peripheral canal. He waited until his handpicked of team, the so called "blue ribbon" Delta Vision Committee, found in favor of building a canal. Of course there are no members on that committee who are from the delta. They are all outsiders. Now he is preceding full bore to build the canal.

Since the voters voted down the last attempt for a peripheral canal 18 years ago, he is trying a new approach. He is trying to start building the canal without taking it to a vote of the people and he is going to try to attempt to bypass the House and Assembly in Sacramento. He wants over 9 billion dollars of our money for the canal. And that is projected not to be the full amount needed. All this without any mention of environmental protections for our Delta despite the overwhelming problems the delta faces. All this without real science to show what will happen to the Delta if a peripheral canal is build. At a meeting this last week I learned that the DWR has sent out over 4,000 letters to landowners along the proposed rout of the canal. The letter informs them that their land will be entered to evaluate their property for possible eminent domain status. What stupendous audacity!

More Problems for The Striped Bass

In a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences last November, David Ostrach of UCD has reported another serious problem in the Delta. Female stripers are taking in toxins and these toxins are passed to their eggs. These toxins consist of pesticides, industrial chemicals and flame retardants. The offspring of these fish have underdeveloped brains, an inadequate energy levels and livers that are dysfunctional. Ostrach says, "This study is one of the first studies examining the effects of real world contaminant-mixtures on growth and development in wildlife." His study is useful for two reasons. One is that they are an indicator of the health of the estuary system and second is that the levels of contaminants and effect on the stripers can predict the same for people.

This should be of real concern since the Delta is California's major source of urban water supply and for agriculture. According to Ostrach's report it's also one of the most contaminated aquatic ecosystems in the world. It supplies 2/3 of the drinking water for the people of California and water for most of the farms. Ostrach ask the question if the fish living in the water are not healthy and pass these toxins on to their young, what is happening to the people who use that same water or who will eat the fish? It's known that one of these toxins found in this study (PDBE) has been found in Bay Area's mother's breast milk in levels that are 100 times greater than in the milk from mothers in other parts of the world. The UCD research group found harmful levels of PCB, PBDE and 16 other pesticides. These toxins seem to have three major problems. They cause skeletal and organ deformities and dysfunction, changes in hormone functions and changes in behavior.

One important part of the study compared gravid females caught in the upper Sacramento River and compared them to offspring of uncontaminated fish that were raised in a hatchery. The river fish showed harmful amounts of PBDE, PCB and 16 pesticides. The hatchery fish don't.

It should be noted by those who follow what goes on with the Department of Water Resources, that DWR's Pelagic Organism Decline Managers had funded the research of this project. When some of the results were reported, they killed all of Ostrach's and his colleagues funding. However, new funding is being sought so the research can continue. They seem to want to continue to hide some of the massive problems they have created in the Delta. And their present actions continue to help destroy the delta.

FFF Conservation

The Steelhead Committee has been busy the last few months. First, the FFF Web pages on The Osprey have been expanded and improved upon to include more information about steelhead and salmon issues, and easier navigation for more information on The Osprey. Visit our website and browse back issues of The Osprey.

The Steelhead Committee has also just launched a blog dedicated to salmon and steelhead issues. The Steelhead Committee believes the first step towards conservation and recovery of our anadromous fish is an informed community of advocates. Through our publication The Osprey, our website and this blog we hope to share relevant news regarding the management, science and politics surrounding steelhead and salmon in the Pacific Northwest. Visit the blog at <http://ospreysteelhead-news.blogspot.com/>

DFF Officers 2009

President

Stephen Johnson 209-887-9255

1st Vice President

(Open)

2nd Vice President

Herman Spalinger 209-477-3412

(Temp)

Secretary

Sallye Rollans 209-274-0448

Treasurer

Bruce Rollans 209-274-0448

Directors

Joe Balderston 209-474-8515

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Sallye Rollans 209-274-0448

Larry Schmidt 209-948-3360

Dean Watson 209-474-9776

Committees

Education

Joe Balderston 209-474-8515

Newsletter

Doug Ridgway 209-957-0170

Conservation/NCCFFF Member

Ron Forbes 209-368-5767

Historian/Property

Dean Watson 209-474-9776

Membership

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Outings

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Publicity

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Programs

Marty Kjelson 209-477-9618

John Keagy 209-369-5690

Raffles

Bill Laughlin 209-477-6644

Catfish Derby (June)

Earl Summers 209-957-6756

Trout Bout (November)

Charlie Reames 209-369-6053

Bob McMillan Trout Bout

(February)

Steve Cooper 209-956-1032

Web Site

David Coon 209-239-9936

Fishing Buddy Program

Bob Souza 209-478-8344

Grady Lee 209-951-3623

Ron Pettit 209-931-2997

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 Jacob Loyko 468-2664 for info on merchandise and videos at all the meetings.

Membership Meeting

February 11

February Board Meeting

February 18

March Newsletter

The deadline for the March issue is February 25th

DFF's February Outings



Delta Fly Fishers will have two outings in February. The first outing will be to Lake Amador Tuesday February 10. Meet at the launch ramp at 8am. Breakfast for early birds will be 6:30 am at the Country Cafe in Lockeford.

The second outing will be to Rancho Seco Lake Saturday February 28. Meet at the north launch ramp 8 am. Lunch will be served by DFF chef Earl Summers and assistants 12-1pm at the picnic area on the south side of the lake near the beach. Public is invited.

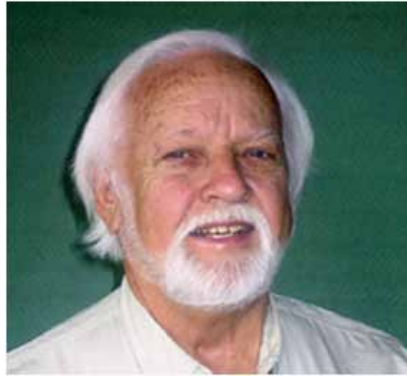
For more information for both outings, contact Earl Summers 957-6756

Rivers of a Lost Coast

Rivers of a Lost Coast chronicles the un-told story of California's secretive coastal fly fishing community. Using first hand accounts and captivating restored footage, this film weaves a narrative through one of the most interesting and tragic stories in American angling history. Lani Waller, Russell Chatham and the late Bob Nauheim, Myron Gregory and Bill Schaad are all highlighted in the film. Tom Skerritt, the long-standing conservationist and one of the stars from A River Runs Through It, narrates the film. A wealth of information about early California steelheading, including great deleted scenes and audio clips, can be found on the film's website (www.riversofalostcoast.com).

The Rivers of a Lost Coast production team has yet to release a date for the premiere but plans are in place for a West Coast tour. Look for the film in smaller independent theaters in March and June of 2009. Future information about the theatrical showings and DVD release will be available on the website (www.riversofalostcoast.com)

Hall of Fame 2009



Mr. Chuck Echer

29th inductee into the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame

Saturday Evening February 28th, 2009

Chuck's contributions to the art and sport of fly fishing will be formally recognized as he becomes the 29th inductee into the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame. Join local fly fishing personalities and national celebrities for a lively evening of dinner, induction ceremony and fund raising as we celebrate Chuck's place in fly fishing history.

**To be held at the Veterans Memorial Building,
301 Main St., Pleasanton, California**

**Social hour and silent auction start at 6PM - Dinner at 7PM –
"Featuring the same caterer and menu as last year's event" Followed by live auction
Tickets are certain to sell out quickly for this special event, so reserve you seat now!**

Reservation form along with payment must be received by February 15, 2009 to reserve your space. Seating is limited!

For more information, check out NCCFFF's web site, <http://www.nccfff.org/>.

Your Chance To Host A Fly Fishing Film Tour Stop

The Fly Fishing Film Tour – AEG Media has made it easy, affordable and most importantly, profitable for you to host the Fly Fishing Tour in your market! Starting February 2009 - AEG will take the tour to over 40 cities. If you are not in one of these markets and would love to host an evening of fly fishing entertainment we have a great solution for you! If you are a fly shop looking to bring in some extra revenue and host your customers for a night, this is the perfect solution. If you are a non-profit organization looking to raise some money for your cause; this is a great program! But don't wait too long as markets are already booking up and you'll want to take advantage of the 10% discount good only until December 1st, 2008. For more information go to <http://www.flyfishingfilmtour.com/default.asp> Contact AEG Media and they can send you a packet that describes how to schedule your event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Wed (except meeting nights)	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	WEDNESDAY EVENING FLY TYING Contact: Joe Balderston 474-8515 Jim Rich 477-6404
Every 2nd Wed (except July & Aug) 7:00 PM	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Contact Marty Kjelson 477-9618 John Keagy 369-5690
Every 3rd Wed (except July) 7:00 PM	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
Saturday February 7	Oak Grove Park Stockton	Trout Bout Steve Cooper - 956-1032
February 10, 2009	Lake Amador	DFF's Mid Week Outing
Wednesday February 11	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Phil Erickson California Heritage Trout Challenge
Wednesday February 18	Nature Center Oak Grove Park Stockton	Board Meeting All Members Welcome
February 27, 28, March 1	Alameda County Fairgrounds Pleasanton, CA	The Fly Fishing Show
Saturday February 28	Veterans Memorial Building 301 Main St. Pleasanton, California	NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame Dinner
Saturday February 28	Rancho Seco Lake	DFF's Monthly Outing
Wednesday March 11	John R Williams School Stockton	Membership Meeting Rick Martin - Outdoor Photography

Oak Grove Parking

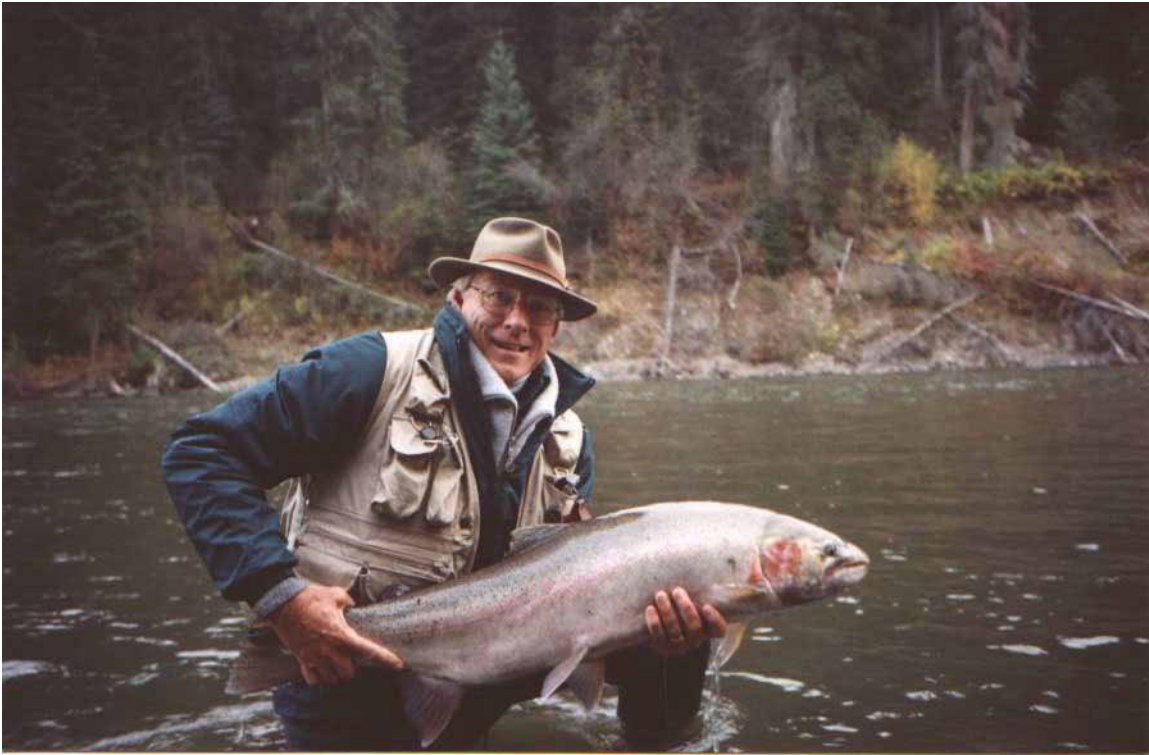
Jim Rich wants to inform DFF members that they will now need a DFF parking permit to display on your dash as the county sheriff's office will be writing tickets for non DFF members on Wednesday nights. Jim is going to print up placards or permits, so see Jim to get one. Information: jrich1@sbcglobal.net

Free for the Asking

Two used float tubes. All I ask is that you or a close friend plan to use the tubes yourself. They both have truck inner tubes that should be replaced with newer, safer inner tube designs. Call Marty 477-9618.

February General Meeting

The California Heritage Trout Challenge



Phil Erickson will give a presentation on his experiences taking the California Heritage Trout Challenge beginning in 2006. His presentation will cover; what the challenge is about, the fish, the fishing, the places and the people involved. He is one of only seven fishermen who have caught all eleven species in their heritage waters.

A second generation native Californian, he began fishing in Yosemite National Park about the age of nine or ten, and like most young fishermen, he started out with worms and Salmon eggs, then progressed to spinning gear and decided to switch to flies when he observed trout rising to flies on back packing trips into the High Sierras during the 1960's. I have been a fly rod packing trout bum ever since!

He no longer limits his fishing only for trout as he now fishes for both fresh and saltwater species in places like, Alaska, Baja, Belize, British Columbia, Christmas Island, Costa Rica and Patagonia. However trout (and the Steelhead version) are still his passion. He fishes approximately sixty days a year, with about half of that in California.

Phil is a past president and current director of Diablo Valley Fly Fishermen.

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