



# The Cast

of  
THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS  
P.O. Box 1568 Santa Rosa, Calif. 95405

Vol.2 ----- January 1978 ----- No.1

Editor: Ben H. Cummings 542-4276 539-0556  
Asst. Editor: Liz Wray 526-4968

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## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 18, 1978---7:00 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.  
**PROGRAM:** Our guest speaker this month is Bill Butts, formerly a noted "Yellowstone Country" fishing guide. While the rain pours down and the rivers muddy up, come and let Bill take you to the land of the Yellowstone and the Madison, Spring Creek, Henry's Fork, and Henry's Lake.  
**RAFFLE:** Several super prizes to be awarded include steelhead flies tied by Mike Lisignoli, a Sunset Masterline fly line, and a fishing shirt, embroidered with the first RRFF logo.

REMEMBER, PLEASE! NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS!

## RUSSIAN RIVER CONSERVATION PROJECT

Much interest has been expressed regarding one of RRFF'S original goals: a conservation project for the Russian River. Grant King of Guerneville volunteered originally to chair this project. Bob Nauheim is helping to organize and get things moving. If you'd like to get involved, (and if you spoke up at the December meeting) please call Bob and give him your name. (Home--546-0926; Office--542-4242)

## NEW MEMBERS

As you know, prospective members need to have sponsoring member's signatures on their applications; the Board of Directors considers and approves new members at each Board meeting. Enclosed in the newsletter this month is a list of new members; please clip it to the original club roster that you (should) already have. **WELCOME** to these new people!

## BASIC FLY TYING CLASSES

**BOB WRAY**

For a personalized introduction to the basics of fly tying, don't forget to take advantage of these classes. Experienced RRFF tyers will explain to you the mysteries of herl and hackles, whip-finishes and wings. The first class was held on the 4th of January (an introductory class), and the dates of the other five are: January 11 and 25; February 1, 8, and 22. The fee is \$5.00, to cover the cost of printed matter, and you need to provide your own tying materials. If you have questions, call Bob at 526-4968.

FLY OF THE MONTH-----"THE BOSS"-----GRANT KING

The idea for the "Boss" fly is credited to Virgil Sullivan; however, it has been modified to its present form, and has achieved its popularity through the efforts of our own Grant King, about 1956-1957. The fly was affectionately named the "Boss" after both of these gentlemen's wives.

In its original form, the fly had an orange body, a black hackle, and glass bead eyes; it was primarily a shrimp imitation. The "Boss" as we know it today is tied with a black tail, black body with a silver rib, hot orange hackle, and bead-chain eyes. Most of the variations are simply "attractor" patterns. The favored tail material has always been skunk; however, any good black material such as bucktail or squirrel will suffice. The body material is floss or chenille.

Some of the variations call for an "egg sac" or hump behind the hackle. The variations are as follows (all have a black tail):

1. Flaming Boss--fluorescent red body, ribbed silver
2. Black body with no rib; black hackle
3. Silver body; black egg sac; black hackle
4. Silver body; fluorescent red egg sac; black hackle
5. Black body; black egg sac; black hackle.

TYING

HOOK: Eagle Claw 1197B; Mustad 3908, 7957BX, 3406, or up-eye  
Atlantic salmon hooks. Size: 4-10.  
TAIL: Black bear, calf tail, or bucktail.  
BODY: Black chenille or floss.  
RIB: Oval silver tinsel.  
HACKLE: Fluorescent orange.  
EYES: Silver Bead-chain.

1. Wrap fuse wire if desired and anchor with thread (don't forget that the bead-chain eyes act as weight).
2. Tie on a fairly thick and fairly long tail.
3. Tie in tinsel and black body material. Wrap a full body taking a turn or two under the tail to make it angle slightly up.
4. Rib the body.
5. Tie in and wrap the hackle, and tie it back wet-fly style.
6. Wrap on the bead-chain eyes. Note: to make this a little easier, advance the thread to the eye and wrap a small hump just behind the eye. Lay a pair of eyes behind the hump and hold them with a finger, while you figure-eight between them. Wrap behind and in front of the eyes.
7. Whip finish and liberally cement the head.

## NEW MEMBERS AND ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Allen, Rial  
1156 Santa Barbara Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
W 5456441

Cordes, Bobbi & Ron  
2523 Ridge Rd. #208  
Berkeley, Calif. 94709

Engstrand, Bruce  
130 S. E St. #2  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404

Hodapp, Mel  
P.O. Box 996  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 5465183  
W 5463612

Johnston, Craig  
7254 Bennett Valley Rd.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 5261458  
W 5283866

Jones, Scott  
1733 Las Pravadas Ct.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95405  
H 538-1353  
W 546-3210 X 176

Joos, John  
1905 Calavaras Dr.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404  
H 544-4684

Keegan, James  
1559 Foothill Drive  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404  
H 542-0235  
W 528-1400

King, Ron  
830 Dexter St.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 542-1738

Larsen, Ron  
1518 Bucknell Ct.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 542-5519

Madsen, Phil  
17646 Neeley Rd.  
Guerneville, Calif.  
H 869-2262

Mc Grath, John  
2519 Grosse Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404  
H 528-4154  
W (415) 398-1122

Perry, Chuck  
2985 Thorn Rd.  
Sebastopol, Calif. 95472  
H 8232029  
W 528-5421

Scheibel, Robert  
4155 Wallace Rd.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95405  
W 546-4062

Serva, Tony  
1079 Fourth St.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404  
H 542-3598  
W 528-3075

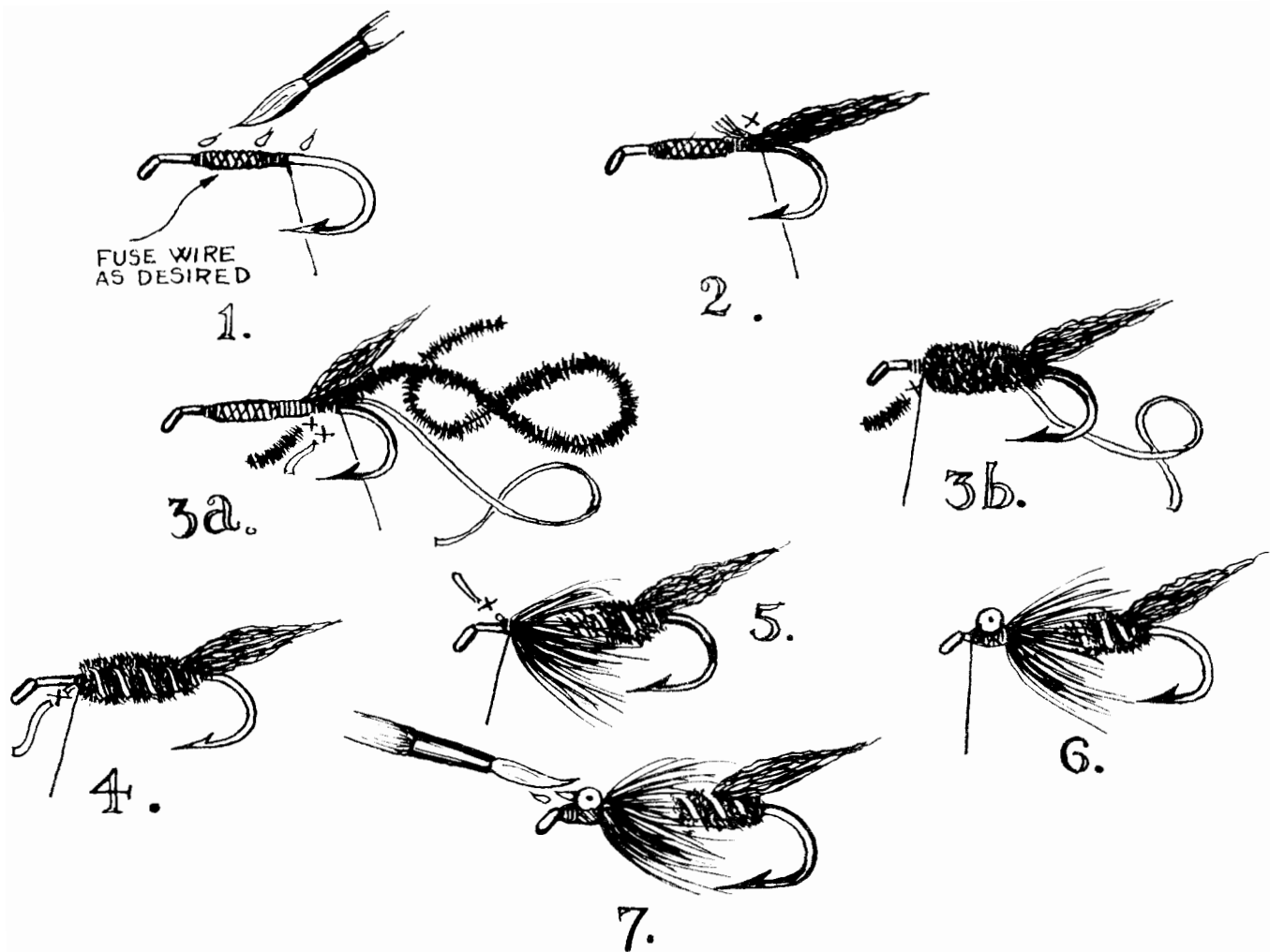
Shainsky, Allen  
4280 Woodland Shadows Dr.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404  
H 542-1637  
W 763-1904

Tatro, Mike  
5567 Yerba Buena Rd.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95405  
H 539-6233

Teller, Otto  
Oakhill Farm  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 596-6952

Vaughn, Lillian  
1221 Glenn St.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
H 545-3273  
W 544-1010

Zumwalt, Don & Jill  
1431 Manzanita Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.



### Some Thoughts on the River

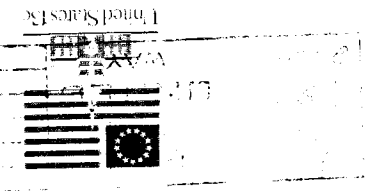
Before the Eel River water came into Potter Valley, the Russian, in the fall was a series of isolated pools, separated by gravel bars. The local indians used to treat these pools with macerated turkey mullein to kill the fish. They would usually eat the suckers and leave the squaw fish. Result, very few large squaw fish to intercept the young steelhead descending from the upper tributaries on their way to the sea during the fall rains. There were no bass then.

Nowadays the river is full of large squaw fish and small mouth black bass which make the passage of young steelhead quite perilous.

During the spring the mature squaw fish congregate in the deeper pools in the Squaw Rock area, presumably to spawn. They are readily taken then with anything that simulates a minnow.

We invite your comments as to the possibility of holding a squaw fishing derby with prizes for the numbers, size, total weight taken, etc. Meanwhile we would be eliminating a major predator of our young steelhead.

Bob, Jeanne  
3607 Bluebell Drive  
Santa Rosa, Ca 95404



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## SCHWIEBERT IS COMING!

BOB NAUHEIM

Ernest Schwiebert is a paradox. He is at the same time magnificent and a nemesis. I'm used to getting up at an early hour to chase trout, probably more out of nervous energy than reason. So it came as somewhat of a shock when Schwiebert told me in Chile one season, "My dear friend, don't you realize that you are the guest in a civilized country, and that it is a show of bad manners to fish before noon?" The master was right, of course; as I would learn later, it was not so much a matter of protocol as a matter of biological fact. Patagonian trout just don't bite until the sun warms the river which usually happens around noon. That was the day he took a 7 kilo brown from under our noses on the Nilahue River out of Lago Ranco. Magnificent, all right. That day we shouted in unison, "Schwiebert, you magnificent bastard!"

Then there was the time in Alaska when our float plane was waiting for us, its pilot impatient. "Where the hell's Ernie?" I asked Bertaina. "He's blow drying his hair," was the answer. Fifteen minutes later the magnificent Schwiebert appeared, like a model from the Orvis catalogue. As I recall, he outfished us two to one that day.

Classy and polished and a great angler Ernie is indeed. But what truly makes him magnificent is his contribution to angling literature. He wrote the classic Matching The Hatch while at Ohio State. This was followed by Nymphs and such a host of wonderful stories that we lost count. Then there came from his pen Salmon of the World which he illustrated himself, the two-volume classic Trout, and the all-Schwiebert anthology Remembrances of Rivers Past. Each one is a masterpiece. Ernie will be speaking at our dinner meeting on Tuesday, February 28. He's a man of humor, deep feelings, and infinite talent. He is also one of the most moving speakers you will ever hear. To miss his presentation is UNFORGIVABLE!

### DINNER MEETING: NO HOST

WHEN: TUESDAY, February 28, 1978; 7:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Cattlemen's Restaurant  
2400 Midway Drive (Montgomery Village), Santa Rosa  
PROGRAM: Ernest Schwiebert  
COST: \$6.00, payable to one of our members, at the door.  
This includes dinner, wine, coffee, and a tip.

Due to the short time span between February and March, there will be no March newsletter. The next newsletter will be prior to our April meeting. The regular March meeting will be:

WHEN: March 15, 1978 (Wednesday); 7:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.  
SPEAKER: To be announced at the February meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB WRAY


The following topics were discussed at the two Board meetings in January:

1. Commercial advertising will now be accepted to offset the cost of producing the Newsletter. Fee: \$10.00 per issue. Individual advertising will also be accepted at \$1.50 for up to 15 words; and ten cents for each additional word.
2. The regular Board Meeting day was changed to Thursday evening, 8 days following the regular monthly meeting. Time: 7:00 p.m. Locations will be announced.
3. Since annual dues payment date is to be July 1, it was decided to prorate the dues for the remainder of the year to half of the regular dues. New members who join the club from January 1 to June 30 will pay either \$6.00 or \$9.00 plus the full initiation fee.
4. We have filed our Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State. Our By-Laws have been formed, and a few copies will be available for review by the members anytime prior to our March meeting. (If interested, call Bob Wray at 526-4968 or see in person at the meeting.) Members will have a chance to vote for acceptance of the By-Laws at our March meeting. Special thanks are in order for Mr. "Wiff" Achor, Attorney at Law, for preparation of the By-Laws. Thank you, Wiff!
5. The Board has decided that plans for the Public Fly Fishing Clinic were a little premature; efforts should first be made for the club to become a more tight-knit group. (A big thank you is due Dale Cheli and John Agnew---their planning was really superb. Another thank you is due all of you who volunteered to help with various areas of this event, especially Dee Marsden.) In any case, the RRFF is planning a picnic extraordinaire at Spring Lake on Sunday, April 9, from noon till dusk. Bring your own food; charcoal and barbeques will be supplied. A new member, Greg Dunlap, is heading this event; if you're willing to help, give him a call at 528-1490. Casting, fly tying, pram races, and lots of good times will be there for all!

The Club has now grown to over 120 members in just six months. Let's all make a concerted effort to get to know one another. This will help immensely as we organize and begin our Russian River conservation activities.

Tight lines,

*Bob*

 Remember that the wit and invention of Mankind were bestowed for other Purposes than to deceive silly fish; and that however delightful Angling may be, it ceases to be innocent when used otherwise than as a mere Recreation.

Richard Brooks (1766)

NAMETAG BOARD

MARK NAUHEIM

If you've noticed the handsomely crafted board where you find your nametags at the beginning of every meeting, give the credit to its maker, Mark Nauheim. Many thanks, Mark, for a job beautifully done!

ANGLER'S CALENDARS

BOBBI & RON CORDES

The Russian River Fly Fishers are grateful indeed to Bobbi and Ron Cordes. Bobbi is the producer and Ron is the editor of the beautiful Angler's Calendar; they donated enough 1978 calendars that each club member can get one. The calendars are still available from the club at very reduced rates.

NEW MEMBERS

Ten new members have joined the Russian River Fly Fishers since our last newsletter was published. We'd like you to know a little about them. All live in Santa Rosa except Mitch Mitchell, a Real Estate and investment counselor, who lives in Sebastopol. Joe Banovich and Jerry Raasch sponsored both Mitch and Ren Neville, a realtor. Walt Wilson is a general contractor; he's sponsored by Al Bianchi and Bob Sisson. Greg Dunlap, a letter carrier, is organizing our Spring Lake picnic. Two couples joined the RRFF this month; Dick and Kitty Yeager---Dick lists his occupation as banking---and Mark and Edie DeMeo---Mark is a physician. Gary Rowen, an auto machinist, is sponsored by Frank Bertaina and a new member, Tooch Colombo. Tooch works as a butcher; also, his application claims that he wants "to find out where the bucket is." Please make an effort to welcome these new members. Their addresses and phone numbers will be published in a later issue of the newsletter.

RRFF CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

BOB NAUHEIM

The Conservation Committee for the restoration of the Russian River held its first meeting on February 2. Efforts are being made to discuss our goals with the Department of Fish and Game. Future meetings will be announced in the newsletter or at meetings. The next meeting will be on March 9, at 7:00 P.M. in the Warrack Hospital Board Room. Dr. Herbert Joseph, of Cal Trout will share his knowledge of Steelhead restoration. All members are invited to attend.

INTERNATIONAL ANGLERS EXPOSITION

MIKE GENTLE

Just a reminder that the best sports show in Northern California is coming soon. The International Anglers Exposition will be held at the San Mateo Fairgrounds, from February 22 to 26. The Exposition draws speakers the caliber of Dave Whitlock and Ernest Schwiebert, so it's something you really can't afford to miss. The entry fee is \$3.00. The Northern California Council of Fly Fishing Clubs has these tickets available for purchase in advance; if you buy your tickets from the NCCFFC, \$1.00 of each ticket goes to the Council, which the RRFF belongs to. Also, there will be a SUPER RAFFLE at the exposition. The drawing will be held February 25 at the Old Timer's Dinner---you don't need to be there to win. The prizes are outstanding, and the grand prize is a week's fishing at Kulil Lodge, Bristol Bay, Alaska. Tickets are \$1.00 each



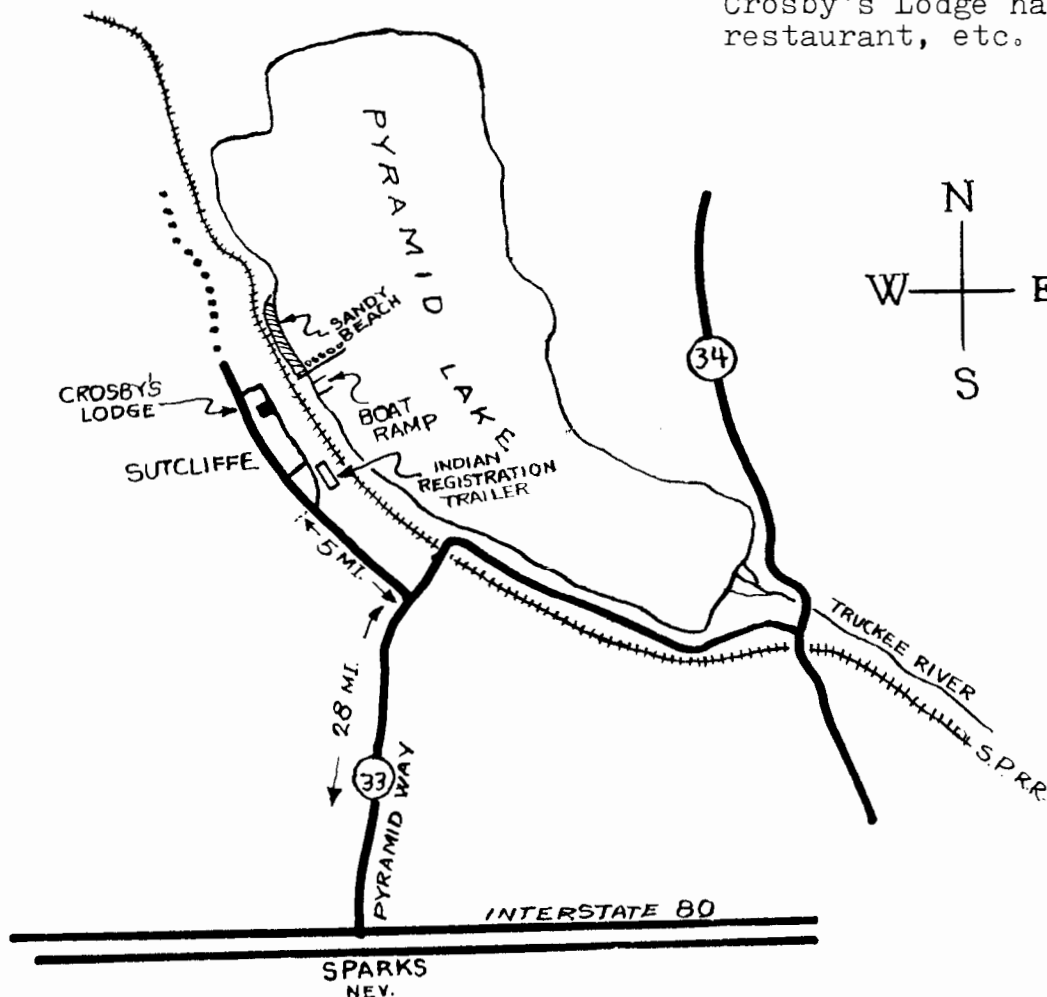
or six for \$5.00; they benefit the Northern California Council and the California Fisheries Restoration Foundation. We would do well to support these organizations; we hope to have their support and funding in our conservation efforts. Tickets can be purchased from Mike Gentle, in Monte Rio (1-865-1373) or Bob Wray in Santa Rosa (526-4968).

## PYRAMID LAKE OUTING

JERRY RAASCH

Our outing chairman, Jerry Raasch, has a trip planned for the club. The destination is Pyramid Lake in Nevada; winter is the perfect time to get big cutthroat trout there. The dates of the trip will be February 25 and 26. (Jerry will be there the 24th thru the 27th.) You can fish from shore or from a boat--the fish will be in 4 to 15 feet of water, and Jerry claims you'll be able to see them swimming all around you. Flies that work well at Pyramid Lake are large wooly worms, Silver Hiltons, and streamers and Muddlers. Below is a map; if you have any questions about the trip, call Jerry at 838-4241.

Meet and camp at the Boat Ramp and parking area. There are restrooms there. Also, Crosby's Lodge has a store, restaurant, etc.



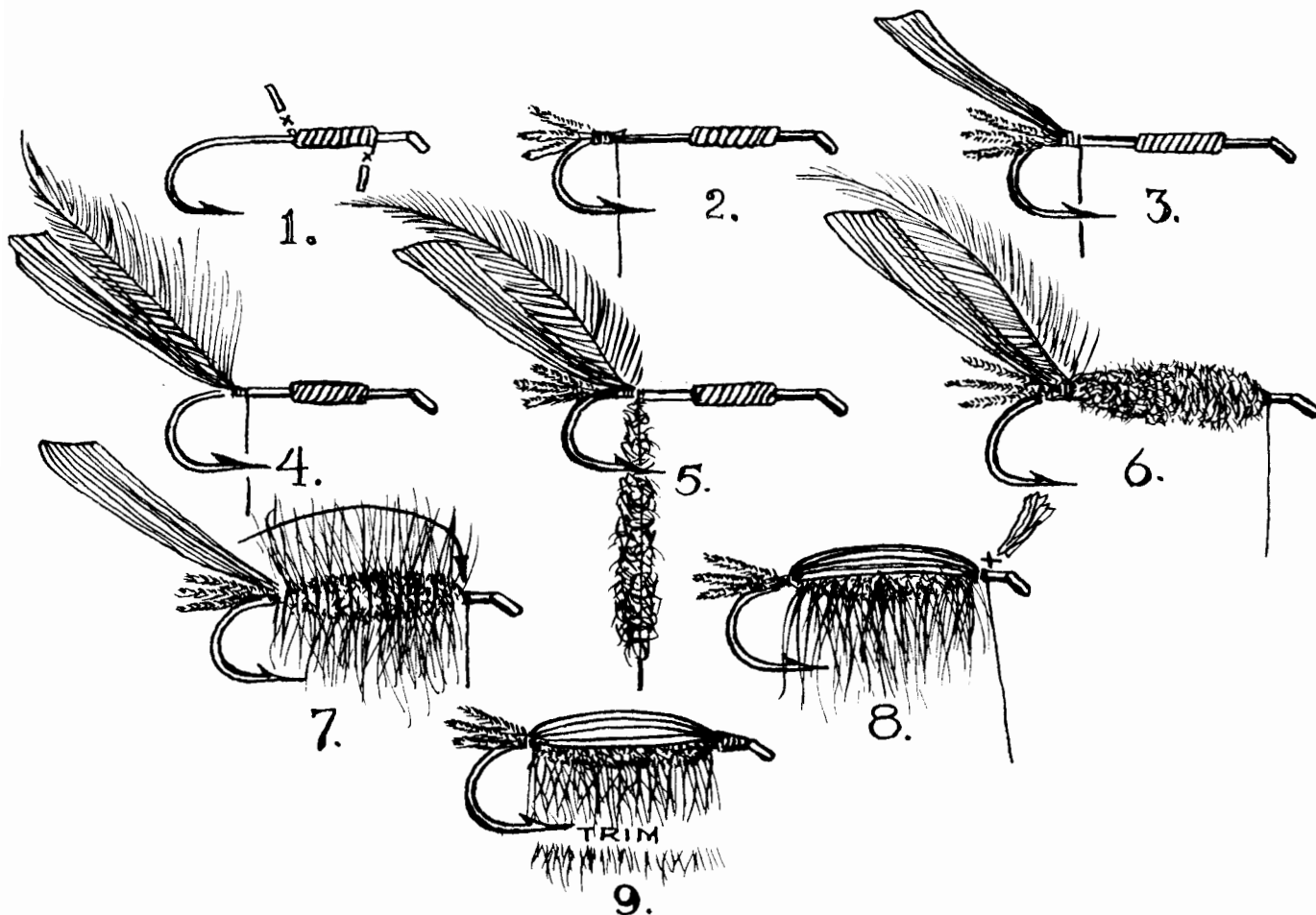
FLY OF THE MONTH

"GREEN SHRIMP"

Developed by Jim Vermillion for West Yellowstone, Hot Creek and Owens River

Materials: Hook: Size 14 2 x L Nymph hook.  
Lead: .015 Lead fuse wire.  
Thread: Herb Howard's green or olive.  
Tail: Green marabou.  
Body: Greenish olive wool or fur.  
Shell back: Dyed olive green duck wing.  
Legs: Grizzly hackle feather(wet fly quality).

- Procedure:
1. Tie on the tail.
  2. Tie on shell back (about 3/16 inch wide)
  3. Wrap about 6 turns of lead wire ( see Fig. 1. )
  4. Spin dubbing on thread and wrap toward eye leaving room for head.
  5. Wind hackle palmerwise to eye of hook.
  6. Pull shell back over body and tie down tight at eye of hook.
  7. Form head and cement. Trim off excess hackle, leaving enough to cover the point of the hook.



YOUR LIBRARY

MIKE LISIGNOLI

The Russian River Fly Fishers have been lucky enough to receive the donation of an extensive library of Fly Fisherman Magazine, Trout, Fly Fisher, and Salmon, Trout, Steelheader.

The collection of Fly Fisherman Magazine is one of the most complete in the area, with only three issues missing. The missing issues are Vol. I, No.'s 1 and 5, and Vol. II, No. 3. If you have an extra copy of any of these issues you might consider giving it to your club to help complete the collection.

Donations of books and magazines will be accepted and all contributors will be acknowledged. The Club has received a copy of Ray Ovington's Tactics on Trout from Bob Wray, and Trey Combs' Steelhead Fly Fishing and Flies from myself.

The library is located at 3133 Magowan Drive, Santa Rosa, and you can reach me at 528-8009 if you have any questions concerning the library, or if you would like to donate any books or magazines.

To insure that all members will be able to enjoy the library to its fullest a series of rules have been written up and each member will be required to sign a rule sheet when a book or magazine is checked out.

LIBRARY RULES  
for  
THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

I. Borrowing Limits

- (a.) Magazines may be borrowed for ten days; books for fifteen days.
- (b.) Two magazines or one book may be taken out by each member.
- (c.) No other magazines or book may be taken out by a member until all previous checked out magazines or book are returned.

II. Fines and Penalties

- (a.) A fine of one dollar per day will be charged for all overdue magazines or book.
- (b.) Any magazine or book not returned within ten days after the due date will constitute a lost article and the member will be fined a total of twenty-five dollars.
- (c.) A member returning any magazine or books after the ten day fine period has expired will still be fined twenty-five dollars.
- (d.) A member will be given thirty days to pay the fine and, if the member fails to pay the fine, the member's membership will be terminated.

Member signature

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WANT - ADS

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WANTED: Antique Fly Reels --- old Winchesters, Pfleugers, Hardys, etc.  
Call Ted Olson, 528-0879.

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## ADVERTISEMENTS

As we have noted in our report of the proceedings of the January Board meeting, our News Letters will now accept advertising.

A new shop specializing in the finest of fly fishing equipment, fly making materials, and custom rod building supplies and components will open at 532 College Avenue, Santa Rosa, after March 1 st.

**THE WESTERN ANGLER**  
532 College Ave.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. 95404

Dale F. Cheli  
John Christlieb

(707) 542-4432

Where to go and How to Get There



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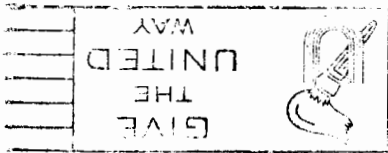
*Mexican duck hunts . . . Klamath River steelhead float trips . . .*

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SANTA ROSA, CALIF. 95701





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## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, April 19, 1978 -- 7:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.  
PROGRAM: Dave Inks  
If you tie flies or buy them already tied, you'll want to be on hand to hear Dave's presentation on FLY-TYING MATERIALS. As a well-known fur and feather merchant (Creative Sports), Dave knows what he's talking about. For an informative program on art that imitates reality, be there!

REMEMBER---NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

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## BACK-CASTS

LIZ WRAY

Schwiebert was here. For those of us who missed him, I'm sorry. Ernest Schwiebert is, as Bob Nauheim predicted, a man of infinite talent. The two words I find to describe him are "articulate" and "showman". As a writer or a speaker, Schwiebert chooses his words to communicate exactly what he has in mind. And he's interested in the total effect: words, illustrations, tone, mood, and cadence flow together just the way he had planned. Schwiebert talked about Norway, an enchanting land where just 20 years ago, the salmon fishery was unsurpassed. Today, only the ghosts of those armies of fish keep company with the remaining few. Schwiebert talked of Norway, but he could have been speaking of the Pacific Northwest: protect it, or you'll lose it!

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## CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

BOB NAUHEIM

The next meeting of the RRFF Conservation Committee is planned for Thursday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at Warrack Hospital. Plan to be there.

Also on a conservation note, we the people will have an opportunity to express our views and our concerns directly to the Department of Fish and Game in the near future. A newly-created organization, the Central Coast Wildlife Conservation Council, will meet on Saturday, April 22 at 1:00 p.m. in Grant Hall at the California Veteran's Home in Yountville. This council will be an informal organization, holding quarterly meetings, which will be open to the public and will be publicized in advance.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB WRAY

The April 9<sup>th</sup> picnic at Spring Lake Park (our first major outing) was a great success even though directions to the site weren't clear. It was a beautifully clear and sunny Sunday and about 50 members and guests showed up for an enjoyable day. Everyone had the opportunity to cast and learn about casting; the casting derby prize went to Ben Cummings. Congratulations, Ben! Good food and fellowship was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Greg Dunlap for his planning and organization. May we have many more good outings like this!

The following subjects were dealt with at the last Board meeting, on March 22:

1. The Board voted to purchase a slide projector and screen.
2. Many felt that the raffles added to the commercial aspects of the club, so the Board voted to have raffles only at dinner meetings and at meetings where speakers' costs must be offset.
3. Due to the phenomenal growth of the Russian River Fly Fishers, we are having to really re-examine the original principles and goals which the club agreed on when it was formed. We are considering a moratorium on memberships, as well as a cutback on "commercialism" (that is: advertising, raffles, etc.); and an emphasis on conservation.

This next Board meeting on Tuesday, April 25, will be totally addressed to club goals: where we want to go, and what we wish to do as a club. If you care about the future of your club, you will attend this meeting. It'll be held in the Warrack Hospital Conference Room at 7:00 p.m.

Tight lines,

*Bob*

---

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome into membership:

Warren Herlihy 546-7519  
David Jones 528-9164  
Ralph S. Wood III 538-0353  
Kirt Schlander 539-4066

## STREAM TACTICS

### A Reverse Cast for Hard-to-Reach Trout in Slick Water

How many times have we been stymied by a wary old trout feeding under an overhanging branch which prevented any of the usual approaches? Such fish, especially the wise old brown trout are put down at the first sight of the angler. The fly must pass over the fish ahead of the leader with no hint of drag if there is to be any hope of a take. This assumes of course that we have matched the hatch to begin with.

This all adds up to a pretty big order in certain situations. Perhaps the toughest problem of all is the trout lying close to a grassy bank under a closely overhanging tree branch. There is no chance to reach him from a downstream position. The usual downstream drift generally requires at least fifty feet of line to generate enough pull to keep the fly coming directly to the trout at the same speed as the naturals that are coming to him. With so much line out, possibly sixty to seventy feet, it is almost impossible to steer the fly directly over the fish.

Since retrieval of the fly at the end of the drift usually puts the fish down it is essential to make the very first pass a perfect one. This requires some use of the rod to steer the fly in the last ten feet of its journey so that it goes directly over the plate.

There is a way to do this with a little effort. First the angler must make his approach along the shore upstream of the fish in such a way as to keep out of sight of the feeding fish. It is advisable to approach to between 25 and 30 feet for best results. A closer approach will let the fish see the rod on the cast. A position more distant than 30 feet makes it difficult to steer the fly against the forces of intervening cross currents.

When the angler has reached the desired position on the stream bank, at all times keeping as low a silhouette as possible, sufficient line is worked out with a series of horizontal roll casts UPSTREAM. When working the line out, the paths of the float of the line and fly between casts are studied as they drift back downstream toward the angler. This makes it possible to estimate in advance of the final float, the best placement of the fly on the upstream cast.

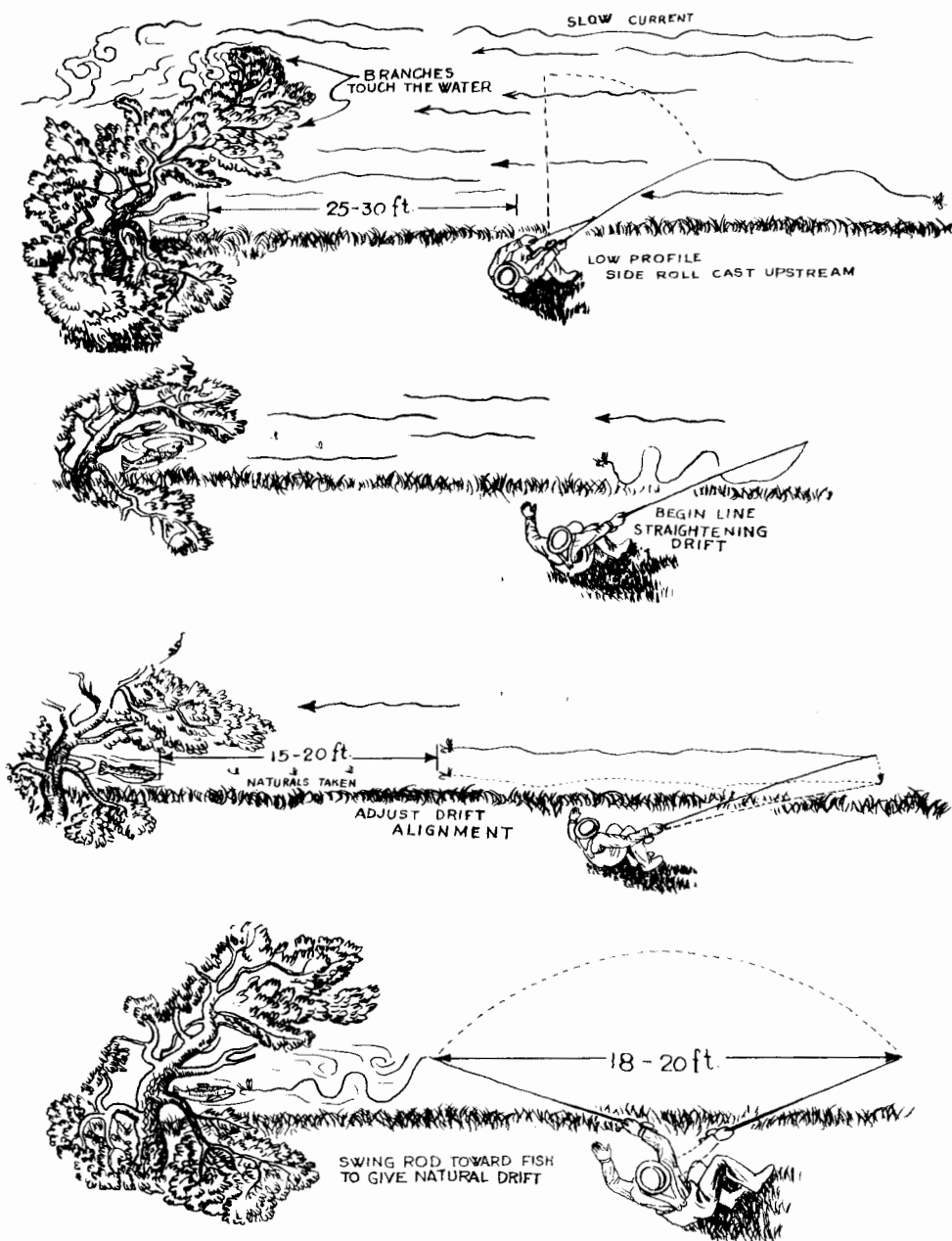
When enough line is worked out to reach below the feeding fish, the final cast is made. As the fly comes opposite the angler, the rod tip is kept pointed UPSTREAM and is manipulated in such a way as to steer the drifting line in the desired path. As the line passes the angler it will be lying in a series of loops and curves on the water. After passing the rod tip it begins to straighten out. Keeping the rod pointed upstream the line is allowed to straighten out downstream. The fly will then be about fifteen to twenty feet upstream of the trout. Hold the fly in this position and observe the path of naturals passing near the fly to find where the current carries them with respect to the target. Having determined the path of drift, manipulate the rod tip to bring the fly into the proper drift path and then quickly point the rod toward the fish. This gives slack which permits the fly to drift naturally over the target.



Although retrieval of the fly usually puts the fish down it is sometimes possible to make the retrieve so inconspicuously that the fish quickly resumes his feeding. To do this, use the rod tip to steer the line so that the current causes the leader to swing away from the fish. Then bring the fly back very slowly into casting position. Once the fish begins to feed again wait for several rises before casting.

All this may seem very time consuming, but when fishing for big brown trout in slick water hasty action usually means an empty creel.

Many anglers pass up trout that lie in difficult places, preferring to spend their time on the fish rising in midstream where casting is easy. These midstream fish in today's heavily fished waters have had many flies floated over them and are usually extremely selective, whereas the trout under the brush, although very wary, is often less selective than the midstream feeder. If the fly can be properly presented to him, a solid take is often the result.



## FLY OF THE MONTH

### Frank Sawyer's pheasant tail nymph

Frank Sawyer, an English River keeper, proved that his nymph will take trout at any time.

#### MATERIALS :

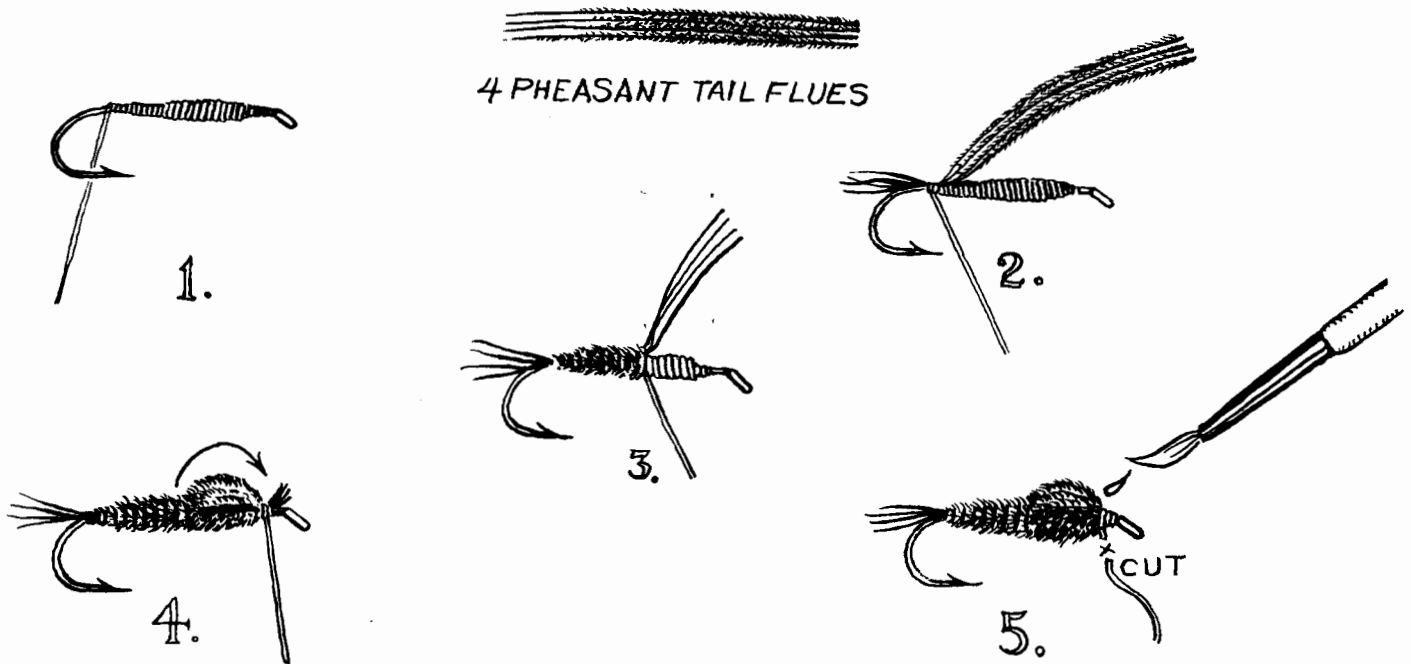
Hook: Mustad 9671 2 x long size 16

Thorax:& Abdomen: Center fibers of a brown-red pheasant tail.  
(such are difficult to find in the natural color. Some dyeing may be necessary..)

Tying thread: .005" bright copper transformer wire.

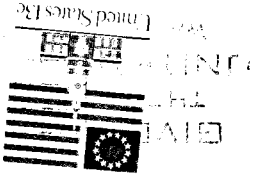
#### Tying Instructions:

1. Build up body with overlapping turns of copper wire to the desired contour, finishing opposite the barb of the hook.
2. Tie in four fibers from the pheasant tail so that the tips extend 1/8" beyond the tying down point over the bend of the hook.
3. Twist the standing end of the four fibers loosely around the tying wire, and wind the wire/fiber twist toward the eye, tapering the abdomen, and winding around the thorax and back, terminating about the middle of the hook shank.
4. Separate the wire from the fibers, binding the fibers down with three turns of the wire.
5. Wind wire forward with open turns. Bring loose fibers forward over thorax and tie down with the wire.
6. Finish the head with a whip finish. Lacquer head and wing covers if desired.



ROB SISSON  
3607 GREEN HILL DRIVE  
SANTA ROSA, CA

95404





# The Cast

of  
THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS  
P.O. Box 2673 Santa Rosa, California 95405

Vol. 2

May 1978

No. 4

Editor: Ben H. Cummings 542-4276 539-0556  
Asst. Editor: Liz Wray 526-4968

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## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

### A N N U A L   E L E C T I O N

WHEN: Wednesday, May 17, 1978 --- 7:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.  
PROGRAM: Mike Monroe, owner of the Fly Hutch in Sacramento.  
Ted Olson isn't giving out the details of Mike's  
program, so I can't fill you in. Come hear his  
SURPRISE presentation. And be sure to be there  
for the business meeting portion---for the election.

REMEMBER---NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

---

## CALENDAR

Next Board Meeting:

WHEN: Thursday, May 25, 1978 --- 7:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Warrack Hospital Board Room

---

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB WRAY

The Board of Directors had two meetings in the past month, and accomplished many things. At the latest meeting, May 9, the nominating committee selected a slate of officers and Directors, which they recommend to serve for the following fiscal year.

These names will be submitted to you at this May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for your approval. Please be sure to attend.

The following topics were dealt with at the previous Board meeting:

1.

### Q U E S T I O N N A I R E

A membership committee consisting of Armin Herald, John Agnew,

Bob Neill, Mike Tatro, and Dale Cheli was formed. They have prepared an excellent, comprehensive questionnaire to be filled out by the club members.

The Board of Directors, as the governing body of your club, must always make decisions with the best interests of the club in mind. However, the desires of the general membership, as reflected by the answers in the questionnaire, will weigh heavily in our future decisions. Please use the questionnaire to state your likes and dislikes, and suggestions for improvement by your Board of Directors.

Please return your completed questionnaire in the attached envelope. (The envelopes are conveniently postage-paid and will be collected by Fishing International, who will deliver them to the membership committee.) Thank you for your cooperation.

2. We have been approached by Cardinal Newman High School to set up and teach a class on fly fishing and fly tying on one or two afternoons per week in the Fall. The idea was unanimously accepted.
3. A general discussion was held regarding limitations on the size of the Club. It was decided to impose no size limit at this time.
4. Mike Tatro will seek price quotes on emblems (patches) for members.
5. Norm Sutcliffe submitted his resignation as a Director. The remaining Directors voted to not fill the vacancy for a mere one month period.
6. It was recommended that the club seek the exchange of newsletters with as many clubs as possible. This is already being done with several neighbor fly fishing clubs.
7. The following decisions regarding commercialism were made:
  - a) There will be no selling by guest speakers at meetings;
  - b) Displays shall be limited to the subject of the program only;
  - c) Want ads by members for sale of used items only will be accepted in the newsletter;
  - d) Commercial ads are no longer acceptable in the newsletter;
  - e) Raffles will be used as the primary source of income to offset speakers' and newsletter costs and will be held at the discretion of the Raffle Chairman.

Many exciting things have happened in the first year of the Russian River Fly Fishers. These events will be reviewed in the June newsletter.

Tight lines,

*Bob*

---

FOUND-----A Pflueger Medallist reel with an orange line on it. See Bob Nauheim if this rings a bell.

After a late start, your conservation committee had one of its most productive sessions on the evening of April 21. Nine committee members were present.

It was a general consensus of the committee that some action be started immediately towards the preservation of those existing runs of anadromous fish in the Russian River. The most obvious action was agreed to be the halting of the catching of baby steelhead and salmon in the Russian River's tributaries. The committee felt that the preservation of the offspring of those few steelhead and silver salmon which still manage to spawn in our river must be the first step, and indeed a necessary preliminary action to other discussed projects; the likes of improving spawning redds, a Vibert Box program, or the planting of salmon and steelhead smolt.

Mike Gentle and Kent and Vicki Calkins agreed to investigate the procedure involved in approaching the California Fish and Game Commission to enact laws which will effectively close the Russian River's tributaries to trout fishing. The committee felt that the facts supporting these stream closures would be self-evident, so that no delaying biological study, or involved stream survey would be necessary---hopefully.

Bob Neill and Charles Schelter proposed to the committee the formation of stream observation teams to scout certain portions of the Russian and its tributaries during low water periods this summer. It was thought that one or two specific weekend days would be designated for this purpose, perhaps culminated by a picnic dinner. Individual teams would scout certain sample portions of the Russian River watershed; reporting such findings as steelhead fry population, rough fish population, damage to spawning redds, stream blockage, in-stream pumps, and other conditions. The facts gathered would then be assembled into a report to the general membership, and would appear in the following newsletter. All club members are encouraged to participate in the stream observation program. The dates will be announced well in advance.

#### FLY OF THE MONTH

Quick hackle spur nymph

#### Materials-

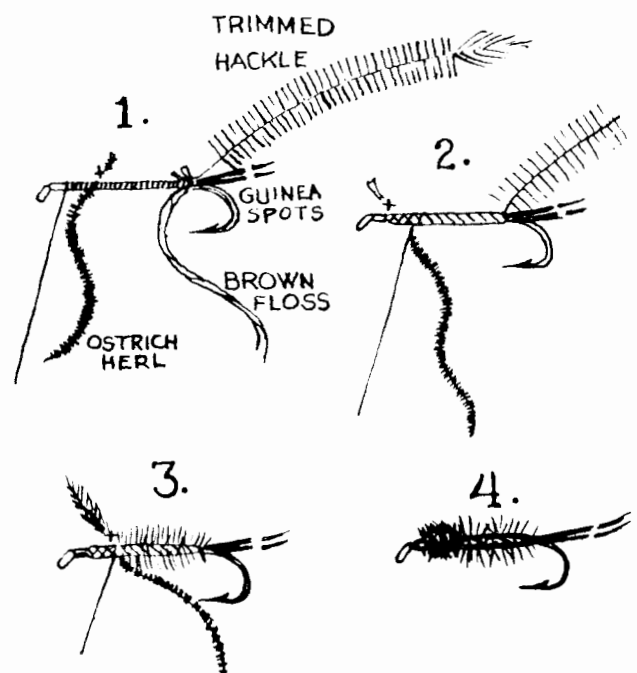
Hook--- Sizes 8-12 3x long, heavy wire

Tail--- Guinea fowl spot

Body--- Brown silk floss

Legs--- Trimmed black hackle

Head--- Black Ostrich herl





GIVE  
THE



JOE SISLEY  
3807 GLEN HILL DR  
SANTA ROSA, CA

644



# The Cast

of  
THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.  
P.O. Box 2673 Santa Rosa, California 95405

Vol. 2

June 1978

No. 5

Editor: Ben Cummings 542-4276 539-0556  
Asst. Editor: Liz Wray 526-4968

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## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, June 21, 1978 --- 7:30 p. m.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa.  
PROGRAM: Ted Olson has scheduled two outstanding FFF films:  
"Pass Creek", about a steelhead stream; and "Dammed  
Forever", a disturbing and informative documentation  
of the effects of damming rivers. Both of these films  
pack an excellent, clearly-stated conservation message.  
Information like this we can't afford to be without.

SORRY---NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

---

## CALENDAR

Next Board Meeting:

WHEN: Thursday, June 29, 1978 --- 7:00 p.m.  
WHERE: Warrack Hospital Board Room

Next Regular Meeting:

WHEN: Wednesday, July 19, 1978 No-host Cocktails, 6:30 p.m.; Dinner 7:30  
WHERE: Los Robles Lodge Ballroom  
Highway 101 at Steele Lane; Santa Rosa, California

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE FROM OUR TREASURER, DICK YAEGER  
Cost of dinner including tip is \$7.00.

---

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

DICK YAEGER

Applications for renewal of membership are being included in this month's newsletter. Please give us all the information we're requesting---it makes it much easier to keep accurate records. Checks will not be accepted without a membership application accompanying them. PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECKS AND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Russian River Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2673; Santa Rosa, California 95405

You must renew by September 1 to be included in this year's roster. Failure to renew by October 1 will result in your being dropped from the Club; initiation fees will be required from those being dropped who wish to re-join.



---

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB WRAY

The close of our first year is really an exciting period of time for our club. I think it's also a time for recalling our successes. We are reaping the rewards from our efforts :

1. We have received our charter as Club # 196 of the Federation of Fly Fishermen.
2. Our corporate status is secured and we are currently seeking tax-exempt status.
3. Our conservation efforts are slowly, but surely, taking shape. The Board felt that the first positive move should be to join C.O.R.C. (Clean Our River Coalition.)
4. While still looking for a permanent casting/clubhouse site, we are having temporary weekly casting practices on the field at Slater Junior High School every Thursday evening from 6:30 until dark.
5. Thanks to our Program Chairman Ted Olson, we've had some great programs this year, including presentations from two of the best known speakers in the fly-fishing world, Doug Swisher and Ernest Schwiebert.
6. A six-lesson fly tying class was completed.
7. Members are getting to know each other more through committee work, social activities, and individual nametags.
8. We have a monthly newsletter.
9. We have been asked by Cardinal Newman High School to teach a Fly-fishing class in the fall, which is quite an honor.

I'd say we've accomplished a lot in the last year. I'd be the first to agree that we've a long ways to go to accomplish our goals. However, I think we all need to remember that it takes time for major programs to take shape. Your suggestions are welcomed, but we solicit your patience, also.

Tight lines,

*Bob*

---

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES

DICK YAEGER

As of the printing of this newsletter, 36 questionnaires (sent out in May) have been returned. If you want your ideas and opinions to count, dig out your questionnaire, fill it out and mail it in. The compiled results will be listed in the July newsletter.

---

NEWSLETTER NEWS

LIZ WRAY

Thanks to Bob Nauheim and Frank Bertaina of Fishing International. They're donating the computer printout labels that you regular members are finding on your newsletters each month. Thanks also to Tom Chauncy who's had the chore of entering the names correctly into the computer. This system makes it infinitely easier to mail newsletters out to you.

Due to increasing work responsibilities, I can no longer serve on the newsletter staff. I've enjoyed it, though; I thank Ben Cummings for the opportunity to work with him. Ben now needs one or several people to help him with the production of the newsletter. It's fun. If you're interested, give him a call. (542-4276 or 539-0556)

Of all the problems facing the fly tyer, the mounting of the wings can be one of the more difficult. Five types of wings are generally of interest, namely:

- (a) the quill fibre wing
- (b) the hair wing
- (c) the fan wing
- (d) the fibre clump wing
- (e) the hackle tip wing.

Having had recent experience with types (d) and (e), we offer a procedure that has enabled us successfully to construct an accurately positioned and durable wing for these two types. We may discuss types (a), (b), and (c) in future letters.

### The Fibre Clump Wing

For the blue dun dry fly, the speckled flank feathers of the male wood duck are hard to beat. It resembles the wing of many of the ephemeridae in the imago phase regardless of body. The adult mayfly rides on the water with an upright wing. For the imitation to alight and ride successfully, the wing must be parallel to the plane of and in line with the vertical plane of the bend of the hook, since the hook acts as a keel to the floating fly. If the wing is canted from the vertical, the fly may alight on its side, resulting in a refusal of an otherwise acceptable pattern. A satisfactory construction of an upright wing may be achieved as follows:

Step 1: A clump of fibres is tied down tightly on top of the hook shank with three or four turns of thread, allowing enough of the length of the fibres to project toward the eye of the hook to make the wing about  $\frac{2}{3}$  the total length of the hook. Trim off the butts diagonally and add a drop of lacquer at the tie.

Step 2: Grasp the forward mass of the clump and bend the entire clump upright, and with the tying thread, build up a buttress of thread with about four diagonal wraps ahead of the clump, then bring the thread behind the clump with two diagonal wraps in the opposite slant.

Tie in the hackle feather butt under the hook shank with three wraps. Lock the thread in place with two half hitches and snip off.

Add a drop of lacquer at the base of the wing, taking care to avoid getting any on the hackle flues.

Take the winged hook out of the vise and set it aside till the lacquer has dried hard. This makes a durable wing. The fly can then be finished by attaching the thread, tying in the tail, dubbing and winding the hackle at a later time.

### The Divided Wing

The first steps in producing a divided wing are the same as for the fibre clump wing except that the hackle is not tied in and the tying thread is not cut off.

With the wing clump buttressed in the upright position as shown in Step 2, wrap the tying thread forward to the rear base of the clump, and take one turn around the hook shank ahead of the clump. Then, with a dubbing needle, divide the clump into two halves and carry the tying thread between the halves to the rear of one of the halves and looping around it, thence forward and around the other half and back and down around the hook shank as shown in Step 3.

IMPORTANT -- Keep the loops close to the bases of the clumps, and do NOT pull the loops too tight. The dubbing needle can be used to hold the thread down while gently drawing the loops closed.

After the loops are in place, the thread is carried around the hook shank to the rear of the wing and the hackle is tied in. Finally, a drop of clear lacquer is placed on the base of the wing and allowed to dry before proceeding with the construction of the fly.

#### Hackle Tip Wings and Fan Wings

Hackle tip wings and fan wings are tied in very much like clump wings except that they are prepared somewhat differently. After choosing two feathers of similar size and shape the unuseable flues are stroked back until they stand away from the rachis so that they can be clipped off as shown in figure 4. Then they can be mounted on the hook in the same manner as for the clump wing.

---

I come from haunts of coot and hern.  
I make a sudden sally,  
And sparkle out among the fern,  
To bicker down the valley.  
By thirty hills I hurry down,  
Or slip between the ridges.  
By twenty thorps, a little town,  
And half a hundred bridges.  
Till last by Philips farm I flow  
To join the brimming river.  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever.

I wind about, and in and out,  
With here a blossom sailing,  
And here and there a lusty trout,  
And here and there a grayling.  
And here and there a foamy flake  
Upon me as I travel,  
With many a silvery water break  
Above the golden gravel.  
And draw them all along, and flow  
To join the brimming river.  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever.

FROM "THE BROOK"  
by ALFRED TENNYSON

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WANT-ADS

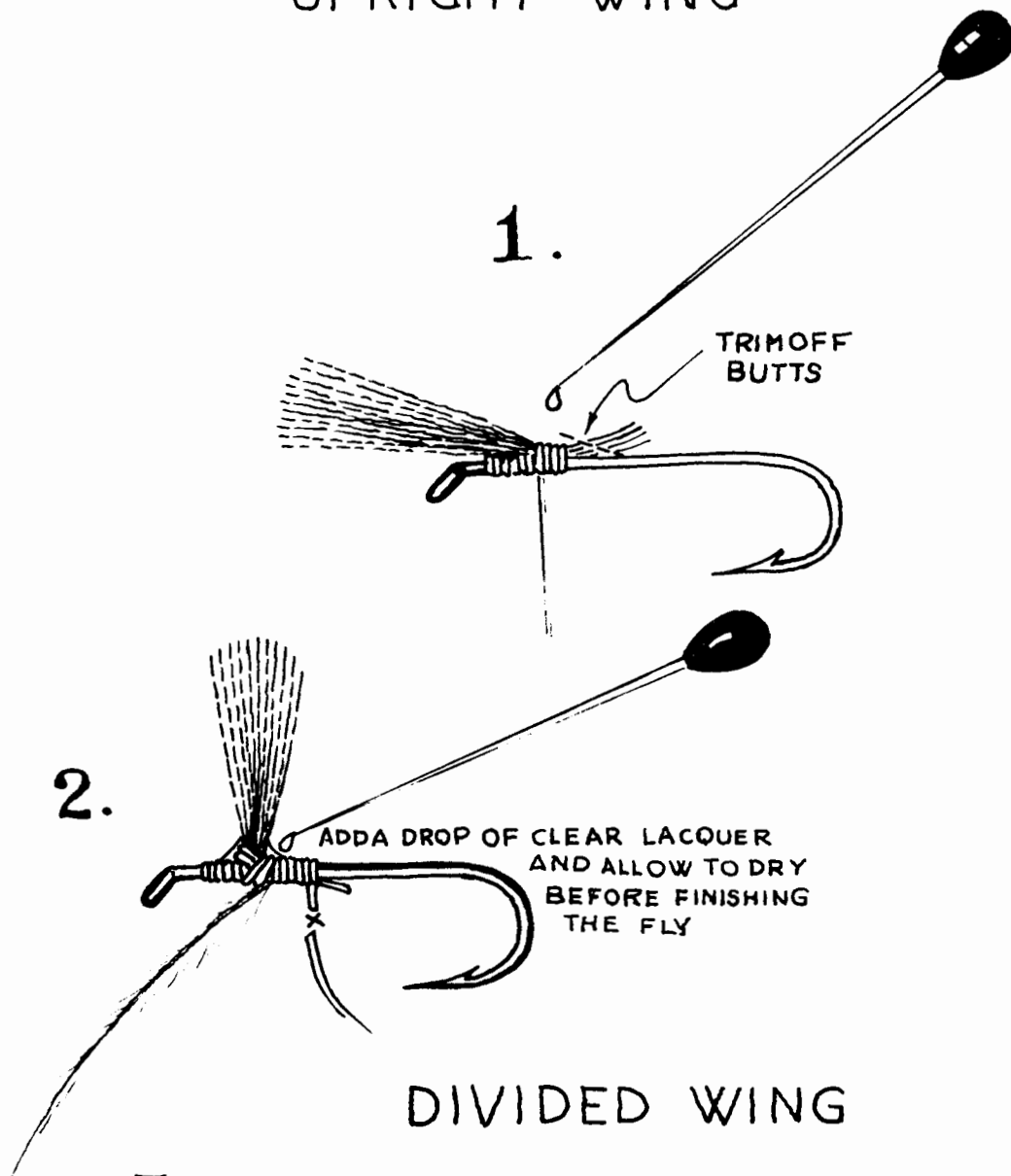
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FOR SALE:

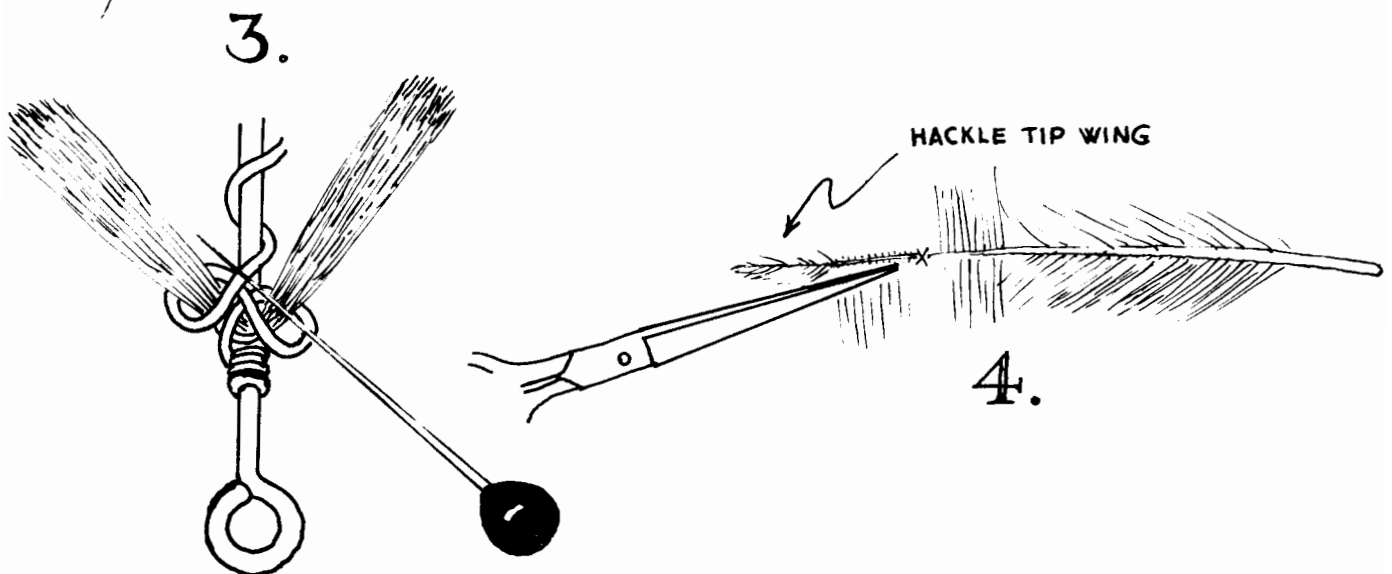
Winston 8' for #4 glass rod	\$ 59.00
Fenwick FF80 8' for #7,8 glass (new)	35.00
Fenwick #1255 5½' Lunkerstick	19.00

See Bob Wray  
526-4968

## UPRIGHT WING



## DIVIDED WING



THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

FIRST ANNUAL

SUMMER BANQUET MEETING

at

LOS ROBLES LODGE  
925 Edwards Ave  
Santa Rosa

Wednesday  
July 19, 1978

\$ 7.00 per person

SUPER PROGRAM:

**fly fishing for bass**

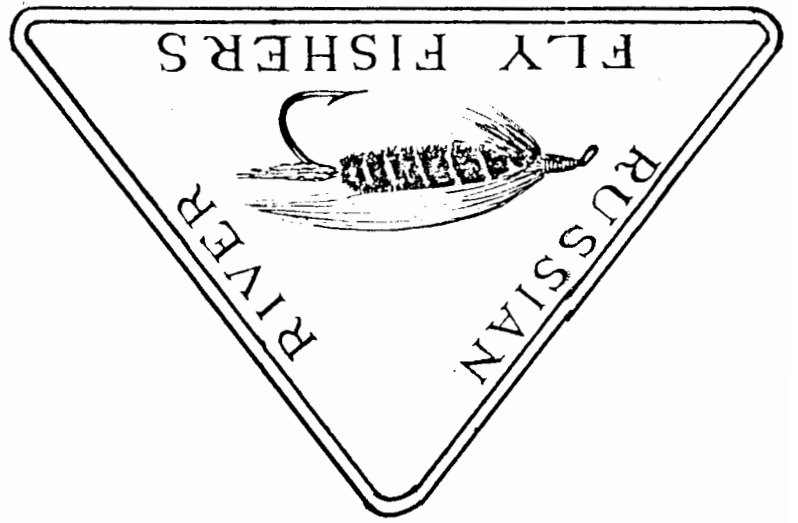
- A special presentation by Gerry Crider of Lake Obregon, Mexico, with slide photography by Bill Rhodes of ANGLER MAGAZINE.

PLUS

- Movie - " Secrets of Fly Casting"
- Special Awards Presentations
- FANTASTIC Raffle Prizes (\$1.00/ticket)
- Fishing reports from around California
- Fish Stories (some true, some the usual)

- No-Host Cocktails 6:30 pm
- Great Movie 7:00 pm
- PRIME RIB DINNER 7:30 pm
- Program Starts 8:30 pm

Avoid missing a very enjoyable and rewarding evening with your fellow club members, wives, family and guest. Please call and make your reservations with either Dick Yeager ( 539-2385 or 546-3310) or Russ Quistgard at (546-0165 or 528-7417). You must have reservations for dinner.





# The Cast

of

THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLYFISHERS INC.

P. O. BOX 2673 Santa Rosa, California 95405

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Editor Greg Dunlap 795-0788

Vol. 2

July 1978

No. 6

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## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN July 19, 1978

WHERE Los Robles Lodge, 101 Highway at Steele Lane.  
No host cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM Ted Olson has rounded up someone, he's not telling again, to present us with a slide show and talk on Fly Fishing for Bass in Lake Obregon, Guidad Obregon, Mexico.

---

## CALENDAR

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### NEXT BOARD MEETING

WHEN July 26, 1978

WHERE Warrack Hospital Board Room, 7:00 p.m.

### NEXT REGULAR MEETING

WHEN Aug. 16, 1978 . . . . 7:30 p.m.

WHERE Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Ave. Santa Rosa, California

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our last Board Meeting it was decided to affiliate our club with California Trout.

We feel that Cal Trout does a wonderful job of restoring and preserving California fisheries.

It is with great pleasure that I announce this alliance, and encourage anyone, so inclined, to join on an individual basis.

Tight Lines

*Bob*



## CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

A letter was sent to Mr. Robert L. Ironside, of the Ironside and Assoc. Planning Consultants in Oakland; briefly what the content of this letter was is that we felt that the most damaging factor to the once proud swarm of native Steelhead in the Russian River is the Coyote Valley Dam.

We feel that a hatchery should be constructed below Coyote Valley Dam and that the following action should be taken;

1) build up runs in the entire main river, not just in Dry Creek, 2) mitigate for both Warm Springs and for Coyote Dam, which was most destructive to the fishery and never mitigated, 3) avoid access problem on Dry Creek and 4) avoid the highly artificial concentration of fish in Dry Creek which would eventually result in a low quality fishery.

This letter was signed by both myself and Herb Joseph, Steelhead Committee, Cal Trout.

Ted Olson

---

## NEWSLETTER NEWS:

The newsletter has changed hands!! Ben Cummings who has done such a great job of being Editor this past year has decided to step down and let someone else take the reins. I was helping Ben edit the paper and I volunteered to take his place. I think that all of us owe Ben a big thank you for the job he's done and I want to be the first to say it to him. Thank you Ben, you've given us a lot. Ben will still be around and he said that his art work will continue to grace our pages, I hope that I can fill his place.

Right now what I need is two things:

1. I need a helper!! Lousy pay (?), some hours, nervous during deadlines, grouchy at times, and general all around person. I don't think that I'll have a hard time with qualification like that being looked for. Almost anyone could fit that requirement, why doesn't one of you give me a call? PLEASE..

2. Membership response. What I want is to hear from you. Do you feel that you have something to contribute, use the Cast, it's your newsletter and I can't reflect your feelings if I don't know what they are. Call me, the number is on the front page or write me at P.O. Box 6563, Santa Rosa, Calif., 95406, let me know what you want to hear and read in your newsletter

Greg

---

Never in his life had he seen a river before - this sleek, sinuous full-bodied animal, chasing and shucking, gripping things with a gurgle and leaving them with a laugh, to fling itself on fresh playmates that shook themselves free and were caught and held again. All was a-shake and a-shiver - glints and gleams and sparkles, rustle and swirl, chatter and bubble.

Chapter 1, The River Bank, "THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS",

By Kenneth Grahame

## PATCHES ! ! !

Patches are being made, we expect them in 6 to 8 weeks. Every member will receive one patch, additional patches will be on sale at the meetings for \$1.00 each.

---

## DINNER MEETINGS

Everyone likes them, there's always a good turnout for them, but, now with our switching to the Los Robles Lodge there's a problem. The Los Robles Lodge told us that they would only be able to accommodate an additional 10 to 15 % of the number that we book as confirmed. This means that we are going to have to insist upon your telling us that you will be coming to the dinner meeting at least 2 weeks in advance. We have had instances in which 30 members told us that they were coming and 80 showed up. We've got to know so we can plan on having you there. Anyone over our limit will have to order off of the regular menu or be turned away and we don't want that to happen to anyone. So let us know. Let Dick Yaeger know at the meetings, drop us a line, the address is on the front page, or even call me but let us know, we want to plan on seeing you there.

---

## CONSERVATION NEWS

Warm Springs Dam, which is being built primarily to augment the supply of water for the increasing population in the Santa Rosa-Petaluma basin will eliminate a major spawning area of the Russian River Steelhead Trout. Under existing laws regulating construction of dams, measures must be taken to "mitigate" the loss of such habitat.

In the case of Warm Springs Dam, a fish hatchery is planned to be located at the toe of the dam as a means of attempting such mitigation. With successful operation of such a hatchery it is conceivable that the stream below the hatchery will at times be full of returning adult Steelhead, making it a very productive fishery.

It may be argued that since such a concentration of fish is the result of public funding, the public should be permitted to fish if fishing is permitted at all. However the whole stream and adjacent lands are privately owned and the land owners are strongly opposed to public access for very good reasons.

On June 29 a meeting was held at District 3 Headquarters of the Calif. Dept of Fish and Game to explore the public attitude with respect to the best way to manage the fishery once the dam is in service. The consensus of that meeting was that no fishing should be permitted in the 14 miles of Dry Creek below the dam. There were suggestions that a hatchery would be better located at the outlet of Coyote Dam. However such a hatchery would not mitigate the loss of the Dry Creek as a spawning area.

One of the problems associated with hatchery fish is that they do not learn to forage for natural foods and are not as well

qualified to survive in the hostile environment that wild fish encounter. Therefore the nursery waters of a natural stream are very important to the rearing of a vigorous strain of fish.

Possible the 14 miles of Dry Creek below the dam could become such a nursery for released fry if suitably low water temperatures and protective cover could be achieved.

Two more hearings on this issue are to be held, time and place to be later announced.

Ben Cimmings  
Outgoing Editor

## FISHING REPORT

Frank Bertaina, Dave Witchey, Mark Nauheim, and Bob Wray fished Fall River and caught Rainbows, 10 - 16 inches on olive nymphs and small paraduns size 16,18.

## SHAD ARE STILL HERE

Although the numbers aren't as great as the American River or elsewhere I understand that if one fishes below any dam on the Russian River they have a good chance of catching some Shad. You have to get up early to avoid the bathers but you can still have a good time. Tight Lines.

## BASS ON THE RUSSIAN

Have talked to a number of people lately who have told me that they have been Bass fishing on the Russian River and that they haven't done too bad. Try a dark nymph or streamer fished among the snags or between the skinny-dippers knees to get a rise .?.

## A RETURN TO YELLOW CREEK OR TOO MUCH WATER

Each year in June my wife Maggi and I pack up our fly rods and try to outguess the weatherman and dam builders and find a new spot to fly fish and camp.

This year despite gloomy reports of high water in our favorite places we went up highway 49 to the Yuba River and saw the river was far too cold and high for fly work. So up the road past Sardine Lakes to the Lakes Basin area.

I hoped that the tremendous snow fall this year would not affect my favorite lakes, so much as it had the rivers - but again luck was against us. The camp area was blocked by 6 foot snow drifts.

Finally, I thought of the one place usually not affected by a large snow fall. Of Course a spring fed creek of River!

We left the high mountains for Sept. and went past Grayeagle to lake Almanor and one of our favorite areas, the Yellow Creek Campground and it's lovely valley.

The water here gushes out of huge springs and has an ideal temperature and flow for Brown Trout, my favorite.

The campground is operated by P.G.&E. who also control the valley and has only 15 spaces and so is not too crowded. After stopping at the soda spring for a drink we rested for awhile after our long drive and finally it was dusk and time to sample the fishing.

I must admit I find the fishing here very challenging as I cannot find a consistent pattern the trout will accept, yesterdays winner is today's loser.

Each night there was a large hatch of Mayflies, so I got out ~~my~~ no hackles and went to work. The flow of water here is fairly slow and no brush to interfere. As we had a week to work with I did a lot of expermenting as to size and color. My best lick came with a Hendreckson no hackel dun, size 12, in the really slow stretches but had a lot of floating problems due to current whirlpools. So finally switched to a full hackel fly and had good luck with Browns to 14 inches.

Any color was alright so long as it was brown and large, say size 12 to 16.

The nice thing about this lovely area is the different kind of fishing to be enjoyed. A short 1 ½ mile hike down the canyon on a fine trail brings you to typical low mountain stream flow - here in the pools bordered by the best display of wildflowers I have ever seen, our nymphs worked much better and our average fish was around 9 to 10 inches.

I was impressed by the deer population of this area, and we spent much time in camp watching the many types of birds in the meadow and firs.

Fishing during the heart of the day was slow at best and we found it best to rest then and fish the evening hatch.

Although some might find the 9 mile dirt road a bit much, the beauty and lack of competition in this lovely setting is I feel more than enough in return.

On our way back we looked at the Feather River at Carribou and found it in fine condition but lack of time made us turn homeward - one final stop at Putah Creek below Lake Barryesa to check its flow which appeared about right as opposed to early spring when we found it almost dry - we turned to the task of the last few miles of driving and the end of a perfect vacation.

Your Faithful Correspondent  
and his Perfect Pardner

P.S.

Guess who caught the best fish of the trip? You might have known, may I sooner hear the end of it.

#### WANT ADS

##### FOR SALE

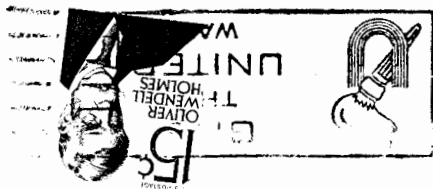
Winston 8' for #4 glass rod	\$59.00	Call Bob Wray
Fenwick FF80 8' for #7,8 glass (new)	\$35.00	526-4968
Fenwick #1255 5 ½ Lunkerstick	\$19.00	

WANTED - Old reels, both fly and casting  
For Sale 12 ga. Fox Sterlingworth Dble Barrel, 26 inch Mod, Imp.  
cly. Call Dale 546-6599

WANTED Helper for the Editor of this Paper. Call Greg Dunlap at 795-0788 or see me at the Dinner Meeting.

"Nice? It's the only thing," said the Water Rat solemnly, as he leaned forward for his stroke. "Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing-absolutely nothing-half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats. Simply messing", he went on dreamily: "messing - about - in - boats; Messing - - "

Chapter 1, The River Bank, "THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS",  
By Kenneth Grahame





# The Cast

of

THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLYFISHERS INC.

P. O. BOX 2673 Santa Rosa, California 95405

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Vol. 2

Aug. 1978

No. 7

## REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN: Aug. 16, 1978

WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Ave. Santa Rosa.

Program This wed John Agnew is going to give us a report on Warm Springs Dam, Sonoma Lake, and especially on Dry Creek. The meetings dealing with, the responce, his interpertations, everything, Turn to page 4 for his brief on this issue facing us and be informed.

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## CALENDAR

### Next Board Meeting:

When: Aug. 24, Thursday, 7:00 P.M.

Where: Warrick Hospital Beard Room

### Next Regular Meeting:

When: Sept. 20, Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.

Where: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High

---

## President's Message:

It was our privilege at the last Board meeting to have present Mr. Don Jacobs, California State Department of Fish and Game, our local warden. He proposed to us a plan drafted by Supervisor Kahn whereby our aid would be solicited in helping catch poachers on our local streams (the tributaries of the Russian River): Santa Rosa Creek, Mark West Creek, Dutchbell Creek, and Austin Creek. We would also have "jurisdiction" over Lake Ralphine or anywhere we saw violations. Please come to the August 16th meeting and here the details as proposed by Mr. Jacobs and Supervisor Brian Kahn.

Tight Lines,

*Bob*

## THE QUESTIONNAIRE!!

We received 44 responses out of 120 questionnaires originally mailed. 20 % of these responding are new to fly fishing. Over half had the basic skills and want to learn more. The balance considered themselves accomplished fly fishermen. Those responding were predominately Trout or Steelhead oriented with over 40% traveling out of State for some of their fishing. The average member would travel 100 miles one way for a day outing and 300 miles for a 2 to 3 day trip. Two thirds of those responding were interested in fly tying and casting instruction. 80% were in favor of dinner meetings every 3 months. Two thirds favored raffles when ever prizes were available.

The answers to the subjective questions were too varied to be statistically compiled. Generally the RREF recieved good grades on its caliber of memberships, its programs and newsletter. Several pertinent critisims and suggestions were made. The Board of Directors and the respective club committees will be able to use this information in working to develope an ever better club for the membership.

Thanks to everyone who answered the questionnaire. Anyone curious about the responce to specific questions can check with Dick Yeager of the membership committee. A big thanks to Bob Nauheim and Frank Berteina of Fishing International for picking up the return postage for the questionnaires. We have made note of those members who expressed and interest in volunteering their services.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

DICK YEAGER  
JOHN AGNEW  
ARMEN HERALD  
DALE CHELI

## NEWS AND BRIEFS

At the Last meeting the following awards were presented by Bob Wray.

The President's Award for outstanding service to the Russian River Flyfishers, the following were the receipients: Chuck Perry, Mike Tatro, and Greg Dunlap.

Norm Sutcliff was made a member-for-life, the first of the club.

Let's all give a big thank you to these members for their efforts to make our club what it is today.

They stood on a wet floor of polished stone, the doorstep, as it were, of a rough hewn gate of rock opening dark behind them, But in front a thin veil of water was hung, so near that Frodo could have put an outstretched arm into it. It faced westward. The level shafts of the setting sun behind beat upon it, and the red light was broken into many flickering beams of ever-changing color. It was as if they stood at the window of some elven-tower, curtained with threaded jewels of silver and gold, and ruby, sapphire and amethyst, all kindled with an unconsuming fire.

"The Lord of the Rings", part two, "The Two Towers", chapter 5, book 4, "The Window on the West", By T. R. R. TOLKIEN

## EDITORIAL:

At the last Board Meeting, as was mentioned in the President's Message, we heard from Mr Don Jacobs, a warden with the D.F.G. He told us stories of finding trot lines with 20 to 30 juvenile Salmon/Steelhead on them, DEAD. I feel that he has a very worthwhile project to present to us. I have heard lots of people say that we're supposed to be doing something to improve the fishing in the Russian River. Come to the Aug. meeting and find out what we, as individuals and as a club can do to further this. This is an opportunity for us to really do some concrete action and to reap some benefit to our local fishery. Come to the meeting, let's all work to further our goals.

On the 25th of this month there will be a meeting in the County Board of Supervisors Room. This will be conducted by the California Dept. of Fish and Game. The basis of this meeting is the poaching problem and what to do about it with regard to the fishery. The more input they get, the better prepared they will be as to what action to take. The meeting begins at 9:00 am, hope to see some of you there.

## FOR SALE:

Winston 8' for 4 weight 59.00 cost \$95.00  
 Fenwick FF80 8' for 7 or 8 \$32.00 Cost \$44.00  
 NEW CONDITION  
 Fenwick Lunker Stick, Model 1255 5½' \$17.50 Cost \$27.50  
 Call Bob Wray 526-4968

## WANTED:

Co-Editor for The Cast. Come on, someone out there must have some suppressed feelings toward journalism, let your frustrations go. Call Greg Dunlap at 795-0788

The water was very clear, with a bed of clean yellow gravel, and even in the middle was hardly four feet deep. As the rabbits stared down they could discern, here and there, a very fine scour, like smoke-chalk and powered gravel carried along by the river as dust is blown on the wind. Suddenly, from under the bridge, with a languid movement of its flat tail, swam a gravel-colored fish as long as a rabbit. The watchers, immediately above, could see the dark, vivid spots along its sides. Warily it hung in the current below them, undulating from side to side. It reminded Hazel of the cat in the yard. As they stared, it swam upward with a lithe flicker and stopped just below the surface. A moment later its blunt nose thrust clear of the stream and they saw the open mouth, pure white inside. Rhythmically, without haste, it sucked down a floating sedge fly and sank below the water. A ripple spread outward in subsiding circles, breaking both the reflections and the transparency. Gradually the stream grew smooth and once more they saw the fish below them, waving its tail as it held its place in the current.

"Watership Down", part three, "The Great River", chapter 33  
 by Richard Adams

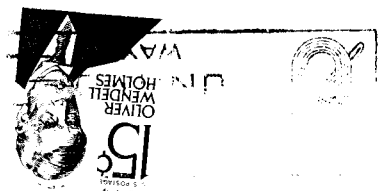


PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

July 22 in Healdsburg, one hundred-odd people began an all day session, sponsored by the Corps of Engineers, to discuss possible recreational uses for Lake Sonoma, created by Warm Springs Dam and the lower stretch of Dry Creek. The meeting was the first of two now three all day work shops, conducted by the planning contractor, moderated by its consultant sub-contractor, to involve interested persons in planning the uses of the Corps of Engineers properties. The thoughts and suggestions of the first gathering were to have been ingested, digested, and reformed into proposals to be presented for further public review at the second (and third) meeting(s). A prophetic question during the opening, orientation comments, asking if what was to come was no more than "an exercise in futility", brought reproof from the podium implying such a notion was counter productive before such obvious sincerity indicated by the Corps providing the opportunity for concerned citizens to express their views before planning contractors, attended by several young observers (planning trainees?); representatives of the Corps, the Soil Conservation Services, and state and federal fish and wildlife bureaus (both of whom, as happened, became somewhat irritated by the rencounter with public scrutiny); 20 dozen doughnuts and several cases of soda pop -- all equally interested the public's ideas about Lake Sonoma and Dry Creek recreational uses.

Pity the card players who, having successfully drawn for a Royal Flush, shows the other players his cards before they've bet -- unless, of course, for some reason, he doesn't want them to bet. Despite the past few day's reports in the "Press Democrat", our conservation committee chairman, Bob Nauheim, will moderate a panel discussion of the Warm Springs Project and controversy from the fisheries stand point. The make up of the panel hasn't been finalized, and it can't be reported here that a Wohler Bridge user organization representative will be on hand to advocate a nude access point on Dry Creek among the four proposed by the Corps of Engineers. Nor, can it be positively reported that there will be a nude-in demonstration during the coming workshops. It has been promised, however, that if that course of action is decided upon a dress rehearsal will be held at our August 16th meeting.

Summertime is the worst time of the year to get people to attend meetings, whether sponsored by the Corps of Engineers or a fly fishing club. It is vitally important that Russian River Fly Fishers attend the August 16th meeting. The Corps workshop sessions are scheduled for August 18th and 19th, and those meetings, to be held in Santa Rosa, need a large contingent of informed sport fishermen to produce anything beneficial for the Russian River sport fishery. Turn out August 16th, 7:00 at Herbert Slater Junior High cafeteria.





# The Cast

of

## The Russian River Fly Fishers inc.

POST OFFICE BOX 2673

SANTA ROSA

CALIFORNIA 95405

VOL. 2

SEPT. 1978

NO. 8

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN: Sept. 20, 1978, 7:30 P.M.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa

PROGRAM: Dave Inks of the Mill Pond is coming up to Santa Rosa and is going to impart to us some of his knowledge of fly tying materials. Dave is going to have quite a slide presentation and is really going to let us know how and why your fly acts the way it does.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING:

WHEN: Sept. 28, 1978, 7:30 P.M.  
WHERE: Warrick Hospital Board Room

### NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

WHEN: Oct 10, 1978, 7:30 P.M.  
WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past Thursday evening I was invited to an informal gathering of the Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Board, the California Dept. of Fish and Game Commissioners, and three of our County Supervisors.

It turns out that everyone is really excited about our program to cut down poaching in Sonoma County. Brian Kahn's plan is apparently the first of its kind: a pilot project. D.F.G. has had the "dollar-a-year-man" program in the past, but that was eliminated. I was wished the best of luck by D.F.G., the Petaluma Outdoorsmen, and the F. & G. Advisory Board.

We have the support of all involved, so let's do our part and make this program a real success, and set an example for all other counties in California. This may be "catching."

Tight Lines,

*Bob*

NEWS

## Russian River Fly Fishers, Inc.

## RESOLUTION


At its regularly scheduled meeting, duly called and held on Wednesday, August 16, 1978, the Russian River Fly Fishers adopted the following resolution by unanimous vote.

Resolved: That the Russian River Fly Fishers, Inc. takes the following position regarding future management plans for Dry Creek from Warm Springs Dam downstream to its confluence with the Russian River:

a) Public access should be denied and fishing should be closed year-round until successful hatchery operation can be clearly demonstrated over a period of not less than ten years.

b) Action should be taken to protect and enhance riparian vegetation and habitat, including such options as obtaining restrictive easements and the requiring of use permits for any activity disruptive to riparian vegetation within 100 feet of stream high water mark on either bank.

c) The hatchery should be operated and managed so as to optimize the anadromous fishery in the entire Russian River drainage system downstream from Coyote Dam.



Dixon Browder, Secretary

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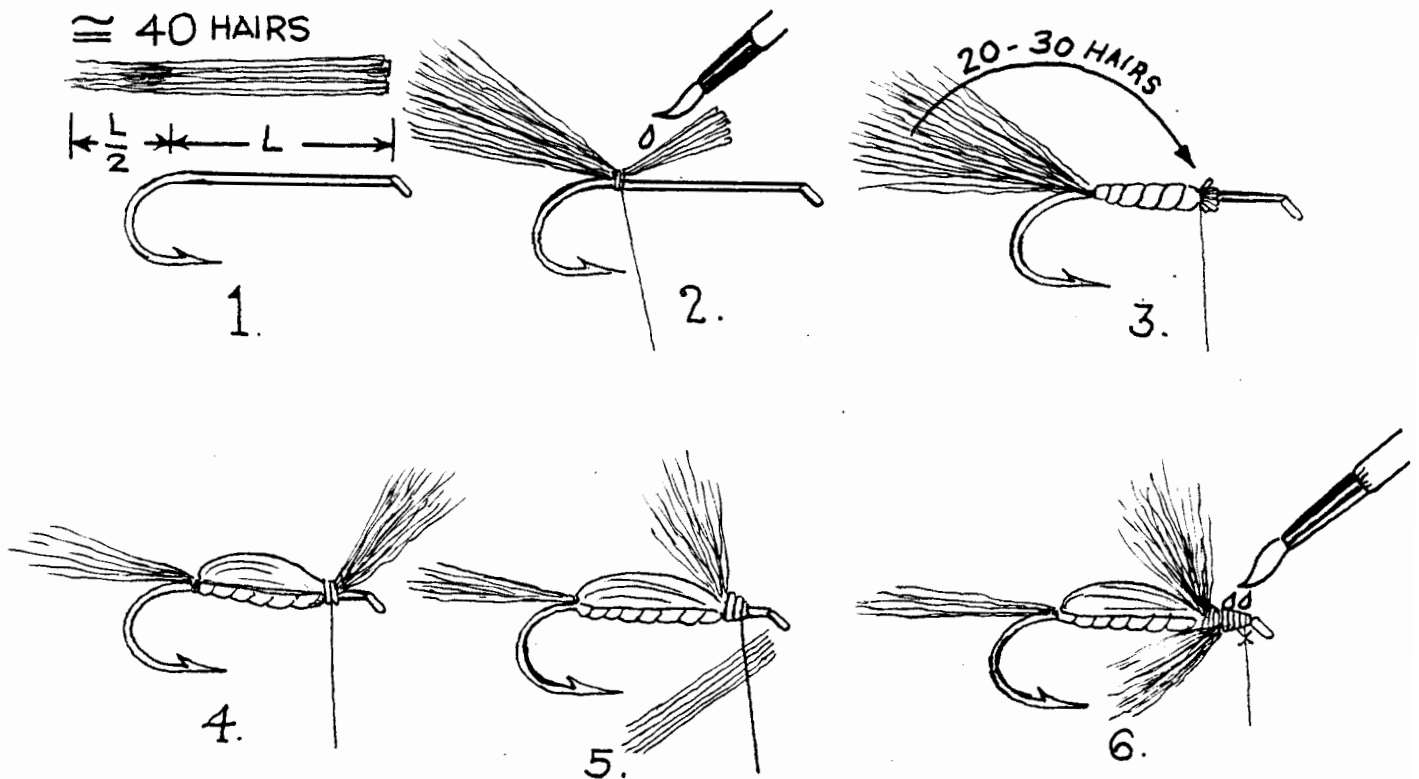
As some of you have noticed, we have enclosed your new membership cards in your issue of the Cast. Those of you however, who we have not heard from yet, we have enclose an additional membership form. Please fill it out and send it in quickly. We are trying to compose a membership roster and it's hard in that we don't know who of you are yet planning on renewing your membership.

We're planning a lot of activities this comming year and would like to include you in this, also we'll be needing your help on our projects this year especially.

So send in those forms, we're looking forward to seeing you this upcoming year.

P.S. I was just told by the membership chairman that Oct. 1 is the last day that we can accept membership renewals, after that we have to treat it as a new member. So lets fill those forms out and get them in quickly.

# THE HUMPY



## FLY OF THE MONTH:

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2. Tie in the clump at the bend of the hook with the butts toward the eye of the hook. Make the tie-in point about  $\frac{1}{3}$  the distance back from the butt of the hair. Add thinned lacquer to the butts, wrap the tying thread toward the eye in an evenly spaced spiral.
- 3.-4. Bring 20-30 hairs forward toward the eye and tie down over and in front of the butts.
5. Build up tying thread in front of the projecting hair ends, forcing them to stand vertically or slanted slightly to the rear. Tie in a beard of suitably colored hair or hackle fibers. (Dark brown, gray, black, yellow, etc.)
6. Whip finish and lacquer head.

REFLECTIONS ON A PLACE TO FISH

I wonder how many of the Russian River Flyfishers are like me, constantly on the go to their favorite, and mostly very distant, trout waters. Five hours hard drive-and lo and behold, everyone else is there.

Do we have something around our area to offer? With seclusion-a game fish-worthy of our best efforts. Have you thought of our own Russian River in the summer-don't laugh yet.

I have always fooled around our river fishing for smallmouth bass and been satisfied with an occasional 10 to 12 inches on my surface bugs, but felt a little effort might show some real fish. Last week, I hiked into the loop formed by Fitch Mountain and had some fishing to rival your tales of long ago.

At once you say-Why there must be enough people in canoes to start a convention? Not so at daybreak till say 10 am, at which time the fishing is over anyway.

The fish were eager to hit a heavily greased muddler minnow fished like a grasshopper fallen into the water. My best smallmouth, a 2½ pounder, hit right where a swift rapid entered a 20 foot pool. I would bet he would have pulled a brown trout of the same size up that rapid-and jump- and fight-that was a fish to remember.

Almost all the loop is private property-with no way to drive right to the fishing. Any glance at a map of the area will show ways to get into the area, or a drift trip by canoe or raft will get you larger and better fish than any planted rainbows.

I feel this is a perfect way to get us through the summer till the steelhead are available.

Your faithfulcorrespondent!

---

NEW MEMBERS ! ! !

So far this year we have recieved 8 applications for new membership in the Russian River Fly Fishers, so lets all welcome the following people.

Jack O'Neel	Norm Mochel
Roy Hinkle	Jim Mengle
Paul Smith	Merlin Watson
Dennis and Helen Moreda	Jim Detrick

---

There is still another parrallel. All youngsters are envied for the spellbound quality of their wonder and awe on Christmas Eve. But consider the plight of the poor fisherman-he can look forward to all the delights and ecstasies of Christmas every day all summer long.

"Anatomy of a Fisherman", by Robert Traver

DRY CREEK DISASTER

John Agnew

Hopes that the Warm Springs Dam project might include plans to re-establish prime steelhead fishing on the entire Russian River were badly battered at the third and final public participation, planning workshop, sponsored by the Corps of Engineers, Aug. 26, in Healdsburg. Sport fishing's seemingly solid rejection, since the first workshop meeting in July, of a 14 mile stretch of creek as being a more recreationally valuable asset the revitalized fishery of an entire river was shattered when the Redwood Empire chapter of the Issak Walton League rose in support of a newly advanced DFG subterfuge, claiming its obligation to serve all of California's fishermen necessitates its developing a bathtub steelhead fishery in Dry Creek for those who are only interested in taking fish and nothing else. Expanding the DFG notion, the League's spokesman also demanded summer trout fishing, incompatible as it would be, be included in the plans for Dry Creek. The Corps of Engineers, the U. S. fish & Wildlife Service (which first recommended opening Dry Creek), DFG, and the Corps' private contractors had circumvented the general sport fishing opposition to their Dry Creek plans and had found a sportsmen's group ally. Those two accomplishments seemed to finally exclude consideration for the entire Russian River from any initial Dry Creek Hatchery operational plans.

Numbers, not eloquence, dealt the blow to the Russian River. At the Healdsburg workshop, RRFF, with its 150 members, was only represented by Dixon Browder; Dick May alone stood for Cal Trout's membership of 1,500; the 100-odd members of Trout Unltd in Marin and Sonoma Cos. produced just one Novato member and myself. We four, representing locally and state-wide more than 2,500 fishermen, were confronted and effectively nullified by four Issak Walton League members turned out by the Redwood Empire Chapter's active membership of 10 or 12.

What can be said? -- Sport fishermen had a good chance to insure the re-establishment of a once great steelhead fishery -- but, those who ask for nothing get what they ask for. If any RRFF members, liking the excitement of trying to come from behind, now want to get involved, they should contact Bob Nauheim or any other Conservation Committee member, Dixon Browder, or me; we're working on what to do next.

---

FISHING REPORT Two largemouth Bass were caught in Spring Lake, 4 and 6 pounds respectfully, very respectfully. The Bass are there, go get them. Stripers are in the Bay and the best time to go for them is on the outgoing tide. Smallmouth Bass are tearing up the Russian anywhere below Guerneville. If you can drift in a boat or tube float, the better. Go for it ! ! !

PROGRAM PREVIEW

You go to the movies, you get previews (sometimes), you get previews on TV programs and other media presentations, so here we are, our own program preview. Actually what has happened is that Ted Olson has done it again. This guy is amazing! He has to really hustle for the talent he rounds up for us but bless him and thank him.

Wed, Dec. 6, 1978

DAVE WHITLOCK

Dave is going to be in the area and Ted nailed him down not only to come to a dinner meeting and give us a talk, but, also, to set up a fly tying seminar in the afternoon and help us out, and if anyone can help out some of us all-thumbs-flytiers, Dave is the person to do it. Dave's talk that evening is going to be centered around Bass and Pan Fish, something we can all benefit from. So lets get those reservations in for the dinner that night. I'm sure that none of us want to miss this opportunity to both see and benefit from the talent of this amazing individual.

Wed, Oct. 18, 1978

BOB NAUHEIM

This couldn't have been timed better. Bob is the editor of "Angler" magazine and is well know in the area. Bob will come up to the School, Slater Junior High, and present us with a , ready for this,?, STEELHEAD SEMINAR ! ! ! Bob is going to concentrate on our North Coast rivers and how to fish them for this evasive gamefish.

I don't think there's one of us out there who wouldn't like, hell, love to learn more about this.

Wed, Jan. 1978

MIKE & SHERALEE LAWSON

Mike and Sheralee have been working with Fred Arbona for the past 2 seasons and have put together an exciting and extremely informative slide show that was shown at the FFF Conclave this year with great success. The title is "A Henry's Fork Season."

This slide show centers on the Henry's Fork and includes a lot of how-to information which is applicable to the fishing situation you will encounter on own own local trout streams. Also a lot of time will be spent on fly tying, especiall the no-hackle flies.

It's a great show, don't miss it.

That's just a preview, there's going to be a lot more this upcoming year so don't plan on missing a single meeting.

---

HELP WANTED

TYPING Can you type or does someone in your family have time to occasionally help us out on our typing? Not just the newsletter, although it's typed bad enough, I know, I do it. We have to do correspondence, name tags, membership cards, etc. Let us know.

C.P.A. needed to help us out on our income tax work for our non-profit corp. status.

Do you have access to a copying machine? Just the newsletter alone takes a chunk out of our finances. If you can arrange for us to have our copy done, we will gladly reimburse for paper costs but the labor, etc., of commercial copy houses is ylpel!!





RENEWAL  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS  
P. O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa, California 95045

I apply herewith for membership in the Russian River Fly Fishers:

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

IF RETIRED, FORMER OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_

(Give dependent information only if you desire family membership.)

Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of dependents, under 16, who desire membership:

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to associate with other fishermen and join with them in practicing and promoting fly fishing. As a member, I would agree to practice the high standards of sportsmanship long associated with fly fishing, and support the general goals and purposes of the Russian River Fly Fishers.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures of sponsoring club members (mandatory):

(1) NOT NEEDED ON RENEWAL (2) NOT NEEDED ON RENEWAL

(Dues are payable with this application.)

\$12.00 - Adult member (plus \$10.00 initiation fee)

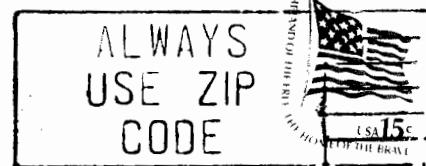
\$18.00 - Family membership (plus \$10.00 initiation fee)

\$ 5.00 - Junior member (16-21)

Annual dues payable July 1st each year. If you join between January 1st and June 30 pay one-half of dues plus the full initiation fee.

LIMIT YOUR KILL - DON'T KILL YOUR LIMIT

Fishing for fun is good conservation





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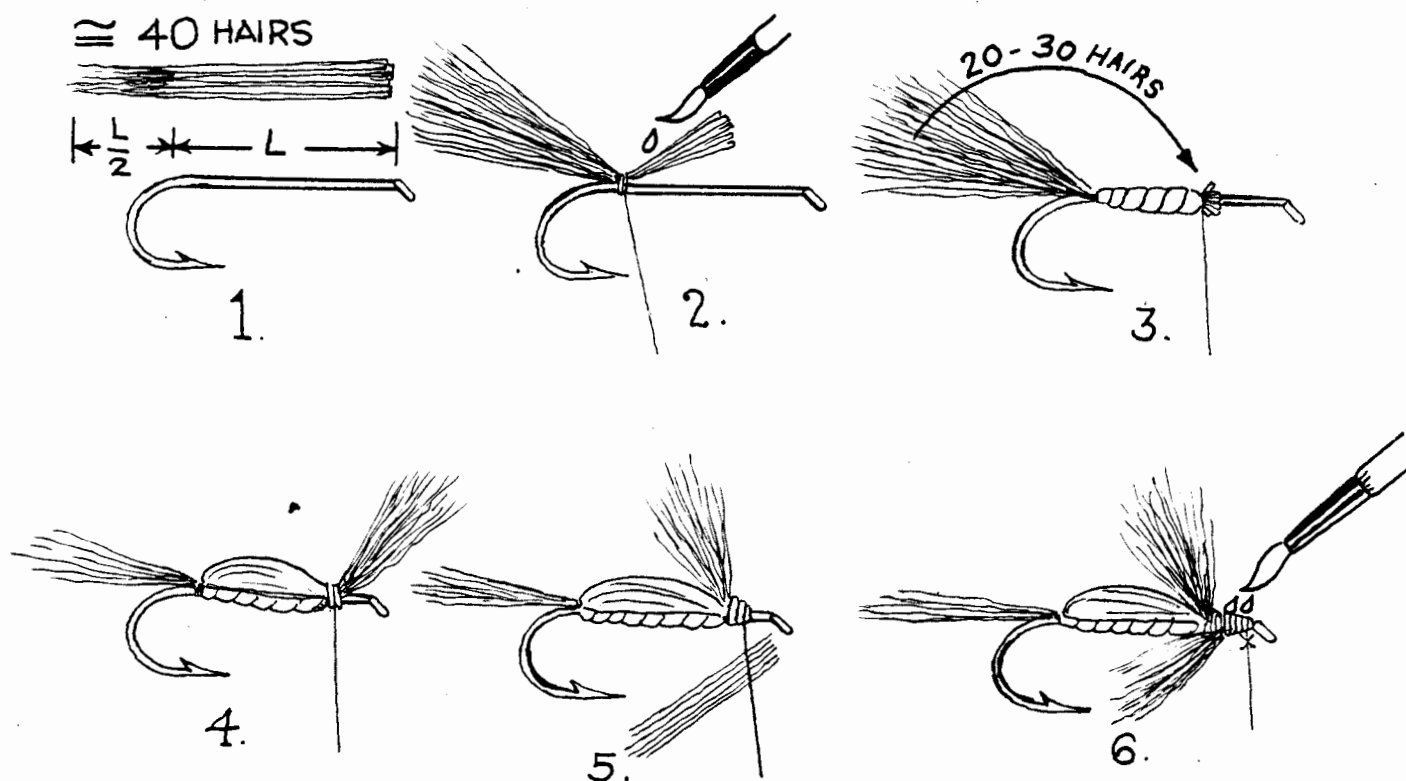
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DRY CREEK DISASTER

John Agnew

Hopes that the Warm Springs Dam project might include plans to re-establish prime steelhead fishing on the entire Russian River were badly battered at the third and final public participation, planning workshop, sponsored by the Corps of Engineers, Aug. 26, in Healdsburg. Sport fishing's seemingly solid rejection, since the first workshop meeting in July, of a 14 mile stretch of creek as being a more recreationally valuable asset the revitalized fishery of an entire river was shattered when the Redwood Empire chapter of the Issak Walton League rose in support of a newly advanced DFG subterfuge, claiming its obligation to serve all of California's fishermen necessitates its developing a bathtub steelhead fishery in Dry Creek for those who are only interested in taking fish and nothing else. Expanding the DFG notion, the League's spokesman also demanded summer trout fishing, incompatible as it would be, be included in the plans for Dry Creek. The Corps of Engineers, the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service (which first recommended opening Dry Creek), DFG, and the Corps' private contractors had circumvented the general sport fishing opposition to their Dry Creek plans and had found a sportsmen's group ally. Those two accomplishments seemed to finally exclude consideration for the entire Russian River from any initial Dry Creek Hatchery operational plans.

Numbers, not eloquence, dealt the blow to the Russian River. At the Healdsburg workshop, RREF, with its 150 members, was only represented by Dixon Browder; Dick May alone stood for Cal Trout's membership of 1,500; the 100-odd members of Trout Unltd in Marin and Sonoma Cos. produced just one Novato member and myself. We four, representing locally and state-wide more than 2,500 fishermen, were confronted and effectively nullified by four Issak Walton League members turned out by the Redwood Empire Chapter's active membership of 10 or 12.

What can be said? -- Sport fishermen had a good chance to insure the re-establishment of a once great steelhead fishery -- but, those who ask for nothing get what they ask for. If any RREF members, liking the excitement of trying to come from behind, now want to get involved, they should contact Bob Nauheim or any other Conservation Committee member, Dixon Browder, or me; we're working on what to do next.

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FISHING REPORT Two largemouth Bass were caught in Spring Lake, 4 and 6 pounds respectfully, very respectfully. The Bass are there, go get them. Stripers are in the Bay and the best time to go for them is on the outgoing tide. Smallmouth Bass are tearing up the Russian anywhere below Guerneville. If you can drift in a boat or tube float, the better. Go for it ! ! !

PROGRAM PREVIEW

You go to the movies, you get previews (sometimes), you get previews on TV programs and other media presentations, so here we are, our own program preview. Actually what has happened is that Ted Olson has done it again. This guy is amazing! He has to really hustle for the talent he rounds up for us but bless him and thank him.

Wed, Dec. 6, 1978

DAVE WHITLOCK

Dave is going to be in the area and Ted nailed him down not only to come to a dinner meeting and give us a talk, but, also, to set up a fly tying seminar in the afternoon and help us out, and if anyone can help out some of us all-thumbs-flytiers, Dave is the person to do it. Dave's talk that evening is going to be centered around Bass and Pan Fish, something we can all benefit from. So lets get those reservations in for the dinner that night. I'm sure that none of us want to miss this opportunity to both see and benefit from the talent of this amazing individual.

Wed, Oct. 18, 1978

BOB NAUHEIM

This couldn't have been timed better. Bob is the editor of "Angler" magazine and is well know in the area. Bob will come up to the School, Slater Junior High, and present us with a , ready for this,?, STEELHEAD SEMINAR ! ! ! Bob is going to concentrate on our North Coast rivers and how to fish them for this evasive gamefish.

I don't think there's one of us out there who wouldn't like, hell, love to learn more about this.

Wed, Jan. 1978

MIKE & SHERALEE LAWSON

Mike and Sheralee have been working with Fred Arbona for the past 2 seasons and have put together an exciting and extremely informative slide show that was shown at the FFF Conclave this year with great success. The title is "A Henry's Fork Season."

This slide show centers on the Henry's Fork and includes a lot of how-to information which is applicable to the fishing situation you will encounter on own own local trout streams. Also a lot of time will be spent on fly tying, especiall the no-hackle flies.

It's a great show, don't miss it.

That's just a preview, there's going to be a lot more this upcoming year so don't plan on missing a single meeting.

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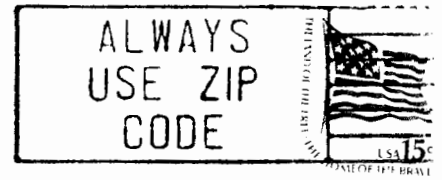
HELP WANTED

TYPING Can you type or does someone in your family have time to occasionally help us out on our typing? Not just the newsletter, although it's typed bad enough, I know, I do it. We have to do correspondence, name tags, membership cards, etc. Let us know.

C.P.A. needed to help us out on our income tax work for our non-profit corp. status.

Do you have access to a copying machine? Just the newsletter alone takes a chunk out of our finances. If you can arrange for us to have our copy done, we will gladly reimburse for paper costs but the labor, etc., of commercial copy houses is ylpe!!!





B. Sisson  
3607 Green Hill Dr  
Santa Rosa, Cal 95404





# The Cast

of

## The Russian River Fly Fishers inc.



POST OFFICE BOX 2673

SANTA ROSA

CALIFORNIA 95405

VOL. 2

OCT. 1978

NO. 9

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN: Oct. 18, 1978, 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Cafeteria, Slater Junior High School  
3500 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa

PROGRAM: Bob Nauheim, editor of "Angler" magazine is coming again to Santa Rosa to give us some insight on catching Steelhead in North Coast Rivers. This is one talk I know will benefit everyone so see you there.

### NEXT BOARD MEETING:

WHEN: Oct. 26, 1978, 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Warrick Hospital Board Room

### NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

WHEN: Dec. 6, 1978, 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Santa Rosa Country Club  
(map will be inclosed in the next issue of the "CAST".)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bob's been fishing and busy so there won't be a President's message in this issue.

### FISHING REPORT

There's an awful lot of action happening around this area! First Chubs are showing on the Eel. Salmon are being caught at the mouth and juveniles on the early part of the river,

The Salmon restrictions have been lifted in part on the Klamath. Salmon can be fished every day and a bag limit of one fish has been set. Some friends of mine fished the upper river a week ago and reported good luck on both Steelhead and Salmon; which had to be returned.

The Russian River still has some action if your into catching Bass. The early hours have been productive fishing in the top foot of water, lower down after the sun hits the water.

Salmon and Strippers have been caught off of California City by trooling deep, also this is becoming the time of year to fish for Stripers in the bay during the evening, bring your fly rod and have a real ball.

## REFLECTIONS:

Now is the time of year when we start remembering about winter fishing seasons past. It may be the Salmon we caught on the Trinity, the Steelhead in the Russian or Eel, but rods start coming out of storage, lines are dressed and fly boxes looked at for replenishment.

Where are we planning to go and what can we expect this year? I'm sure this is a question all of us are asking ourselves.

If I was going to fish the Russian I would outfit myself with medium to fast sinking lines and long rods. Also a healthy supply of Comets, Bosses, and Redheads would enter the picture.

For the Eel, fast lines, again long rods, and further flies would come into play. Silvius Demons, Optic, McReynolds, and others would be crammed into fly boxes already stuffed in hopes of enticing a strike.

Long nites would be spent tying leaders into impossible to handle lengths of mono, backing would be changed and the knots would receive a close long and hard look.

Campers and pickup trucks would be crammed to the brim and unpacked and crammed again. Maps would be checked and the long awaited signal, "FISH IN THE RIVER" would be anticipated.

When this comes all else is forsaken, jobs, family, even friends, off we go to awaken to a cold morning, struggle into stiff waders and flail the water, often to a froth, in hopes of excitement and fish.

This happens to all of us, to you, to me, to everyone who takes their fishing seriously and takes advantage of living so close to where the migratory fish, the Salmon and Steelhead, the Stripper and Shad, enter the rivers to spawn and sometimes to die.

And what would you call ourselves? Crazy comes to mind, I know that not quite a few of my friends have rested this title on me when they heard of my plans for the weekend or of, "What have you been up to?" Other things we can be though. When was the last time you noticed someone, perhaps for the first time on their part, trying to lay out a cast as nicely as you just did? Or when everyone has been enjoying a fish on and you have noticed someone who hasn't and didn't try to change their luck also? Or just been plain discourtesy has showed on your part? This year let's all try to improve not only our prowess on the stream, but also our courtesy on the stream. Help someone who needs it, remember when you were in that person's place and how good it felt to have some kind individual come up and take the time to help you, I'm sure that both of you will feel better for it afterwards.

And if they ask what they can do to return the favor you have just showed them, do what I do; ask them to return the favor in kind to someone who is in the difficulty they were in. We'll all benefit in the long run.

Greg Dunlap  
Editor

---

Dave Whitlock    Dave Whitlock    Dave Whitlock    Dave Whitlock    Dave

Guess who's coming to dinner? Damn my typewriter skipped again. Dave is coming to Santa Rosa on the 6th of Dec. He is going to be the

Guest/Speaker for our meeting that nite. Dave is going to start by lending us some of his fly tying expertice at 4:00 P.M. in the afternoon, no host cocktails will start at 6:30 P.M. followed by dinner at 7:30 P.M. The topic of Dave's talk is titled, "The Pleasures of Fly Fishing for Panfish and Bass."

I don't have to go into a long talk about Dave and his accomplishments or how much information we are going to be able to recieve by taking advantage of his being here. However, we are going to have to insist upon RESERVATIONS for dinner. Drop ~~us~~ a note, the address is on the front of this paper, see us at the meeting, call, I don't care how but get your reservation in, soon. After Fri, Nov. 24, the number is set, if you plan on staying for dinner and the talk and didn't make a reservation beforehand, you will have to order off of the regular menu. The cost is \$8.00 each and it's going to be well worth it.

Take advantage of this, get those reservations in.

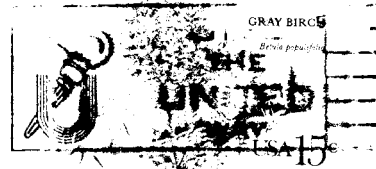
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#### Warm Springs Dam

As I'm sure everyone knows, The Ward Springs Dam has run the full gauntlet lately. First it was the controversy over whether or not to allow fishing rights in Dry Creek. At times it looked as if that was going to go against our grain, but appairently somewhere along the way we helped to make the proper impression, along with a lot of other interested people and groups who showed up in greater force than did we, the sports fisherman. Now we are faced with a Presidential veto of the whole Public Works Project, which included Warm Springs Dam.

I know what I'm intending to do and I hope others of you take the same initiative as myself. Write to your congressional leaders and local representatives. Let them know how interested you are in getting this project back into full gear. Maby, just maby, we can have work go on under another means of financing. Don't just sit back and let matters settle themselves for at the speed Washington works, that could take awhile.

The quicker we get both the Dam and the Hatchery established, the better off we'll be in regards to improving the quality of the fishery in the Russian River. Write those letters, don't appear to be a herd of mutes.



Bob Sisson  
3607 Green Hill Dr.  
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95404

# THANKSGIVING

CALIFORNIA TROUT



KEEPER OF THE STREAMS



*The Cast*

of

The Russian River Fly Fishers  
inc.

POST OFFICE BOX 2673

SANTA ROSA

CALIFORNIA 95405

VOL. 2

Nov 1978

NO. 10

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

WHEN: Dec. 6, 1978, 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Details of where and what the Dec. meeting will be  
about will be found inside the "Cast".

PROGRAM:

NOTICE: NO NOVEMBER MEETING THIS MONTH

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

WHEN: Nov, 30th, 1978 7:30P.M.

WHERE: Warrick Hospital Board Room

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

WHEN: Jan. 17, 1979, 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Slater Junior High School Cafeteria  
3500 Sonoma Ave, Santa Rosa

## Thanksgiving



CLEAN OUR RIVER COALITION

## C.O.R.C.



## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

## JUST PAID IN TIME MEMBER

Membership dues in the Russian River Fly Fishers for the year 1978-1979 are overdue, and must be paid by Wednesday evening, December 6th; or an initiation fee, as well as dues will be required for reinstatement.

If you have paid your dues, please disregard.

## President's Message:

First of all I would like to remind all members, who have not yet renewed their memberships for the 1978-79 year, that dues are overdue. They were payable July 1st, to be paid no later than October 1st. The Board of Directors has made the following exception: dues must be paid by the night of the December 6th meeting, or you will need to pay the initiation plus dues to be reinstated as a member. Furthermore, starting in January 1979 only members and bona fide guests will be allowed at meetings and functions of the Russian River Fly Fishers.

For some happy news I have received notice that we have been designated as a Tax-Exempt Corporation by the Franchise Tax Board. We are still awaiting notification of same from the Internal Revenue Service.

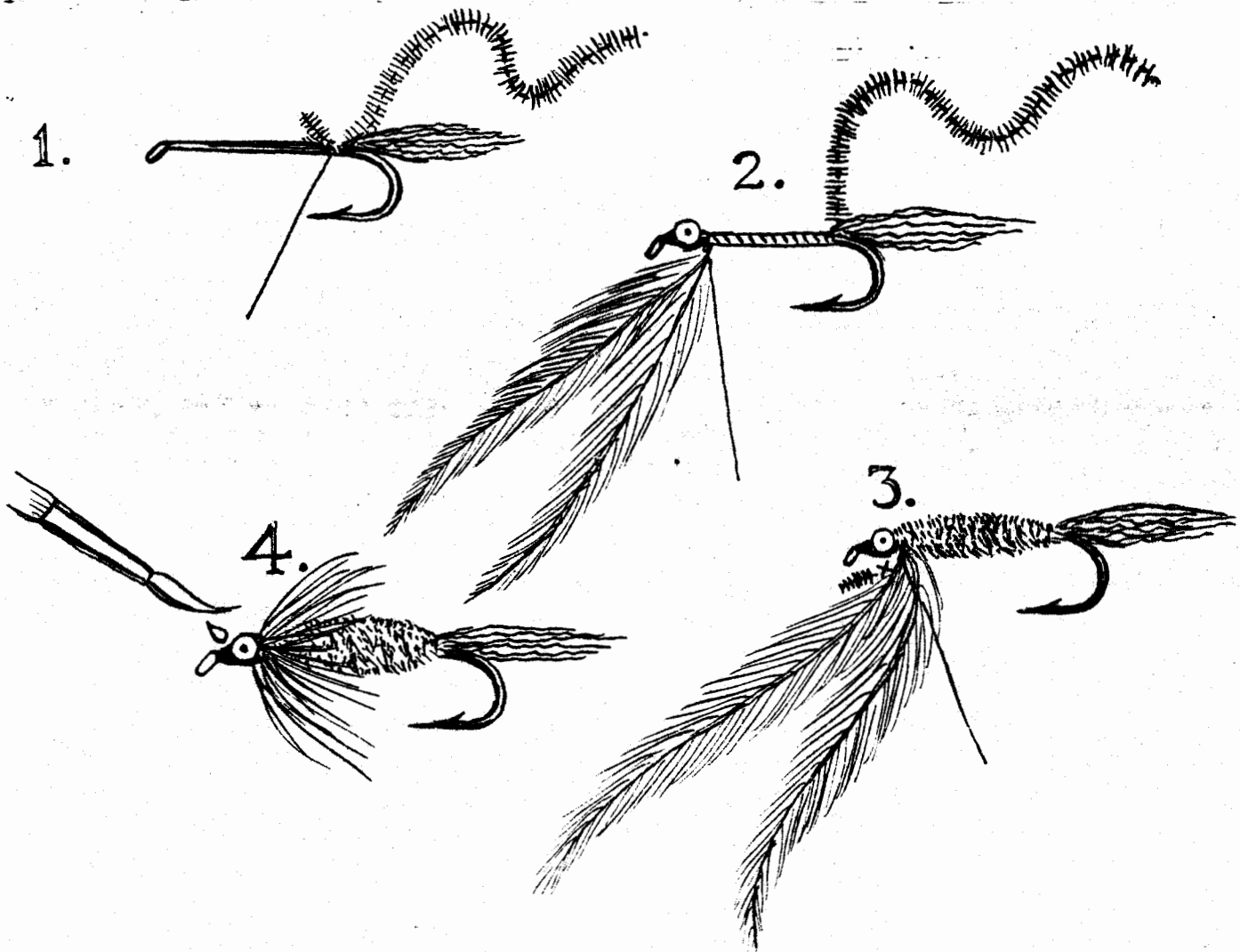
On Wednesday night, December 6th, at the Santa Rosa Country Club, we are proud to have as our guest speaker Mr. Dave Whitlock; renowned fly-tyer, artist, author, and fisherman; as well as one of the truly "nice guys" of fishing. Everyone is invited so bring your friends and neighbors to the Fly-Tying session at 4:00PM, Cocktails at 6:30PM, and dinner at 7:00PM. The cost is \$8.00 per person payable at the door. Dave's topic at the 8:00PM presentation will be: "Pleasures of Flyfishing for Bass and Panfish." Hope to see you all there.

Tight lines,

Bob



FLY OF THE MONTH    A STEELHEAD FLY;    THE GOLDEN COMET



**MATERIALS;**

**HOOK:**

No 4 or No 6 1X long, heavy wire-sproat bend

**BEAD EYES:**

**BODY:**

Golden Sparkle Chenille

**TAIL:**

Mixed red and gold died calf tail hair; 3 parts gold to 1 part red.

**COLLAR  
HACKLE:**

1 orange and 1 gold dyed saddle hackle

**CONSTRUCTION;**    1) wind thread back and tie in tail and chenille, 2) wind thread forward tying in bead eyes and saddle hackle, 3) wrap chenille forward and tie off, 4) wind hackle, tie off, whip finish head and apply head cement.

## RAMBLINGS \_ REMARKS \_ AND LEARNED QUOTATIONS

So - you want to go fishing - well - lets see what is doing.

The Mighty Russian: Some small salmon being taken in the 1 to 3 pound catagory- Mouth still closed - need a bloody good rain to open it up. However, there are a few large stripers in the river.

For the bait dunkers, cats are being caught. An eleven pounder was taken recently.

As an "old" steelheader once said; "Day after thanksgiving is the start of Steelheading". Could be true, so, lets hope for buckets, pails and barrels of rain.

For the most up to date information on the river call Grant or Betty King at (707) 869-2156, they are most helpfull.

The "less mighty" Gualala: Two weeks ago I floated down and rowed back up the river. Low clear water, the sun bathers were out (most interesting), mouth still closed. Agsin, need the powers that be to open her up.

The Smith: Activity has been noted on the river. However water is low and fish landed are dark, very few "brights". Again, both the fish and the fisherpersons are awaiting the rains.

Klamath, oh, the raging, brawling strip of white water. Nothing doing right now.

Eel (like a worm). Some activity. Check out the area from Van Duzen to the mouth.

Garcia: is producing a few fish, I said few, nothing outstanding. Awaiting the downpour.

Ralphine & Spring LAKES: For the laddie who wants his/her/their creature comforts and still braves the elements to wet a line close to home - try these two areas. Remember you can only take five (5).

What's on the Bay: Report by Loch Lomond Bait Shop, San Rafael (415) 456-0321 to wit: Sturgeon and Bass activity good around the Pumphouse and Buoy #5. Incoming and outgoing tides offer good activity and action on Ghost and Grass shrimps. Drifting and trolling slow.

Well, thats it for this issue and as one wise old steelheader said many long years ago, as he shook the ice out of the guides, "If they are here, they are here, if they aint \_ \_ \_ \_ \_"

Wonderful World

Warren Herlihy

## A HISTORY OF MISADVENTURES

## AND EXOTIC FAUNA

Some peoples fishing trips are planned - and there was our last one.

We were up at 5:30 for our annual trip to the Yuba River and the Gold Lake Basin area. Four hours later, the better half, and we pulled into Wild Plum Campground in a steady rain. We sat under our 9 x 12 tarp until it stopped Sunday afternoon.

We hiked up Haypress Creek on a good trail, amply marked, left wife upstream with explicit instructions to go down creek to bridge and wait. Wife hikes up creek, takes a shortcut, and gets lost. Fishing was poor - might as well find her.

Next day, lovely and sunny, so head up the hill to Snag Lake, a great spot to camp. Caught large brook trout on well fished nymph - quiet satisfaction.

Wife and I saw sight of a lifetime - a lovely golden brown fisher trotting on path around the lake and eating wheat bread put out for the birds. We ran into him on the other side of the lake the next day.

Show wife my expertise in float tube. She said "two could do that". Bundle her up in waders, life belt, flippers, etc. - looking remarkably like a duck, she paddles off to terrorize the small trout. Shortly, hear loud, bad words - wife getting out of float tube, falls in icy water (6,600 ft. elevation) and fills up her waders - my fault.

Threatening weather next day - and off to lower elevations and Indian Valley Campground on the Yuba River below Donnyville - nice place, but many gnats and mosquitos.

Fish Yuba from bridge up for a hard mile in waders and only one pair of felt sandals. Wife gets them and I get lots of practice skating on very slippery rocks. Beautiful fly water - few fish. Finally, as we wade out of River, we scare six large browns from their hiding places.

See large fish eagle flying down river with a 2lb. trout in his claws. He has more right to it than we have. Enough excitement - home to another winter of reading and dreaming.

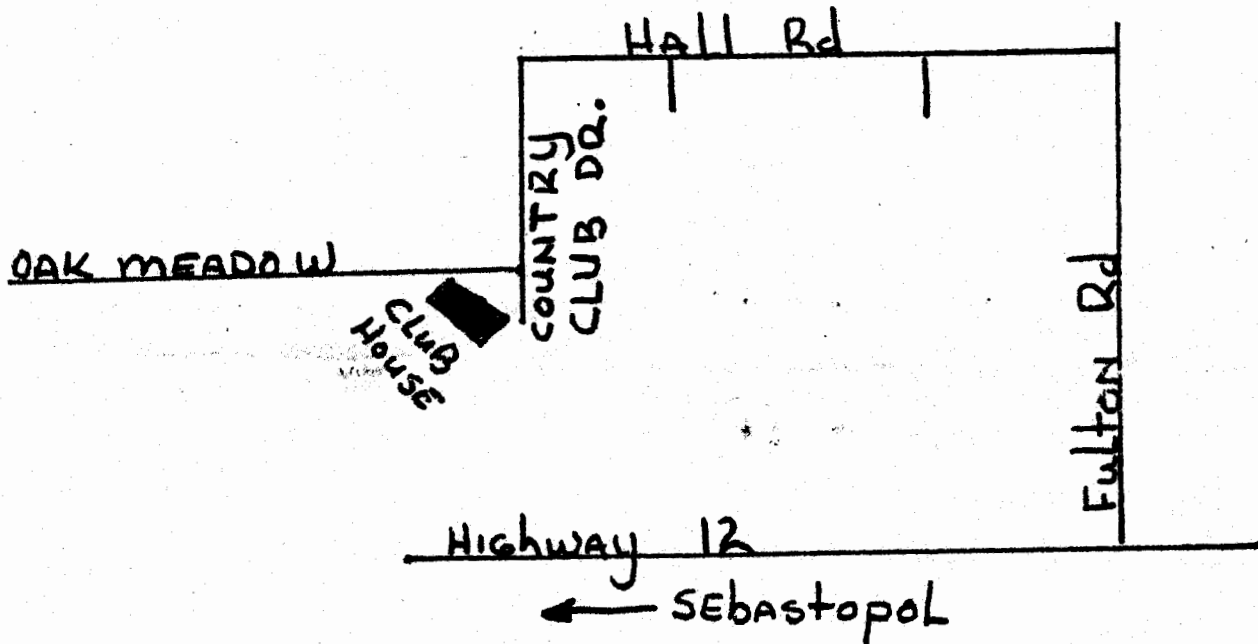
Your faithful correspondent.

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### THE DINNER MEETING

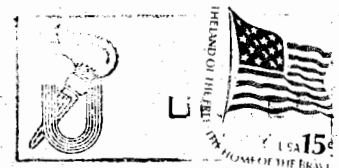
As all of you read in the President's message we're going to have quite a super dinner meeting next month. We need reservations to give to the restaurant. Those of you who are planning on attending, call either Grant King at King's News and Tackle Shop, (869-2156), or Norm Sutcliffe at Sutcliffe's, (542-1884), and place your reservation. We have to have this accomplished before Dec. 1st. After that, you will not be able to take advantage of the special price for this. I've been told that the raffle will have a Book by Dave Whitlock which he remarked, a Belly Boat and some other terrific prizes to offer.

Below is a map to help you find where the dinner is going to be held. Hall Road is the second street on the left off of Fulton. Country Club Drive is the Third street on the left off of Hall Road. Now nobody can say they got lost getting there. Bring your friends, bring your appetite, it's going to be fun.



THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS  
POST OFFICE BOX 2673  
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

First Class



1974  
3067 1000 HILL  
SANTA ROSA, CA

THE RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

SECOND ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

at

SANTA ROSA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB  
5110 Oak Meadow Drive  
Santa Rosa

Wednesday  
December 6, 1978

\$8.00 per person

SUPER PROGRAM: **fly fishing for bass**

\*\*\*\*\* DAVE WHITLOCK PRESENTS\*\*\*\*\*

The PLEASURES OF FLY FISHING:

Tying exhibit:- THE WHITLOCK PATTERNS for----

BASS:

PIKE:

PANFISH.

*** Tying Exhibit	4:00 p.m.
*** No Host Cocktails	6:30 p.m.
*** Dinner	7:00 p.m.
*** Presentations	8:00 p.m.

PLUS: TERRIFIC RAFFLE

Dave Whitlock is an Artist; Photographer; Flytyer;  
and Lecturer Extraordinaire. Don't miss him!!

Avoid missing an enjoyable and  
rewarding evening with fellow club members,  
wives, family and guests. Please call and make  
reservations NOW with Russ Quistgard at 544-5523  
or 528-7417, or Ted Olson 528-0565 or 528-0879  
or Dick Yeager 539-2385 or 546-3310.

\*YOU MUST HAVE RESERVATIONS FOR DINNER\*

