

Newsletter

July 2009

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Up to date news:

Want the latest and most up to date information? Don't forget the club's web site. <http://www.ecpowellflyfishers.com/> Just copy the address and insert it into your address block and you're on the way. It's filled with the latest of what's going on and when and where to go along with lots of good and timely information.

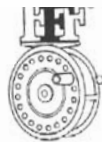
Calendar of Events

July 6-12

Klamath Lake Fish Out

Sep 8

General Meeting, Lincrest School, MP Room, 7:30 PM



CALIFORNIA TROUT



The President's Corner

Here it is July already, and starting to heat up. I hope everyone is managing to get out on the water this summer. I spent a day recently, (mid June), fishing Davis Lake. The Damselfly action was still not very good. We had better luck with leech patterns. Others reported similar results. The fish we did catch were mostly smallish, 10 to 12", with one fish reaching to 16". We all had numerous short strikes as well. There appear to be a lot of small fish in the lake. I understand that DFG is holding off on planting any larger fish for now. Most of the fish we caught had pink sores on them which are due to a parasite according to a flyer at the Dollard store in Portola. Perhaps that has something to do with them not putting more fish in the lake. I'm not trying to discourage anyone from going, just giving the latest info based to my trip.

Banquet letters have been sent, and other preparations are underway. Also, I want to remind everyone that we would like to have flies donated by the members for raffle items. If you are able, please bring them to the Sept. or Oct. meetings.
Thanks, Jeff

Getting Ready for Baja



In a couple of weeks five of our club's members will be heading to Baja for some fast action fly fishing. Along with myself, I'll have Don Voigt, Don Payne, Bill Siler, and Brett Allis all from the club repeating their first trip here last June. Specifically we'll be flying in to La Paz, Baja and staying at the La Concha Beach Resort. Each morning we'll be picked up early and shuttled over to the East Cape at an area called La Ventana off the southern end of Isla Cerralvo. Here we meet up with our pangero's, quickly load up our lunches and gear and head out for a day of blue water fly fishing.

The area between the island and the mainland is a natural channel for all kinds of migrating trophy fish. Dorado, roosterfish, yellowfin tuna, black skipjack, jack crevalle, sailfish and even marlin will be seen each day. Take your pick, but here you want at least a 10 weight or a 12 weight rod and lots of backing.

For flies you'll want baitfish patterns in 2/0 to 4/0 and sometimes even bigger. No size 18 Blue Wing Olives here.



We fish from dawn till around 2:00PM and by then everybody's arms are aching from all the fish they've been fighting all morning. We gather at the beach and then head back to the hotel in La Paz in a nice air conditioned van with maybe a few cervasas and lots of stories to tell along the way. The next morning, we do it all over again for seven straight days.



I've been coming down to Loreto and La Paz each summer for more than twenty years, and I have to say that this La Paz / Isla Cerralvo area has some of the best fishing I've experienced anywhere in the world. Anyone wanting more information about these trips can call me at home at (530) 790-7180. Tony Buzolich, Feather River Fly (www.feather-river-fly.com)

Spey Casting 101



For those of you that attended the May meeting, you were treated to some very interesting information with respect to Spey Casting and how it can be used for single as well as two handed fly rods. Jeff Putnam, a recognized expert in Spey Casting, also made himself available, with rods, for an all day class on the American River. There was a small charge for each of us but from the reports that I received from those that attended, was well worth it. “Dandy” Don Voigt cooked lunch for all that were there which was a treat. “Thanks Don”.

Jeff took us from rank beginners to ones that could actually make some of those motions such as Snap Ts, D loops, C loops, Single Spey, Double Spey and whatever else we could come up with to

actually cast a fly over 70 feet with absolutely no false casting. What a treat it was when it all comes together correctly where you cast a fly that far. In addition to the distance, you can do it with no back cast and no false casting. Imagine an area, and we’ve all been there, where you have boulders, brush or trees behind you and the best you can do is roll cast a fly 30 to 40 feet, if you’re good. This technique works well with either single handed or two handed fly rods. Those of you that have been fly fishing for a number of years and have noticed your shoulder starting to hurt after a few hours on the water, might want to consider Spey techniques and Spey Rods.

If you’re interested in more from Jeff from private lessons to “which lines would work best on my rod?” Jeff is the one to go to. You can reach him through his web site: <http://jpflyfishing.com> or call him at (916) 366-7554 or email him at: jeff@jpflyfishing.com. Another place that he sometimes frequents is Kiene’s Fly Shop in Sacramento. In any case, if you’re interested, get in touch with Jeff; you won’t be sorry that you did.

If you have any questions about the class just ask any of the members that attended:
Larry Ingram, Jim Tanner, Mike McFarlane, Jeff Lingenfelter, Chester Jung, Mike Ream, Pete Gilb or Bob Harik. It should be noted that Mr. Tanner, as usual, caught a fish while learning to cast. No surprise from here.



Lake Davis



This is one of those lakes that just seems to call to you as soon as you hear the Damsel hatch has started.

The lake, as you know has had its share of problems over the past several years but as of yet, no word of the “P” fish has crossed anyone’s lips. (Keep your fingers crossed).

As with most fishing this year, everything is late. The weather has been a big factor in such places as Pyramid, McCumber. Davis is no exception. The Damsel hatch has just recently started and there is still good fishing and probably will be well into July. The afternoon wind and rain is always a possibility but the best fishing seems to be best from about 8:30 AM until early afternoon and then again in the evening.

If you go, you'll find that a floating line with long leaders (12-15feet) work well. Fish along the weed beds and use a **very slow retrieve**. If you choose to troll, do it very slow as well. An intermediate line works OK but the floater seems to be the best. The best flies seem to be the usual Damsel in olive green and/or a Sheep Creek Special, sometimes also called a Fuller Lake Special. All of these are available at all of the local fly shops and at Mountain Hardware in Truckee.

The best places to fish are the West side of the lake in the areas of Cow Creek, Jenkin's Point and Eagle Point.

Recently several of the club members fished the lake for two days and all caught fish. Most are the "cookie cutter" 8 to 12 inch fish but there are also lots of the 14 to 20 inch ones around. The lake has been planted with some really nice fish and those are being caught with some regularity. Just be patient and put in the time and you'll be rewarded.



Pyramid Lake 2009



Each year for the past 6 to 8, I have taken off for that strange lake about 35 miles North of Reno. The usual trip consists of ladders in January, February and March due to the water temps in the lake and the fact that the fish remain in deeper water where the water is a bit warmer than the 41 degree that we encounter near shore. So, you get your fanny out of the water and up on a ladder where you cast shooting heads out as far as you can then slowly strip them back in. A day with 3 to 5 fish is a good one.

Then comes April and, this year May. April is when the water usually warms up due to the weather and the fish get ready to spawn. This year, we had cooler weather in April so the fishing was simply extended into May.

I, and others, went up a couple of times in April but it was in May that we finally got into the fish. Six of us (Jim Fujii, Jim Tanner, Jack MacFarlane, Mike McFarlane, Tom Kerr and I) fished for parts of two days using chironomids under an indicator (fly fisher for bobber) and landed over 80 fish. Now these are not your little ones but fish to 12+ pounds. The average fish runs about 22 inches with some a bit smaller but most over that length. These Lahontan Cutthroats are big fish, fish well and one can stand in knee deep or shallower water and watch big fish swim by in pods of 10 to 30 fish. It's unreal to see them in the numbers mentioned and some just a few feet in front of you.



So, the next time someone mentions going to Pyramid, don't just stand there, GET GOING. Remember, April is still the best time to fish this way, with floating lines and indicators but, earlier with shooting heads and cold water can be good, as well. During the week is probably the best time but if the weekend is the only time you can get away, go for it!!! There are plenty of inexpensive places to stay at the lake, just ask anyone that's gone.

Larry Ingram

Yellow Creek



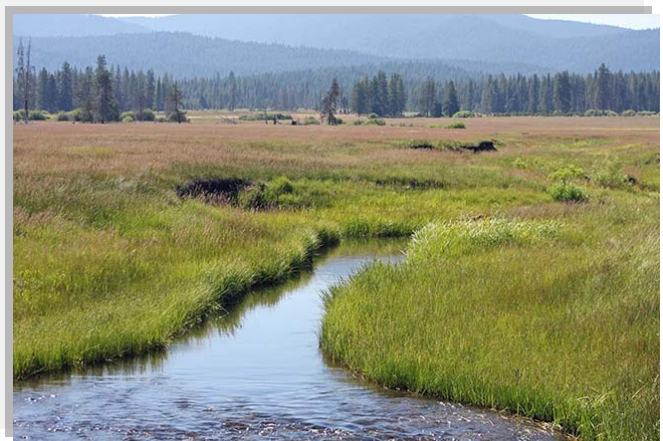
fishery that's getting tougher and tougher each year. It's not that the big fish aren't there, because they are indeed but, rather, because they get so much pressure they mostly have become primarily nocturnal feeders. You rarely see any fish that are more than 12 to 14 inches but that doesn't mean that you can't take them. In June I usually go to large salmon fly patterns as soon as the sun is off the water and fish the water with the deepest shadows. That usually works for one or two good fish each day. In the afternoons through dusk, patterns such as the Adams, Light Cahill and PED's (sizes 18 and 20) fished carefully along the undercut banks will interest a few fish. Once the grasshopper season is up and running the larger fish will be a bit easier.

While many of you were having a great time on the Club's annual trip to the Hat Creek area, I found myself as I do every year at this time, on the family's annual camping trip to Yellow Creek. This year we had nine grandkids and ten dogs with the dogs being the lesser of the problems by far. In addition, we also had kids and various strap-hangers from wherever. It did, however, give me a chance to fish a bit, when not otherwise distracted, and to run my dogs.

For those of you that haven't been there before, the flow of the creek is primarily spring generated and runs through the lovely meadow that's Humbug Valley. What a great place to get away from it all! This is a wild brown trout



As far as the health of the stream goes, it's really come back well since the cattle have been moved off. The banks are stabilizing and large areas are now shaded by willows. The big surprise to me, however, was how good the upper



meadow is coming back. There's been some effort to plant willows and judging by the paintwork on the banks there'll be some real serious effort later this summer. Additionally, the grass has a good hold on the soil now along the creek so that should help diminish the impact of high water on the cutbanks. Further, I saw more fish in the upper water this year than I've seen over the last few years. Of the four pictures, the first two were taken in the campground area and the other two were taken in the upper meadow.

Bob Long

New Newsletter Feature

With this issue of the newsletter we're starting a new feature which we hope to run each issue for the next year. In essence we've tapped various members relative to their experience as to what flies work for them on various waters during a general timeframe or various fly-types (striper, shad, etc.). Beyond that, consider this a work in progress! It's quite likely that we'll also have two or more members showing flies for the same water which makes it very interesting to see the similarities as well as the differences in working patterns. We have by designed stayed away from attaching names to the various patterns but that could change if that's something you feel would be helpful. Beyond that, if you'd like more information on a specific fly(s) then we suggest you contact the contributor. Bob Long

My Favorite Klamath Lake Flies

By Larry Ingram



2009 Proposed Fish Outs

Date	Location	Fishmeister	Phone
July 6-12	Upper Klamath Lake	Larry Ingram	673-4965
August			
September 25-27	Klamath/Trinity Rivers	Bob Long	916-362-5593
Oct 25-Nov 1	Eagle Lake	Bob Harik	671-7805
Nov	Delta Stripers	??	
Nov 29-Dec 5	Trinity River Steelhead	Larry Ingram	673-4965

(Note: We had to change the date on the Klamath/Trinity Rivers Fish Out to one week later than was previously indicated.)

Hereford Ranch, Hat Creek and Baum Lake are Great!

Not only is the fishing great but the wildlife is something to behold! Some members of the Club didn't even get their lines wet. They spent their time with their families doing things such as fly casting classes, playing with their dogs, volley ball and swimming in the park pond.

During our time on the water at Baum Lake we were constantly being bombarded by osprey. These birds must have been young ones because they only scored in one out of five attempts to catch fish.

If you hooked a fish you would have to reel him in promptly or else a pelican would swoop down and attempt to take your fish. The bald eagles were active chasing little ducklings and muskrats. The goslings were fairly large now and the eagles didn't bother them. At one point a mountain chased a doe and her fawns into Baum and they swam across to the other side of the lake in front of me.

Now to the good stuff:

Member	Fish Caught	Size	Fly Used
Ed Brown	20	14"	Pheasant Tail Nymph #16 BH Pheasant Tail Nymph #14 Parachute Adams #20
Walt Alexander	30	13"	BH Pheasant Tail Nymph #16 Deerhair Caddis #18 Blue Wing Olive #20

(Note: On Saturday a hatch of BWO's and Trico was coming off above the boat ramp. This hatch was so prolific that Walt and I could not find a combination that worked. Unless your imitation fly was correct and your presentation perfect, the fish would ignore your offering. I settled for a BH Pheasant Tail (or Brassie) given me by Craig Renke and started catching fish.)

On each fishing trip if you learn something new than your outing is a success! On this trip I learned to SKATE MY FLY. In years past I did this but didn't put a name to it; I simply drug my fly back up-stream and let it drift back down. I considered this a lazy man's cast but done correctly, it works.

For the fisherman and family, a trip to Baum Lake is great. Ed (Brownie) Brown

Pram For Sale

I have a friend who has a Stillwater 8-foot Classic pram for sale. If you check this web site, www.springcreekprams.com, it looks just like the one on the site but with a white seat. The pram does not come with oars but it does have both an anchor and an anchor mount. In addition to the pram, he also has a Nissan 1.5

horsepower motor and a 28 lb. electric trolling motor for it. The pram and the Nissan have only been used 3 or 4 times and the trolling motor is new in the box. He's asking \$975 for the pram, \$300 for the Nissan and \$80 for the trolling motor. The seller's name is Chris Kagel and he can be reached at 916-825-0051. Bob Long

A Diva's Perspective – Marla Challenges Us To Live Up To Our FFF Mission

By Marla Blair - Taken from the FFF North Eastern Council Newsletter

It's our responsibility to bring youth into our sport. The stock market is only one of many things that are on the verge of crashing. The fly fishing industry, as a whole, is on the fence. It could fall off that fence and there will be no more fly shops, little to no fly fishing shows, fly tier shows, full time guide services, full time fly fishing schools, and fly fishing/tying magazines.

Of all the things that will surely disappear are the most important of all... our educating, and conservation efforts thru organizations like The Federation of Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, Casting For Recovery and local fishing clubs, that help with stocking programs, stream restoration efforts, the re-introduction of salmon, teaching fly tying to all ages... these clubs and those who's tireless efforts make these clubs operate, will be gone forever. My observations come from giving programs to clubs and seeing first-hand the dwindling of membership and membership involvement. The days of non-profit organizations will come to a stop, while for now they just get smaller. The cost to join or re-join will no longer be affordable. Not that the fee to join is all that much, however, bills will come before club membership fees.

At most club meetings that I have been to, the average age is 55+. I might see one or two women, and maybe one or two kids, under the age of thirteen. But it's rare enough to be disconcerting. If we don't put the effort into bringing new people of all ages, and genders, into the sport... who will? The 20-somethings have MP3's sticking out of their ears and or cell phones, texting instead of having face time with anyone. There're a few thirty-something's becoming involved, but with the cost of gas, the need to work overtime, just the day to day need to make a living, joining a club is the last thing on the mind of most people right now.

I think making it extremely affordable right now, is one answer. The cost to go to a fishing show very expensive, yet, the cost to run the shows, very expensive... The dealers and vendors are backing off, doing fewer shows, per year. It's the trickle down effect. We, at the consumer end, unless there is something specific, look at the shows as something to do on a weekend. Let's go see if there any deals. The programs, classes, and speakers are paid for, to be there for the consumer. Some consumers whine that it's going to be the same as the year before, even when the show owners do their level best to make each show fresh and more interesting. It's hard to please everyone and there will always be those who complain, no matter what... and you know who you are... If we do not support the shows by going, if we don't support the local clubs by joining and bringing in new people, all ages and genders, then we only have ourselves to blame when it's all gone. Try not to think of the shows and the clubs as being the same-ol-same-ol, instead, look at your re-joining, your showing up to the club, or going to the fishing shows as a way of showing your support for what you love. Fly Fishing is what we love. We breath it in, we eat it for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

We plan our vacations around a specific hatch, or a specific run like steelhead, or salmon. We watch the arm-chair anglers shows, we hang out in the fly shops to chat (spend a little next time you're there... it doesn't have to be a lot, but if you hang out and don't spend a dime, just taking up room, you help no-one and one day that shop will be closed and you'll be asking "Why"?)

We need to make time, for our down-time. We must take the youth by the hand and get them involved. Taking a kid fishing is just one part of it. Teaching fly tying to young people, is another part of it. A family membership to a local club is another part of it. There are many ways to get involved and to involve others. What needs to happen is for us, as individuals, to become pro-active. Come up with ideas for getting more young people involved. Plan our work, and work our plan. Instead of your sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, or grand-kids spending their weekends playing computer games and downloading music to their MP3's, why not take them to a fly fishing show, or teach them and their friends how to tie a fly.. How about a few flies? Not all kids like to fish, hunt, or camp, but if they spend little to no time outside, being surrounded by nothing else but computer and TV, how the heck are they going to find out if they like it or not. If there is no future for our sport, we only have ourselves to blame.

I have no kids, just cats and a dog. My entire family lives in California and states north of that. My husband has no local relatives, with children. That being the case, I've taken a few of the neighbor's kids and taught them how to fly fishing.

Now it's up to the parents to keep it going and knowing that sometimes, that doesn't work, I'll work it out so I can take the kids fishing from time to time. We're facing a possible depression; no doubt, it will be felt by everyone. What happens in our financial future might be horrible and something that we might not come back from any time soon... We have less control over that aspect of our lives then we do over the future of fly fishing. When all is said and done, our down time is our sanctuary, our church, our joy and a time to reflect. It's what keeps us sane and helps us to deal with work and the other stresses of life.

I'll do my part to teach and guide people from age 6 to adulthood, for as long as there are people to hire me. I am making a change in my pricing to reflect the times, and ask for less to do what I do, in hopes of not seeing my 73% repeat business, drop off. If I keep my prices where they are, there's a chance I could lose more. If I don't book enough clients to teach and or guide, sadly, I'll find a full time job, doing something else. I can make myself available, to teach and guide, only on the weekends. If the "old timers" are the only ones left to run and populate the local fishing clubs, those clubs will shut down, from lack of interest and membership. In whose hands do we place the future of our sport? "Who's responsible"? "It's in our hands". "We're responsible".

I am very interested in your ideas and opinions, regarding this article. Please send comments to Paul Metzger, BackCasts editor, at flytyero7950@optimum.net and he will forward them to me. I promise to get back to you.

Marla (AKA the Diva)

Eyewear Evolution

By Clay Gill - Taken from the Alamo Fly Fishers Club Newsletter

Modern fishing eyewear has made leaps and bounds recently in the arenas of protection, fashion and functionality. Everyone knows polarized lenses allow you to see fish under water. Glare and reflected light obstructing the ability to peer through surface is erased. Sight casting to target fish is fun. Everyone wants to see the "hit". It becomes the excitement of spotting a fish as you hunt for them and placing a perfect cast to that quarry. Consequently, high tech sunglasses are popular.

Companies like Kaenon, Costa Del Mar, Maui Jim, Wileyx, Old Harbor Outfitters, 7eye, Oakley, and Ocean Wave vie for consumer cash out there. Customers want that magic x-ray vision to spot fish for a casting opportunity.

Each company has their own philosophy for accomplishing the goals. Some use sandwiched lenses, some block yellow light--some blue. Others add films and reflective coatings and mirror finishes. The green mirror is touted as best for shallow water, and the blue great for offshore applications. It has gotten complicated. They say gray is best for driving and amber best for low light sight fishing. Who knows?

What it has come to on materials is mind boggling. Glass, high tech plastics and sandwiched materials bonded together have created a myriad of amazing new innovations that all really work well. With copper, amber, grays and the shades of blue and green, who knows what is best! You probably really need several pairs!

The truth is anything is better than nothing. I drive with Maui Jim's. I fish with Costa's. I like green mirror-even offshore. What matters is that you have good eyewear and the harmful rays of the sun do not reach your eyes. UVAUVB light is the culprit. It needs to be limited to your eyes over the water. Reflection from the water surface is double trouble for your poor old eyes. Decades of abuse will make you pay later if you "tough-it", and prove you are a man. People with light colored eyes are even more light sensitive. It is even more important for younger fishermen.

To get up to speed you first must find a pair of glasses that fits you well. Fishing considerations are related to the coverage on your face. Glare can sneak in past open sides and be just as harmful. The new wrap-around models are sleek and stylish, they really make a difference! Being light, comfortable and extremely effective does not come cheaply! Cost is 200.00+ dollars for good fishing glasses.

Then you must decide what lens type, color and boasted capability by a pack of manufacturers trying to sell you their product. True it might require one lens like the amber for lower light or shallow water, and a green mirror for deeper blue black offshore water on bright days. You cannot take them back if they don't work very often, but many are now trying out glasses and re-selling the rejects on EBay and finding other new ones there at discounts. No one seems to pay retail prices now.

Once you find a brand that works for you, price may not be as big an object when capability surpasses the sticker shock. You really get your money's worth with the amazing high tech optics available now. Some even have cheaters to help tie the knots built in! Another innovation is holes to clip a lanyard so you don't drop them.

During the winter-we were looking down from the transom offshore at fish that had come up from deep water to clean up some chum. Without glasses a Shark looked like a Cobia or just something big. Grab your Costa's and peer again, and not only could we see the type of Shark it was twenty feet down in the chum, you could see the fish eating. It was time to grab wire for a busy day. Nothing wrong with getting Sharked for hours. They tug well on a slow Tuna day. The Mahi are fun too.

Triple polarization, oil and dust coatings, and bullet proof lenses can confuse you. Cr-39, and Polycarbonate Rhino lenses will dazzle you also. NXT chopper windshield polymer is also cool. All these amazing propositions for a better product are very confusing. This carnival of choices is grows every day! Just keep it simple!

What matters most is to limit UVA/UVB rays, and cut the glare on the surface. Make sure they are comfortable and hang them on a lanyard so you don't scratch them up. Put them on and wear them even on cloudy days. Harmful sunlight punches right through overcast clouds. Sun damage is an accumulative effect!

If you need several pairs rejoice. It is a marvelous age. High tech protection, x-ray vision, looking cool and catching fish- all at once! You just can't beat that!

***** CLUB OFFICERS *****

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