



## The CAST

# Russian River Fly Fishers

*Since 1976  
For January 2004*

*Santa Rosa Area  
Happy New Year!*

Volume 29 Number 1 January 2004

*rrflyfisher.tripod.com*

Happy Holidays from  
Marji Majors

Happy Holidays to each and all of you. I'm supposing that you all have been busy with the season preparations as I have been. Even though the family is scattered this year, there is always something to do. But from our house to yours, we hope your holidays were joyous and that the New Year will be good for all of us.

A very important part of this issue of the Cast is the reservation form for our annual dinner in February. Please check your calendars and get your reservation in as soon as

possible. Note that you need to send in your payment with your reservation this year. This event has been growing in popularity and we do have a limited seating capacity so please do not wait until the last minute ... there may not be space this year.

Your board has already started making preparation for this fun evening but more helpers are always welcome. You can contact me or Lee Smith if you would like to get involved. Joe Banovich has lined up a very good speaker and I'm hearing about a lot of goodies in the raffle.

Lee and his crew are going to stir up their great cioppino. I can't think of a nicer place to bring your Valentine!

The January club meeting will be at the Vet's Building on the 14th. Hope to see many of you there and let's get the year off to another great start. See you there.

Marji

## ANDRE MICHEL PUYANS

Andre Puyans started fly tying at age seven, and got his first professional fly tying order at age nine. By age twelve he was able to cast a fly and hit a Lucky Strike package at thirty-five feet. He spent long hours at the New York **Anglers Roost** and learned his art from the **Darbees, the Dettes, Art Flick, and Ray Bergman**. By age nineteen **Al McClaine** had written about Andy's Portland Colonel fly pattern in *Field and Stream*. That year, Andy took over management of the Atlantic salmon fishing camps in Newfoundland from **Lee Wulff**. During college, Andy worked for Abercrombie and Fitch, moving to San Francisco in 1958 to set up their tackle department. In 1964, Andy brought fisheries conservation to California by **forming the first Trout Unlimited chapter and council**. He remained a TU National Director until 1972 when he started Creative Sports Enterprises in Pleasant Hill, one of the first full-service, fly-only tackle shops. Andy started teaching fly tying in the 1950's and has instructed more than 4,000 students. He developed projects to rehabilitate hospitalized Viet Nam veterans and by 1963 had perfected the **A.P. Nymph Series** and the **"loop wing"** tying style. Andy established the Diablo Valley Fly Fishers' youth fly fishing program that sent youth to Federation of Fly Fishers national conclaves. "Andy's Kids" won the top three places each year they competed. Andy strives for perfection yet simplicity in the execution of creating flies. They must

have the correct **size, shape, color and texture** - in that precise order. Andy's teaching develops that mechanics, preparation and handling of tying materials and emphasizes the correct historical origins of flies and techniques. **He was awarded the Federation of Fly Fishers highest fly tying honor, the Buz Buszeck Memorial Fly Tying Award in 1977.**

Andy has fished internationally in fresh and salt water since the mid 1950's; his favorite fish is still trout. He is a requested speaker, author and demonstrates his expertise at Federation of Fly Fisher events and at International Sportsman Expositions. He is a world-class caster and an FFF Casting Certification Committee advisor.

Andy continues to pioneer in fly fishing and fly tying. **Ernie Schwiebert** calls him, "The Unabridged Ernie Schwiebert" and **Ed Rice** calls Andy, "The Fly Fishing Renaissance Man." His life experiences reflect the evolution of the sport and make **his 1995 induction into the Northern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers Hall of Fame** a fitting tribute. He continues to teach fly tying, do programs, write articles, organize trips and do instruction videos. This year will celebrate his **31th year of teaching at his Idaho-Montana Fly Fishing seminars**. He primarily fishes the West for trout, but pursues other places and species regularly. Contact: Andre M. Puyans, 1924-c Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 (925) 939-3113 Office, E-mail: [andrepuys@yahoo.com](mailto:andrepuys@yahoo.com)

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## The Surf Rat

**HOOK:** Mustad 3407, 34007 or Tiemco 811's, sizes 2-6

**THREAD:** Fluorescent pink or red

**TAIL:** A large clump of Fluorescent orange and red marabou tips.

**TINSEL:** Holographic

**EYES:** 6/32 or 7/32. Lead eyes or bead chain

**BODY:** Large hot orange Cactus chenille.



## INSTRUCTIONS

### STEP 1:

Now would be a good time to smash the barb of the hook. Put it in your vise. Tie in lead eyes or bead chain one third of the way back from the eye of the hook. Put Zap A Gap or "Hard As Nails" fingernail polish on wraps.

### STEP 2:

Take your thread to a 1/4" inch from the bend of the hook and tie in a large clump of a fl. orange marabou about 1-1/2 inches long, to the rear of the hook shank.

### STEP 3:

Bring your thread to the back of the eyes. Take two strands of holographic Tinsel even up the ends, support them with your left first finger behind the thread. The length of the tinsel should be about 1-1/2 inches long. Bring the excess from the right around the thread, pinching the ends with your thumb and first finger of your left hand. Take the four ends and slide the tinsel up the thread so the bunch will lay on the side of the marabou or hook shank, tie in and cut the excess tinsel. Do the same to the other side.

### STEP 4:

Tie in a smaller clump of Fluorescent red marabou about 1-1/2 inches long, to the rear of the hook shank on top of the orange marabou.

### STEP 5:

Tie in the Cactus Chenille at rear of shank in front of the marabou wrap forward over, around, and between the eyes and tie off. Put some "Hard As Nails" fingernail polish on wraps.

This fly was originated by Brian Hastings.

This is a Clouser-style surf fly, swims upside down. Works well on a variety of species including halibut, surf perch, and steelhead. This is a highly visible pattern to use in the

surf, with it's pulsating marabou and bright colors. The weighted eyes are going to help it get down in the surf.

As far as steelhead, in rivers, remembering a dark day-dark fly, a light day-light fly, this would be a good pattern to use on those light days.

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## CAST by e-mail

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online, or print on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may wish to join the club. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me (James Hummell) a message at 'jamehu@sonic.net' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the CAST in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online . . . most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version.

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## The Editor

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## STATUS REPORT

### DISCOVER FLY FISHING PROGRAM

at the  
Fred Hall/ASA Show in  
January 2004  
from: Jim Edgar (Western  
Sport Shop)

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Date: November 25, 2003

First of all, my apologies for not providing a status report long before this date. My only excuse - - a bad fall in the Nevada mountains in early October necessitating unexpected knee surgery and a long recovery period from which I am just now emerging.

#### **Some Background:**

In May of this year, Fred Hall and the American Sportfishing Association (ASA) bought the rights to the old Cow Palace Boat Show that has been languishing in San Francisco for years. Their intent is to revitalize the Cow Palace Show by focusing on fishing, travel and smaller boats, following the formula that they have employed in their very successful Los Angeles, San Diego and Ventura Shows. These shows are family-oriented with children less than 16 admitted free. Attendance

is estimated to be in excess of 5,000 people.

The American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) has participated actively in these Southern California Shows, sponsoring Discover Fly Fishing programs designed to introduce people to fly fishing. The Discover Fly Fishing program typically includes free fly casting lessons and demonstrations designed to take the "mystery" out of fly fishing.

Because of the short notice, AFFTA is unable to participate directly in the San Francisco Show since it had already committed to several other events on the East Coast at the same time. Western Sport Shop agreed to manage the Discover Fly Fishing program in San Francisco for AFFTA so that it would be able to maintain its presence in future San Francisco Shows.

Fred Hall/ASA have donated four booths for the Discover Fly Fishing program - - and created a 20 by 90-foot casting pond for its use. Our challenge is to provide the staffing for the booths and people qualified to give demonstrations and/or brief casting lessons to beginners.

#### **Brief Description of the Discover Fly Fishing Program:**

The four Discover Fly Fishing booths will be on the main (or ground level) of the Cow Palace arena with sign age behind the booths to a height of approximately ten feet. It is our plan to show ongoing instructional videos and intermittent fly tying demonstrations.

The Fly Casting pond located immediately behind the Discover Fly Fishing and Western Sport Shop booths. It will be highly visible since it will be located where the first ring of seats is normally placed, about 10 feet above the arena floor. The fly casting pond will be accessible by a ramp that is located between the Discover Fly Fishing and Western Sport Shop booths, seating tiers up from the casting pond, making it ideal for demonstrations and seminars.

Our Staffing needs are straightforward:

1. Two reasonably experienced fly fishers to staff the booth, answering general questions about fly fishing and signing people up for the free fly casting lessons.
2. Two others to give very basic 5-10 minute casting lessons to beginners (both adults and kids) to help them realize that anyone - - with just a little bit of practice - - can cast a fly

(and begin to enjoy the sport of fly fishing). Lessons will be given either on demand (when the crowds are small) or on a prescheduled basis. We anticipate that two instructors can give lessons to four people at the same time.

3. Fly tiers to give basic tying demonstrations at the booths. (We will provide closed circuit video projection increase visibility.)
4. Experienced casting instructors to give demonstrations at the casting pond. (We will provide clip-on microphones and an audio system to facilitate communications.)
5. Seminar leaders to give a brief talk on, "How to get started in fly fishing," emphasizing beginning equipment needs, local fishing opportunities, and the importance of contacting clubs and shops for help. (As a guide, we will provide an outline of subjects that might be covered.)

At a minimum we are asking each participating club to take responsibility for providing two people to staff the booths and two more to provide the free casting lessons - - and (if possible) 1 or 2 fly tiers. We would also welcome suggestions on qualified people who enjoy giving

demonstrations and/or seminars. We already have commitments from Floyd Dean and several others.

Our present plan is to ask each organization to take responsibility for a specific day of the show. Show hours follow:

1. Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> (1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.)
2. Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> (1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.)
3. Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> (1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.)
4. Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> (10:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.)
5. Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> (10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.)

Western Sport Shop staff will be available to supplement your efforts. Larry Kovi and Carlo Bongio, in particular, will be available to help with the free lessons and seminars.

#### **Participants:**

Many thanks to those of you who have already agreed to participate - - and to those who are still considering participation.

Needless to say, I will be contacting you in the next few days to get your thoughts on all of this - - and to begin putting together a schedule.

In the meantime, if you know of other nonprofit organizations or clubs that might be interested in participating, please let me know. I would be most happy to contact them.

#### **Contact Information:**

Please contact me directly with any questions or comments. Your ideas are most welcome. Contact me anytime, including weekends, either on my mobile phone at (415) 279-4107 - - or by email at [westsprt@aol.com](mailto:westsprt@aol.com).

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Bobbin Threader/Fly Holder  
by Chuck Perry

I've been using Butler Eez-Thru Floss Threaders for some time now as bobbin threaders. You can pick them up at the local drug store and if you lose one, as I often do, it's no great loss. I'm partial to Norm Norlander's spring loaded bobbin and being the clumsy type that I am I often have to retread the bobbin between flies. The threaders are a piece of monofilament about 3" long that have a long wide loop at the end. Slip the end in the bobbin tube, put the thread through the loop, Pull the threader through the tube and go back to tying. So much for the use of threaders. I fished the Missouri River below the Dam last summer and small flies, 16, 18, & #20s were the order of the day. My 70-year-old eyes aren't what they used to be and I promised I

would get myself a new fly box that has the fly threaders you can load with flies before getting on the river. These boxes are in the neighborhood of \$35 and I hadn't come up the necessary loot yet to pick one up.

I was tying some bead-head nymphs and in the process retreading a bobbin when a thought struck me, ( yeah, it sometimes still happens!). I threaded four flies on the single strand end of the heretofore bobbin threader. I melted the end of the mono so a bulb formed, as in making monofilament eyes. Slip the leader tippet through the loop of the threader, pull a fly over the loop and presto the leader is threaded through the eye of the fly. It works at the tying bench. I haven't tried it on the water yet but it should work. A \$3 plastic box works to keep several of the threaders contained with whatever patterns you think you might need already pre loaded and waiting for the change of flies.

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## Russian River Fly Fishers

*rrflyfishers.tripod.com*

1029 Jack London  
Drive Santa Rosa  
California 95409

October 20, 2003

Mr. Mike Baldus  
P.O. Box 1959  
Sebastopol Ca 95473

Dear Mike,

As a Board member of the Russian River Fly Fishers I would like to offer the resources of our group to the Sebastopol Boy Scouts of America, in regards to obtaining the Fly Fishing Merit Badge. At your convenience, we may loan out fly tying kits, fly rods and reels. We have members who are interested in teaching fly tying and casting. In addition, we have a casting pond at Dan Galvin located at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa in Santa Rosa. The club also has several local fresh water fishing access locations. Our membership monthly meetings are free to the public, we publish a monthly newsletter, we host a monthly fly tying meeting and we are would like to participate in assisting your organization in this educational endeavor.

If we may be of assistance in any way, please do not

hesitate to call myself at 707-799-2497, or our Fly Tying Director, Terry Faris at 707-539-4354. I have taken the liberty to send you a copy of two versions of the badge requirements. Please let us know if you have any interest in this offer.

Thank you and kind regards,  
Hector Bedolla

Director  
Russian River Fly Fishers

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### Classified

**6 HP Evinrue Outboard**  
in great shape ... long shaft  
... used for Santana 22  
sailboat... \$200.00...  
includes gas tank  
Contact John @ 938-4116

**Pontoon Boat ...Bucks Bag**  
"Bronco" w/dual chamber  
... used once ...excellent  
condition ...\$600.00  
Contact Leath @ 569-8559

**Ocean Kayak "Drifter"**  
Like New ...only used once  
...\$500.00  
Contact Steve Miller @  
887-7350

**RRFF Annual Dinner Meeting**  
**Saturday evening, February 14, 2004**  
**Druids Hall, Santa Rosa**

Please use the following reservation form to let us know if you will be attending. Reservations will be limited so if you are planning to be there, get this back to me as soon as possible. Mail to Marji Major, 1029 Jack London Ct., Santa Rosa 95409

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ (best time to call) \_\_\_\_\_

How Many \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35 per person \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed.

Reservations without payment will not be accepted - check payable to RRFF

Send to M. Major, 1029 Jack London Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Main menu will feature Crab Cioppino with salad, antipasto, bread, wine, dessert and coffee. If you need an alternative dinner, please indicate below. Alternate menu not determined at this time. Call me or Lee Smith.

Cannot eat Cioppino \_\_\_\_\_

**Great speaker, Great raffle, lots of fun. No host cocktail hour starts at 5:30 p.m.**  
**Dinner will be served approximately 7:00 p.m. Druids Hall is on College Avenue**  
**at King in Santa Rosa, across from Santa Rosa Junior High**

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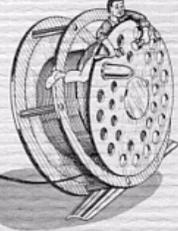


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**Russian River Fly Fishers P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405**



**Address correction requested**

**Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark one of the following categories:

**I apply as a new member:**

- \_\_\_ (Single membership - \$40 annual dues)
- \_\_\_ (Family membership - \$45 annual dues)
- \_\_\_ (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues)

**Existing membership renewal:**

- \_\_\_ (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1<sup>st</sup>)
- \_\_\_ (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1<sup>st</sup>)
- \_\_\_ (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1<sup>st</sup>)

**Dues paid by a new member joining the RRF after March 30<sup>th</sup> will cover the balance of the current fiscal year and also the following fiscal year's dues.**

**Dues run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Please mail this application and your check payable to:  
Russian River Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405**