

The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 22, 1986

7:00 P.M.

Madrone School

4550 Rinconada Dr., Santa Rosa

GUEST SPEAKER

Lani Waller

Trophy Steelhead from Pacific Rivers

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 14, 1986

Madrone School, 7:00 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! As we enter 1986 I am filled with nothing but optimism. The rivers are receiving fresh silvery pods of steelhead on a regular basis and, weather permitting, we can expect very good winter fishing. In fact, friends and acquaintances throughout the state are reporting excellent angling already, especially in the Smith and Eel River drainages.

1986 will also be the year that we cast our lines into our new casting pool. Plans are now being made for a gala spring ceremony, including a catered barbecue and professional casting demonstrations.

Our January 22 meeting will feature Lani Waller, West Coast Field editor for Fly Fisherman Magazine and Alaskan/Canadian Operations Manager for Fishing International. Lani's presentation will help us continue the "roll" that we've been on with Steelhead programs this winter. His talk is entitled "Trophy Steelhead from Pacific Rivers", a presentation which promises to be both informative and entertaining. Lani has been fly fishing for steelhead in Pacific Rivers for 20 years and has specialized in taking trophy fish. Besides working with Fly Fishing Magazine, Lani's articles and photographs have appeared in several other national publications. Starting at 7:00 P.M., Lani will be tying several of his favorite steelhead patterns and answering questions, so come early and take advantage of his special expertise.

RAFFLE

The grand prize this month will be Caddi's float tube, the Cadillac of float tubes. Other items include bamboo nets, angling books, fly boxes, angling art, etc.

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

Bulk Rate
Postage Paid
Permit No. 349
Santa Rosa, CA

Bob Sisson
3607 Green Hill Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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OUTINGS

Many special outings are planned starting in March running through the fall; some of them will be limited to 20 anglers. Information will be shared during the January 22 meeting.

DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

For those who attended our December dinner meeting, it was a rewarding and rather spectacular event. Our limited Cast format this month (Ben and Corace Cummings, our Editor and typist, are in Mexico for an extended fishing vacation) will not allow for proper acknowledgement and thanks for the many ways in which individuals helped (labor, donations, purchases, etc). The February Cast will provide the proper space for this, however.

~~Bob Sisson~~
~~3607 Green Hill Road~~
~~Santa Rosa, CA 95404~~



The Russian River Fly Fishers

January 18 Meeting

NOTE: ALL NEW AND OLD RFF MEMBERS --
AND GUESTS -- MUST HAVE THE FIRST MEETING
OF THE TEAM WILL BE AT A DIFFERENT
LOCATION . . .

CLAYTON SCHOOL

4750 W. Canada Street

The school is located off Mission St.,
near Highway 17.

TIME: 7:30 PM

PROGRAM: "MIDDLE FORK CONNECTION"

Presented by Dick and Sarah Teller

Dick and Sarah are members of the Iron Challis,
Idaho area, a group that will sweep these away
those mid-winter blues. . . in words and pictures!
Former Sonoma County residents, they specialize
in fly-fishing trips into wilderness areas. The
scope of their territory includes two major tribu-
taries and a portion of the magnificent Middle
Fork of the Salmon River. On a Teller expedition,
you will see only yourself and abundant wildlife
and wild fish. . . no tourists, no telephones!
Also on hand will be Jonah Freedman and his usual
crowd of super raffle prizes.
See you there . . . Wednesday, January 18 at 7:30 PM!
Remember: that's the Clayton School this time.

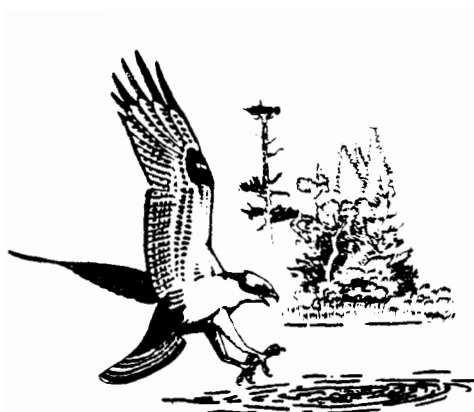


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The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

FEBRUARY 1986

NUMBER 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The support given this club by individuals and business is, quite simply, fantastic! It is so very overwhelming that I feel compelled to dedicate these few lines to the many unsung heroes who do so very much on our behalf.

Perhaps the best place to start is to thank all of those who helped make our December dinner meeting such a grand success. For your generous donations of auction items, thank you sincerely: Ben Cummings, Arthur Bond, Doug Brutocao, George Marcillac, Bob Moratto, Rick Piscitello, Bob Quigley, Wes Sheehy, Mike Shutt and Robert Vaughn; thank you also, Bob Sisson, for donating the grand raffle prize, and for your generous purchases: George Caywood, Grace Cummings, Jim Hackel, Craig Johnston, Bob Moratto, Jack O'Neel, Frank Norman and Robert Pully. A very special thanks is also extended to the local businesses which assist with our auctions, raffles, and acquisition of guest speakers: Grant King of the Western Angler, Bob Nauheim of Fishing International, David Inks of Dave Inks Fishing Outfitters and Hal Janssen of the Hal Janssen Company. Although they will be praised formally in May at the Casting Pool Dedication, I would be most remiss not to thank these who gave so generously of their time and resources in completing the Casting Pool Project: Ben Cummings and Jim Hackel for their technical expertise, Liz Wray for your undying inspiration, Bob Moratto and Craig Johnston for their organizational abilities and leadership throughout the project; and to the many committee heads and workers too numerous to name. Thank you also to both the past and present Directors of the Board for your willingness to give us uncountable hours on behalf of our goals, especially George Marcillac and Ron Lindgren.

Thank you, Mike Seeber for dependably providing refreshments at the monthly meetings; Ken Wilson, Craig Johnston, Bob Moratto and Johnny Failing for offering your places of business as locations for meetings and fly tying events, and to Robert Vaughn, Dave Inks, Grant King and others for providing tying instruction, Ben and Grace Cummings for editing and typing THE CAST. And finally, thank you, individual members of the club for attending meetings, participating in the monthly raffles and in general offering encouragement and support whenever called upon!

Tight reels and empty creels,

Yancy

GENERAL MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Madrone School
4550 Rinconada, Santa Rosa

GUEST SPEAKER

MIKE TROTTER

Alaskan wilderness Float Fishing

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 18, 1986

Madrone School, 7:00 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER

For our February meeting we will be turning to the far north to "experience" an Alaskan wilderness floatfishing odyssey with gifted river guide Mike Trotter, owner and operator of Beyond Boundaries Expeditions. I use the expression "experience" to describe Mike's presentations, as it will, indeed, be a special one. Utilizing two projectors to incorporate phasing in and out--the effect of Mike's slide show is to leave one feeling as if they are actually floating in one of his rafts, fighting wild rainbows and salmon and breathing in the Alaskan outback in all its splendor!

Mike is no stranger to the world of outdoor adventure. Growing up on Montana's Flathead Lake, Mike achieved the coveted rank of Eagle Scout as he developed early the skills and philosophy which would follow him throughout his years of "seasoning". Mike was trained as a physical geographer and is an ardent conservationist. He has been guiding in Alaska for seven years, and in 1984 was part of the American Climbing Expedition to the Himalayan Mountains. In the off season, Mike serves as head of the ski patrol at Sugar Bowl.

Most of all, Mike Trotter is a dedicated master of floating and fly fishing the rivers of Alaska's bush country. Imagine nine days beyond all boundaries, floating through a hundred miles of remote Alaskan outback, and experiencing some of the finest fly fishing on this planet. Imagine testing your skills on ten species of fish, including trophy rainbows and giant king salmon.

All of this will be possible on Wednesday, February 19 with Mike Trotter. And you'll want to come early, at 7:00 p.m. in order to learn first hand how to tie Mike's favored Alaskan fly patterns in preparation for your Alaskan safari!

RAFFLE

February's raffle will feature a beautiful 9 foot graphite rod for an 8 wt. line, perfect for subduing California's winter steelhead. Also featured will be bamboo nets, angling books, fly boxes, fly tying materials and equipment as well as quality angling art.

AQUATIC ENTOMOLOGY FOR FLYFISHERS

Board member, Russ Lockner, has arranged for Dr. Joe Brumbaugh, Professor of Biological Science, California State University, Sonoma, to teach a no-nonsense basic course to acquaint the non-biologist with the major groups of aquatic insects important as food sources for game fish. The course will meet one or two evenings a month with at least one Saturday field trip to learn collecting and identification techniques on one of our local streams. We will also learn life cycles and behavior in each stage of mayflies, stone flies and caddis flies as it applies to imitating the different stages. This non-academic course will be offered to our membership at the lowest possible rate (about \$25.00) and will be starting sometime soon. Russ Lockner will be sharing final plans and logistics at the February meeting.

There are a few openings left; over 20 have signed up already, including the Club President.

OUTINGS

As mentioned at the January meeting, many special outings have been planned for Club members starting in April. Logistics will be provided and sign ups started for the early April Pyramid Lake trophy cutthroat trip. Each year several of the brilliant fish in the 5-15 pound range are landed. Quite a few over 20 pounds have also been taken on flies.

In January it was also announced that Rick's Lodge on the famous Fall River, was rented--in total--for our members. There were 27 spots made available and 6 remain. This will be for the second weekend of the '86 trout season. We have received a significant discount and 2 lucky names will be drawn to receive free trips. A \$10.00 deposit is all that is required to reserve your spot. For information, call either George Marcillac at 523-0908, or myself at 542-6047.

TITICACA JACKET (continued from previous Cast)

For thirty minutes after that fish escaped I was so nervous I could hardly cast. A thrill like that is worth a payday to most any fisherman, and one of these days I'm going back after that trout. He and his brothers will have grown bigger by the time I get there. If one of them isn't a world record now he will be soon.

(Editor's note:--) Since those events were described the rainbow fishery in Lake Titicaca has declined to the vanishing point due to an invasion of a species of toad that consumed the spawn of the bait fish that formerly contributed to the growth of the trout.

Charlie was one of the lucky ones to fish the lake during its great years. So back to his story--

The point I'm trying to make is double-barreled: first, that most of you who read this can afford the trip; second, that it is a trip of a lifetime whether you make it once or many times. It was a wonderful experience for us, and it's too good to keep quiet about.

Your passport and tourist visa cost about \$20.00. From Miami to Lima tourist class, round trip airline fares are under \$500.00 by Panagra or Braniff; and some foreign lines will take you there and back for less than \$400.00. Plane and railway fare from Lima to Juliaca round trip costs about \$50.00. Hotel and meal rates are very reasonable in Peru. If you rent a car with driver for the time you are there you can expect to pay from \$10.00 to \$15.00 for local transportation. If three or four persons were going and planned to share expenses I believe the most satisfactory solution to the local transportation problem would be to buy a good used carry-all or pickup in Lima or Arequipa and resell it when leaving. It might be a good idea to get an International drivers license before leaving the States if you intend to do any driving personally. Take warm clothes, as the temperatures at 12,500 feet are considerably lower than one generally expects to find in the tropics. Rain can be expected from November through March and the rivers are likely to be high and muddy. May is reputed to be the best month, but the fishing is terrific anytime that the streams aren't soupy.

One other thought that doesn't have to do with fishing, and can be considered a bonus to the sportsman who makes this trip to tangle with huge rainbows, is that this area abounds with waterfowl. Ducks seemed to be everywhere, and since I had never seen flamingos in their wild state before, I even knocked over one of them to take a good look at and have mounted. There is a good taxidermist right in Juliaca. It is somewhat inconvenient to take guns along on a short trip, but if you do the shooting is wonderful. You can probably rent a gun locally if you don't wish to be bothered with the red-tape of transporting your own.

Another bonus not connected with fishing, but well worth while, is a stop at the fascinating city of Cuzco on the way home. This city is built on the foundations of the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, and is probably the greatest tourist attraction in South America. It is directly on your route back to Lima, and if you prefer you can travel to Lake Titicaca by way of Cuzco. The second half of the rail trip from Juliaca to Cuzco parallels one of the most beautiful trout streams I have ever seen, and I regretted that we didn't have time to stop for some fly-fishing.

Planes can be taken directly from Cuzco to Lima for connections there with the international lines back to the States. I'll bet that even before you get home you'll be thinking about a return trip to the land of the Incas And another bout with those tremendous Titicaca rainbows.

CHARLIE SCHULTER



OF NYMPHS AND FRIENDSHIP

Invariably I feel rejuvenated after a few days with my "brother". We've known one another and have fished together for over twenty years. We were moving at a leisurely pace that morning letting the sun warm our bones slowly for we had fished late the evening before using a skittering caddis imitation tied on #10 hooks. (They did look remarkably like the big naturals and they were certainly easier for my eyes to see in the darkness.) We were fishing out of my 4 person raft off of Grassy Point at the western edge of Georgetown Lake up the hill from Anaconda, Montana. Once renowned for large rainbows (averaging better than two pounds), Georgetown is still the most superb damselfly fishing that I am aware of in Western Montana. There is little reason to be on the water until the damsies begin to hatch in the late morning. The hatch usually peaks in a two-three week period in late July except when it doesn't. We were armed with a supply of a new "wiggle nymph" as described in **Fly Fisherman** that we had tied the night before. The "we" is actually a team effort whereby I cook dinner and he ties flies.

It's a typical western Montana summer day; warm and crystal clear with some cloud tufts gathering in the azure blue sky that will become afternoon thunderheads. We position the raft next to the edges of the weed beds; neither one speaking much but luxuriating in the day. A gentle feeling of well being strengthened by our common appreciation and love for Montana is evident. Anecdotes are shared of previous trips and good natured anger at our own clumsiness when we break off a fish, or miss a take. Great decisions are made in such company; like how shall we cook the potatoes tonight and where shall we fish tomorrow? The answers are of course immaterial as long as one has the time to ask the question.

One of the beauties of old friendships is that the rivalries of our younger days have been replaced by good natured chiding and the ability to experiment with new techniques without regard to catching fish. The wiggle nymphs do move nicely in the water and perhaps imitate the swimming insect better than the standard patterns. What is evident is the dynamic nature of the trout's feeding behavior. Both the depth at which the fish take and the retrieval speed producing the most strikes changes with the morning. By late morning the sun's warmth has awakened the primal urge in the damsel fly cycle resulting in miniature squadrons of electric blue helicopters winging their way across the surface of the lake. Soon the fish respond with a rise form characteristic of the hatch. The fish are clumsy if not sloppy in their attempts to gorge themselves on the moveable feast. Smaller fish clear the water by two or three body lengths, larger fish crash amongst the weeds with such force it sounds like someone heaving small boulders into the lake.

The difficulty is in presenting the fly in the path of a feeding fish, often 40'-50' away and almost always requiring a cast into the light breeze which is an essential part of the conditions of the hatch. (The breeze blows the flies across the bays and the glassy calm is broken into ripples which obscure the leader.) We have found that the best way to produce a strike is the following time honored method: make a long cast, remove the slack, watch the fly carefully for at least ten minutes then turn away to watch your friend or rummage in your fly vest and without fail you will get a take while you are not paying the slightest bit of attention to your fly. These are native fish and they fight well invariably heading into the nearest aquatic vegetation. The hatch ends abruptly in the afternoon and we head for shore. Still time to break camp and head over the pass down into our beloved Big Hole Valley.

Russell

CUTTINGS, continued

More information on the Fall River trip will be forthcoming at the February meeting and in the March CAST. In the meantime, master Fall River guide and outfitter, Bob Quigley, has extended a 25% discount for his services to our Club members for that week end.

If you have never fished these fabled waters it may be well worth the effort to consider a guide. As anywhere new, it could provide the opportunity for angling excellence. If interested, his shop number is (916) 335-4700. There are also many other qualified guide services in the area.

And in addition, we have also arranged to rent Lava Creek Lodge on Fall River for a fall weekend, in late September or early October; more to come on that outing later.

NEW ANGLING EMPORIUM

We are fortunate indeed to have such fine full service angling stores in Santa Rosa as Grant King's Western Angler and others.

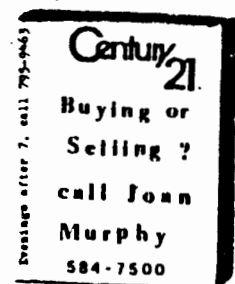
We are now blessed with the opening of an additional angling emporium, DAVE INKS FISHING OUTFITTERS, to open on March 1st. Dave's store, located at 425 College Ave. is quite impressive, 3,000 sq. ft. devoted to fishing tackle and household gifts. There is a landscaped redwood forest complete with waterfall and stocked stream. Services will include demonstrations, classes and seminars. The doors are open and Dave invites you to stop by and take advantage of the "pre-opening" sale.

Good Luck, Dave!

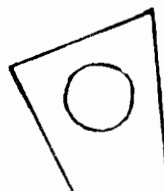
CASTING POOL UPDATE

May dedication and grand opening:

Opening Ceremony
Catered Barbecue
Professional Casting Demonstrations
Casting Competition



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The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

MARCH 1986

NUMBER 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many concerns have been expressed about the effects, both short and long term, of the recent flood waters on our waterways and their fisheries.

Nothing other than supposition can be offered. We can, however, reflect on past periods of extreme high water for a view of the probable effects.

The most lasting effect will be the physical changes; shifted river channels and old, reliable holding waters filled in. New holes will be created, to be sure, but their locations will require probing searches and repeated visits to assure their reliability. Riparian habitat will be changed also, with river banks being washed away, thus taking the earth-retaining trees and bushes which they support, with them, plants which provide the shade so necessary for steelhead fry during summer heat.

Sadly, fish eggs and their protective spawning beds will probably be scoured out and lost. This will be translated into the loss of much of our native steelhead stock for several fish generations. Hatchery fish will fill in the void, but I'm certain you'll agree they are simply not the same. Undoubtedly, many of the fish in the river during the siege suffered too, but as evidenced by those which continued on to the hatchery (over 700 at this date) many did survive. Aquatic insects will suffer severe damage also as their fragile habitat will have been substantially degraded; only time will bring these insects back, but they will return, as will our waterways and their fisheries. In fact, coastal streams are already giving up their first post-storm fish, and it is generally agreed that the Russian will be producing for hardworking anglers by the end of the first week in March.

Keep your fingers crossed and your lines in the water!

RR

FF

GENERAL MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 20th, 1986

Note: This is one day later than normal.

MADRONE SCHOOL

4550 Rinconada Dr. Santa Rosa

GUEST SPEAKER

Collin Schadrech

Dry fly Steelhead Fishing

MARCH BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 18th, 1986

Madrone School

7:00 p.m.

Please be on time!

Yancy

AQUATIC ENTOMOLGY- Thanks to your support and interest the course is fully subscribed. We will be planning another course to accomodate those members who were not able to participate in our first offering. Direct any inquiries to Russ Lockner or any other board member.

GUEST SPEAKER Thursday, March 20th *Also: 7:00 p.m. Fly Tying Instruction
(The "Bulkley Mouse")

The traditional method of steelhead fishing dictates that only occasionally could an angler take steelhead on the surface with dry flies. Collin Schadrech, our guest speaker for March, will show us, however, how "his" Bulkley River steelhead will at times take dry flies with reckless abandon.

All of British Columbia's record steelhead come from the Skeena River system. Of its fabled waters (Babine, Hispiox, Morice, Bulkley, etc.) the Bulkley has the largest run of summer steelhead and the most stable water flow. It also has the most favorable water temperature from the beginning to the end of the season, and well could be the reason why the Bulkley River steelhead have the unique characteristic of actively taking dry flies.

It was only by accident that Collin stumbled on this fact. Experimenting, he used sink tip lines and standard wet flies and found that most fish took the fly while still on the surface. Then he tried a dry line with wet flies and the results were even more productive, so it was only natural that dry flies be tried next.

In 1978 the experiment began in earnest and by the end of the season the prototype of the "Bulkley Mouse", as Collin calls his large deer hair dry fly, was born. By 1980 he found that the "Mouse" could bring steelhead to the surface from any depth of water throughout the entire fall season. Since 1980, the Mouse has been fished on all of B.C.'s major summer steelhead waters with only sporadic success, except on the Bulkley. Having had some success at fishing summer steelhead with dry flies, I can testify to the incredible thrill that this unique approach offers!

Collin Schadrech is owner and operator of the famous "Creamery" lodge, the home of River West Tours, on the banks of the Bulkley River in Telkwa, B.C. Quite by coincidence, I had stayed in the "Creamery" (an actual old creamery recently converted into a comfortable, first class fishing lodge) and fished the Bulkley for several seasons during the early 1970's as a guest of its previous owner. The Bulkley had always been kind to me, sharing its brightly colored, large (averaging 11½ lbs.) fish with regularity, but now that Collin has developed this new fishery I am anxious to return.

There are 76 miles of prime "dry Fly" water on the Bulkley, pretty well evenly divided above and below the famous Moricetown falls. There are also several other world-famous "Trophy" rivers within a short drive. Steelhead are the main attraction, but there is also quite good salmon fishing. Rainbow trout offer good sport, too--especially in May & June when they congregate in such places as "Rainbow Alley", the one mile of river which connects Babine & Milkitwa Lakes, to intercept migrating salmon fry.

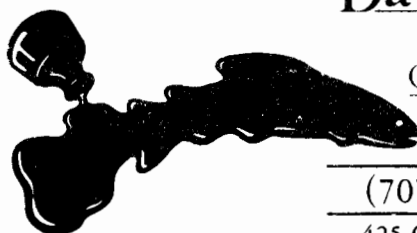
If you want to experience some of the best and certainly some of the most unique steelhead fishing in the world, you'll not want to miss Collin Schadrech's presentation. Collin will be available to us as part of a speaking tour which he is conducting thru the U.S., including the famous Theodore Gordon Fly Fishers Club in New York City and our "local" San Mateo Angler Show. Make sure and come early, at 7:00 p.m., to see Collin tie his "Bulkley Mouse" and to have your questions answered about this productive angler's paradise.



CALIFORNIA TROUT



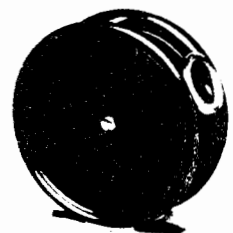
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RAFFLE

February's raffle was especially well received with many new angling items, including outdoor apparel and household items. We will continue this in March. The usual items will be offered (nets, art, books, tying material & equipment, etc.) and the grand prize will once again be a beautiful graphite rod.

DUES

Several members, I am sorry to announce, are in the arrears with their dues, yet they continue to receive all club benefits, coming to meetings, etc. If you are one of these persons, won't you please make amends. \$15.00 is an extremely small amount to pay for such quality entertainment and valuable information. Enough said!

NEW LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED

Once in a great while we have the opportunity to acknowledge, and even celebrate, an individual who has contributed significantly; so much, in fact, that they deserve the best we can offer to them. Club member, Liz Wray is such a person, and by unanimous decision, the Board of Directors has voted to award her with a R R R F Life Membership. Liz is a past president and was largely responsible for the conception of the Casting Pool Project. She has also been active as a Fund raiser and Committee Chairperson for the project and served as an inspiration for all during its development. Liz is only the 5th person in the 8 year history of the club to be so honored and we are very happy for her.

CLUB HATS - PATCHES - PINS

By popular request we have ordered hats and patches for club members and are considering pins also. The hats are really quite nice--cotton poplin, golf style with a choice of 3 colors: royal blue, mint green and red; the club Logo will be embroidered on them. Delivery time will be 8 to 10 weeks at which time they will be available for \$9.95. We're sure you will find them much more stylish and comfortable than the baseball types available. The patches will be the same as those used in the past and are suitable to be sewn on all fabric clothing. They will be provided free to all new members, and old members are free to purchase additional ones for \$3.00.

ADVERTISING

Are you aware that anyone can purchase advertising in the CAST? Those who have taken advantage of the space are pleased with the service and feel it is worthwhile. After all, where else can one reach at least 300 people monthly for as little as \$25.00 annually. Should you be interested, or know someone who you feel may be, please have them contact Warren Brown at 763-7831 or George Marcillac at 523-0908

CASTING POOL DEDICATION

Dedication co-chairpersons Bob Moratto and Liz Wray are working hard to assure a gala poolside event on Saturday, May 17th. Plans are just beginning to be formulated, but several have already been confirmed. Sage Rods will help to sponsor the day, and Les Eichorn has arranged for World Champion Caster, Steve Rajeff to be with us, as well as other members of the national casting team. Several other well known casters will be there as well and we hope to offer several events, including mock competition, demonstrations and instruction. Luncheon will be a catered B-B-Q served under a large circus tent. Most significant will be the opportunity to formally acknowledge the many people who helped to make the Casting Pool Project a reality. Completed plans will be announced in the April CAST. In the meantime, be sure to mark May 17 on your calendars and plan to be with us for this special event.

OUTINGS

If you would like to join the annual club outing to the San Mateo Angling Show, plan to meet at the Santa Rosa Veterans' Hall parking lot at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 15 and car pool to San Mateo for the day. This has been an excellent show and well worth attending. For additional information contact Charlie Schelter at 539-0200.

The Pyramid Lake fishout is shaping up for the week end of April 19-20.

FALL RIVER TRIP TO RICK'S LODGE, May 2-3.

Details of this trip will be presented at the next meeting and in the April CAST. This is one you won't want to miss!!

GAME BIRD TYING MATERIALS

Club member, Wes Sheehy, recently made us aware of the availability of game bird materials for unbelievably low prices and of excellent quality:

Knout's Pheasant Farm, 3234 Skillman Lane, Petaluma, 94952 (707)762-8613.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ANGLING SEMINAR

World renowned flyfisherman and two time past club speaker, Mike Pong, will be conducting an informative and entertaining seminar on angling in northern California on Wednesday, April 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Dave Ink's Outfitter, 425 College Avenue, 545 4657; the cost is \$20.00 Mike published in, literally, every major angling magazine in America (as well as having been on many of their staffs). Mike is widely acknowledged for his expertise and ability to relate accurate and worthwhile information. The \$20.00 fee would be a mere pittance considering the information gained. I hope many of you will plan to attend this information packed evening.



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FATHER AND THE MOTH

There are^a few things in life that defy all common sense and prudence. The "legendary hatches" of the west being one of these. Green Drakes on the Henry's Fork, Salmon Flies on the Deschutes and this tale of a lowly moth on the Big Hole. Moths are not noted as prime trout food and there are few patterns that are anything more than a showcase of the tiers' skill. However, the Blond Wulff evokes memories of the "bud moth hatch" on many western Montana streams of my earlier days.

The canyon of the Big Hole is a spectacular piece of water. After the river turns west just downstream from Wisdom, the riffles increase and it gathers velocity through the Wise River flats past the infamous Wise River Club and the lesser known but equally deranged Dewey Bar. In the space of two or so miles from the spring down to Divide, the Big Hole thunders through a narrow, high canyon which is reachable at select places from the highway. Long, deep pools are interspersed with white water stretches among the boulder filled canyon. The stream is wadeable, but only in very low water and then with extreme care.

Sometime in the doldrums of August an unknown combination of proper temperature, light and perhaps humidity produce an emergence of the bud worm larvae which hang like small ornaments on long threads from the branches of the fir and spruce trees. At those places where the forest has encroached its way down the rocky slopes of the canyon near the river, the hatching moths are blown over the water in a profusion of carmel colored fluttering wings.

In one of those serendipitous moments that befall the wise and the ready, my daughter and I were in the midst of an early morning "spud moth" emergence. As we began the hike down the steep trail to the water's edge, my pulse began to quicken and my knees and hands began to tremble as we could hear and then see the fish feeding. It literally looks like a giant hailstorm has suddenly let loose as the surface is alive as the trout come up to partake of the short lived opportunity. There is no time for a delicate rise and "sip" at the surface for the water current and the fluttering escape attempts of the wind blown quarry don't allow it. If you can **calm** yourself to watch, there are definite feeding stations and individual fish come up time and time again.

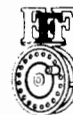
The fish can be stalked in the shallows and eddies along the shore or cast to behind boulders or in deep riffles near mid-stream. This is no place for amateurs nor the foolhardy for the footing is treacherous and the casts long. And of course the wind **always** blows down the canyon. Christina was fishing ahead of me and had picked out a good fish to work on. She had waded out and positioned herself perfectly. I watched with a great deal of fatherly pride as she made the right cast, mended her line and the fish took. And for me the temptation ----- of taking the rod to assist the memories ----- of some fish and I in some other place the elation ----- when she brings the fish toward me as we share her delight and joy of accomplishment.

Brown trout, a magnificent hen fish just a "notch" less than 23" beautifully formed and proportioned. The color of ripened wheat with orange dots bursting through the darker circles. She lay at our feet spent from her efforts. I feel her muscular movements and vigor return as she allows me to support her in the clear water. For fully three minutes I hold her and we feel as tolerated guests in her realm. Christina and I feel the same serenity as I release the fish and she swims surely back into the current.

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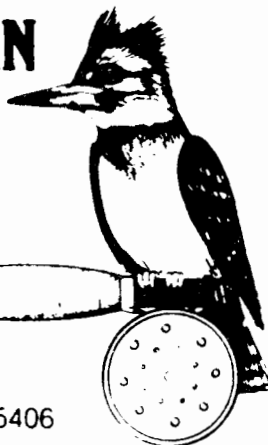
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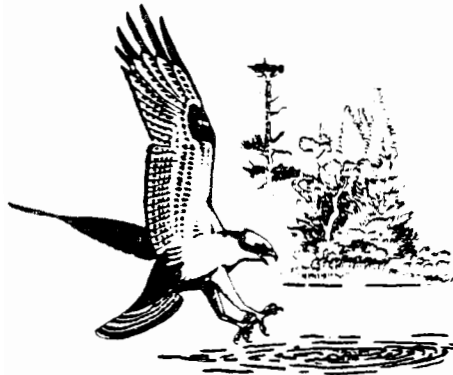
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CALIFORNIA'S FINEST FISHING

FALL RIVER OUTING

The following information will help you prepare for the Rick's Lodge-Fall River outing of May 2-3:

1. Balance of payment. Please mail your balance to George Marcillac
499 Humboldt St. S.R. 95404, or pay at March meeting.
(Plan on \$70.00)
2. Car pool.
3. Driving Time--5 hours.
4. Directions. Hwy 5 North, East on Hwy 299E (1 mi. N. of Redding),
When you enter Fall River Mills, take your first left
(across the street from the first Motel) and drive N.
approximately 10 miles (toward Dana) until you see Rick's
sign. A map will be in the April CAST.
5. Travel. It is highly recommended that you leave as early as possible
on Friday, May 2 (suggest you consider taking Friday afternoon
off--if not, go to work packed and plan to be out of town no
later than 5:00 p.m. You may pick your room keys up ~~up~~ until
1:00 a.m.) Most people usually plan on leaving Rick's for
home during Sunday afternoon.
6. Food & Beverages. The Lodge has an excellent restaurant and bar.
Cooking is not allowed in the rooms, but a cooler
with cold food would be fine, as would be your own
beverages.
7. Boats. A necessity on Fall River. You may bring your own and launch
free; an electric motor is a must. Our cost is \$30.00 per day
for two fishermen.
8. Make sure and call me if you have additional questions-Yancey 542-6047.
9. Waders are not necessary.
10. Temperature--mild, but bring spring clothing (heavy & light) also rain
gear.
11. Lodge address and phone #--Rick's Lodge, Glenburn Star Route, Fall
River Mills, 96028, (916) 336-5300.
12. Guide Service: 25% discount through Bob Quigley's Hat Creek-Fall
River Fly Shop (if you book during March) Rt. 2,
Box 294, Burney, 96013 --(916) 335-4700. Note: With
guide service you do not need to rent a boat.
13. Remember--two people will receive free room for the week end (we will
announce the drawing winners).
14. Rods. 8'-9' / #4 in 5 wt graphite or 5-6 wt glass.
15. Lines. Floating and sink tip.
16. Leaders. 12'-16', 5x-6x-7x.
17. Strike Indicators. Work EXCELLENT with nymphs
18. Flies. Dry: #16 & 18 Pale Morning Dun
16 & 18 Blue Wing Olive
12 Green Drake
14-16 Deer Hair Caddis
10-12 Ants
Nymphs: #12-14-16 Zug Bug
14-16 Pheasant Tail
Streamers: Small trout, sculpin, leech.



The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME II

APRIL 1986

NUMBER 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The last weekend in April is the opening of trout season, and with it, the annual pilgrimage to beloved waters. The weeks prior to that event witness the ritual of retrieving equipment placed away the previous fall; checking it for operability and completeness, and in all probability, tying needed leaders and a few dozen flies.

I too feel drawn to this ritual, and participate fully in the rites. I have a confession to make however, I have become absolutely "hooked" on bass fishing and, for once, there is more than trout on my mind during the month of April.

For some time now Club members have been trying to relate to me their thoughts on bass fishing, trying to present the potential that this form of angling offers. It took a long time for their words to sink in, for you see, I was a "trout" fisherman in the purest sense. I simply couldn't see the picture they were painting.

Bass fishing is not new to me. I've caught bass throughout my angling experience, and, luckily, a few large farmpond bass, fish over 6 lbs. What I had not done though was to have caught bass with any regularity, especially from the large lakes in our locale such as Sonoma, Mendocino and Berryessa.

What changed the way I thought was an offer from Club member and professional bass guide, Wes Sheehy, to join him for a bass outing. Wes's offer was actually more of a challenge than an invitation. Wes felt that with the right introduction bass fishing would capture my fancy as it had so many others. And do you know, it did! We had an exceptional trip, one which led to several more and a beginning of the appreciation of yet another approach to our sport.

The purpose of this message is not to relate my personal experiences, but rather to once again draw attention to the variety and quality of resources available within our sport. To most of us flyfishing is still synonymous only with trout, yet within a short drive are angling opportunities which could enrich all our repertoires. The greatest of these are certainly the man-made lakes in our own locale and the fish of the future in our area may very well be the main denizens of those lakes, the large and small mouth bass.

GENERAL MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16, 1986

MADRONE SCHOOL

4550 Rinconada Dr., Santa Rosa

GUEST SPEAKER

Mel Krieger

Fly Fishing in Argentina

BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15th

Madrone School

Yancy

Our April meeting will feature one of the world's most knowledgeable anglers, Mel Krieger. Mel's presentation is entitled "Argentina, A Fly Fisher's Mecca", and will focus primarily on the quality angling opportunities available in this lightly fished paradise.

Since the 1950's when the literature of Roderick Haig Brown and other angling greats first started proclaiming the limitless virtues of flyfishing in Argentina (and Chile), a trip to these southern waters became the dream of everyone big enough to cast a fly. Indeed, it is a dream that I share also, especially each February and March when fishing in these fabled waters is at its peak.

Rather widely known is the fact that the original rainbow eggs to populate Argentine waters came from our local Sonoma Creek. Little known, however, is that the fishing environments in Argentina resemble one of two locales: those of the eastern side of the Sierra Mountains and of the Alps of Western Europe. In fact, most of the proprietors of fishing establishments, hotels, restaurants, etc. are of German descent and their architecture and business systems are similar to those in Europe. The trout fishing in both rivers and lakes is legendary.

Mel Krieger is the founder and President of Club Pacific which arranges specialized fishing trips to some of the finest fishing spots in the world. In operation since 1967, Club Pacific operates an unique angler-to-angler program to New Zealand and Tasmania, a program which gives North American anglers the opportunity to live and fish with fellow fishers "down under". Mel conducts personalized fishing tours to Argentina, Chile, Iceland, Scandinavia, Baja California and Alaska.

Mel was formerly the West Coast Director of the Fenwick Fly Fishing Schools, a position which prepared him for his new "Mel Krieger School in Fly Fishing and Fly Casting". As such, he is recognized as one of the finest casting instructors in the world. In fact, Mel was a tournament competitor and became an instructor and mentor for the world's champion caster, Steve Rajeff. More recently, Mel has authored, edited and performed in his highly acclaimed video, "The Essence of Fly Casting."

Mel Krieger is a contributing editor to the Fly Fisher and has authored articles appearing in leading fly fishing magazines around the world. Mel is also an active member of the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club in San Francisco.

Mel's presentation promises to be informative about all aspects of fly fishing in Argentina, as well as entertaining. You'll want to come early, at 7:00 p.m., in order to see Mel's favorite fly patterns and visit with this most unique angler.

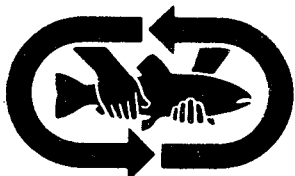
RAFFLE

This month's raffle will feature as its grand prize an all expense paid fly tying class taught by Grant King of the Western Angler. Grant donated this class and for this we thank him. In addition, Mel Krieger also donated a copy of his new video "The Essence of Fly Casting". Also to be given away will be a year's subscription to Fly Fisherman magazine. Other items will include outdoor apparel and household items, as well as nets, art, books, tying materials and equipment.

THE FALL RIVER OUTING --Further Information

Our information sheet on this outing, which appears in last month's CAST suggested a cost of \$70.00. It is now determined to be \$75.00, and should be paid to the Treasurer, George Marcillac, at 449 Humboldt Street, Santa Rosa, 95404, on or before April 16th. Make your checks to the Russian River Fly Fishers, Inc. (Not to I.R.S.!)

As of this writing there are two spaces available at Rick's Lodge. A drawing for the two FREEL TRIPS will take place at our April general meeting.



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CALIFORNIA TROUT



CALIFORNIA'S FINEST FISHING

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(across the street from the first Motel) and drive N.
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later than 5:00 p.m. You may pick your room keys up until
1:00 a.m.) Most people usually plan on leaving Rick's for
home during Sunday afternoon.
6. Food & Beverages. The Lodge has an excellent restaurant and bar.
Cooking is not allowed in the rooms, but a cooler
with cold food would be fine, as would be your own
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7. Boats. A necessity on Fall River. You may bring your own and launch
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for two fishermen.
8. Make sure and call me if you have additional questions-Yancey 542-6047.
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10. Temperature--mild, but bring spring clothing (heavy & light) also rain
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12 Green Drake
14-16 Deer Hair Caddis
10-12 Ants
Nymphs: #12-14-16 Zug Bug
14-16 Pheasant Tail
Streamers: Small trout, sculpin, leech.

CASTING POOL DEDICATION

The Final plans for the gala Casting Pool Dedication will be announced in the next issue of the CAST. It is known at this time that the date will be Saturday, May 17th, from 11:00 a.m. --4:00 p.m. Sage Rods will help to sponsor the event, and Club member Les Lichorn has arranged for the world champion caster, Steve Rajeff to be with us, as well as other members of the National Casting Team. Several events will take place, including mock competition, casting demonstrations and instruction. We will also take the opportunity formally to acknowledge and thank those who helped to make the pool a reality. There are also plans shaping up for a wine and cheese party to follow the event at a close-by location. Be sure to mark May 17 on your calendars and plan to bring your families to this special event.

BOARD MEMBERS

We are in need of three new Board Members.

Without a hardworking and involved board we cannot provide the quality meetings and events which are offered. Each should be willing to give a little time and energy to the "care and feeding" of our Club. Requirements are that the Board Members attend a monthly 2 hour meeting where decisions and planning take place. In preparing for special events, it is expected that committee work also be accomplished. When our Board is filled with its full membership the commitment is light and the rewards are many.

Recently Bill Laurie agreed to join our team. His addition will help us to function more efficiently and professionally, and for this we thank you Bill. For those who may be interested, please contact Yancey at either (work) 539-9665, or (home) 542-6047.

MIKE PONG'S CLASS ANGLING SEMINAR

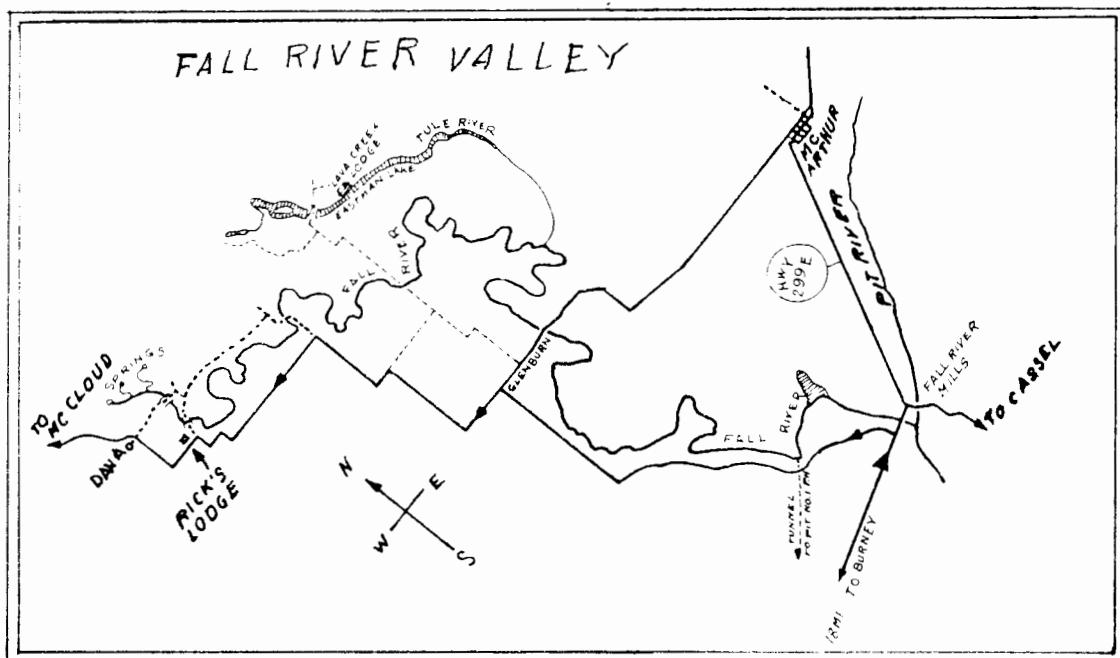
This is to remind you that noted angler, Mike Fong, will be presenting his class on "The Angling Opportunities Available in Northern California" on Friday, April 11th from 7 to 9 p.m. at Dave Ink's Outfitter, 545-4657. The price is \$20.00 and is more than worth the small fee for the information to be gained.

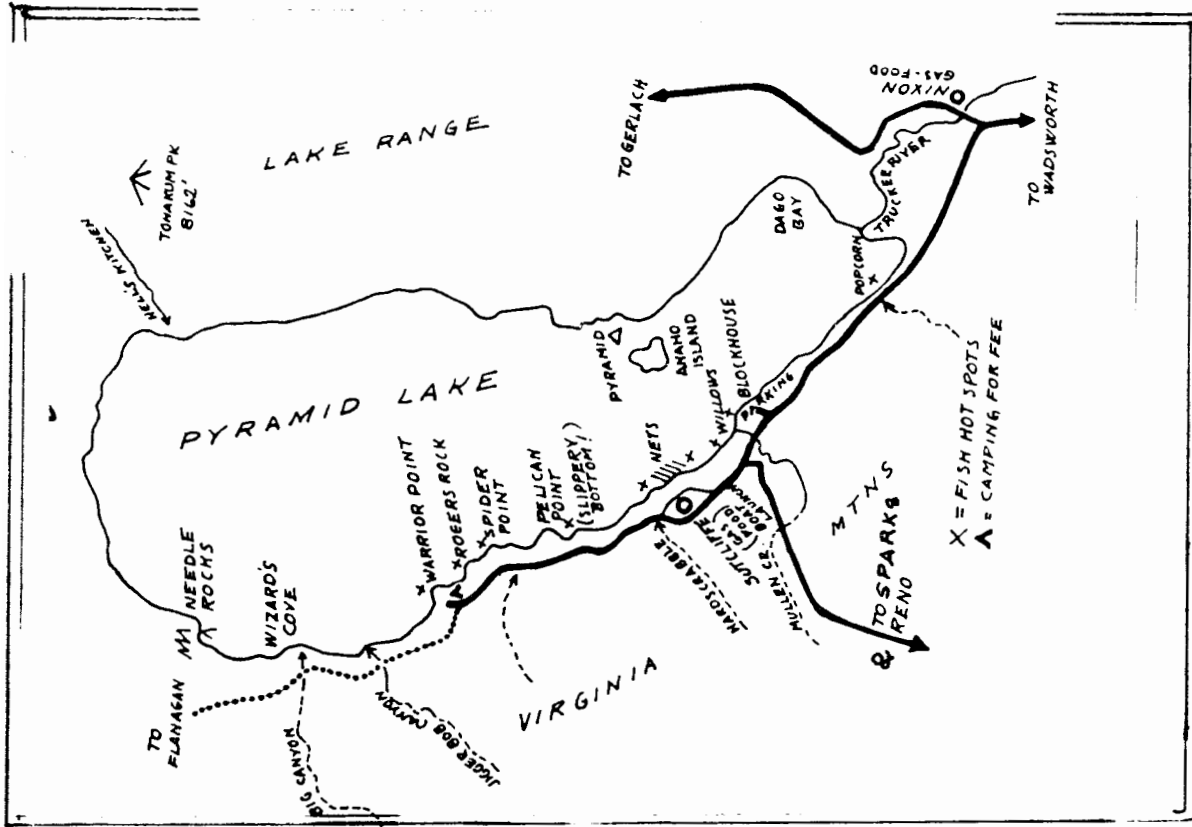
JUNE SPEAKER

Noted speaker and angler, Dave Blanton, will be speaking during June on both shad and striper fly fishing.

PYRAMID LAKE

Everything is shaping up well for the April 19-20 fishout to Pyramid Lake. There may be a few spots left. Address any questions to George Marcillac at 523-0908.





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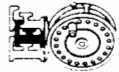
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Bob Blisson
3607 Green Hill Road
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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS CASTING POOL DEDICATION

The Russian River Fly Fishers proudly announce the formal dedication and official opening of the Casting Pool Complex at Dan Galvin Park, at the intersection of Yulupa Avenue and Bennett Valley Road in Santa Rosa.

You are invited to join us for a fun-filled family event with a fully catered chicken barbecue for R.R.F.F. members and their families at no cost.

Among the events for your entertainment, Mr. Steve Rajeff, 8 times world champion fly caster, will demonstrate his mastery of the fly rod.

When: Sunday, May 18, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: Southeast of the soccer fields in Dan Galvin Park.

Bring with you picnic blankets, lawn chairs, folding tables and your casting equipment.

Send: by Friday, May 10, to Russian River Fly Fishers Inc. P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA., 95405, the tear-off sheet attached below so that we will know how much food to provide for the free catered barbecue lunch.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

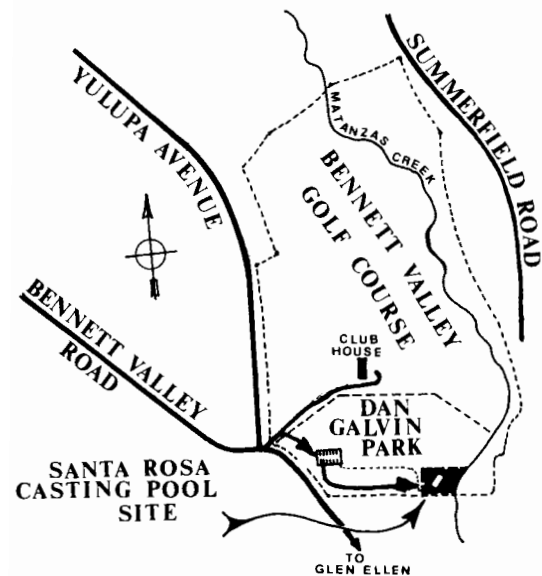
11:00 a.m.-12 m. Casting Seminars
Bob Nauheim, Frank Bertaina,
Dave Inks, and Lani Waller.

12:00 - 12:30 Dedication Ceremony

12:30 - 1:30 STEVE RAJEFF will
explain competitive casting and
demonstrate his world championship
skills.

1:30 - 3:00 Luncheon

2:00 - 4:00 Casting Games,
Competitions and instruction.



Russian River Fly Fishers

Yes, I will be attending the Casting Pool Dedication on Sunday, May 18, 1986

Name: _____

Luncheon Count: Number of adults _____ Number of children _____

Mail to: P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA. 95405 by Friday, May 10, 1986

TITICACA JACKPOT (continued from previous Cast)

For thirty minutes after that fish escaped I was so nervous I could hardly cast. A thrill like that is worth a payday to most any fisherman, and one of these days I'm going back after that trout. He and his brothers will have grown bigger by the time I get there. If one of them isn't a world record now he will be soon.

(Editor's note:--) Since those events were described the rainbow fishery in Lake Titicaca has declined to the vanishing point due to an invasion of a species of toad that consumed the spawn of the bait fish that formerly contributed to the growth of the trout.

Charlie was one of the lucky ones to fish the lake during its great years. So back to his story--

The point I'm trying to make is double-barreled: first, that most of you who read this can afford the trip; second, that it is a trip of a lifetime whether you make it once or many times. It was a wonderful experience for us, and it's too good to keep quiet about.

Your passport and tourist visa cost about \$20.00. From Miami to Lima tourist class, round trip airline fares are under \$500.00 by Panagra or Braniff; and some foreign lines will take you there and back for less than \$400.00. Plane and railway fare from Lima to Juliaca round trip costs about \$50.00. Hotel and meal rates are very reasonable in Peru. If you rent a car with driver for the time you are there you can expect to pay from \$10.00 to \$15.00 for local transportation. If three or four persons were going and planned to share expenses I believe the most satisfactory solution to the local transportation problem would be to buy a good used carry-all or pickup in Lima or Arequipa and resell it when leaving. It might be a good idea to get an International drivers license before leaving the States if you intend to do any driving personally. Take warm clothes, as the temperatures at 12,500 feet are considerably lower than one generally expects to find in the tropics. Rain can be expected from November through March and the rivers are likely to be high and muddy. May is reputed to be the best month, but the fishing is terrific anytime that the streams aren't soupy.

One other thought that doesn't have to do with fishing, and can be considered a bonus to the sportsman who makes this trip to tangle with huge rainbows, is that this area abounds with waterfowl. Ducks seemed to be everywhere, and since I had never seen flamingos in their wild state before, I even knocked over one of them to take a good look at and have mounted. There is a good taxidermist right in Juliaca. It is somewhat inconvenient to take guns along on a short trip, but if you do the shooting is wonderful. You can probably rent a gun locally if you don't wish to be bothered with the red-tape of transporting your own.

Another bonus not connected with fishing, but well worth while, is a stop at the fascinating city of Cuzco on the way home. This city is built on the foundations of the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, and is probably the greatest tourist attraction in South America. It is directly on your route back to Lima, and if you prefer you can travel to Lake Titicaca by way of Cuzco. The second half of the rail trip from Juliaca to Cuzco parallels one of the most beautiful trout streams I have ever seen, and I regretted that we didn't have time to stop for some fly-fishing.

Planes can be taken directly from Cuzco to Lima for connections there with the international lines back to the States. I'll bet that even before you get home you'll be thinking about a return trip to the land of the Incas And another bout with those tremendous Titicaca rainbows.

CHARLIE SCHULTER



CASTING POOL PLAQUE

<u>Original list (\$500 donors)</u>	<u>Donations of time & assistance</u>	<u>Other major financial support</u>
Dwight Allen	Chuck Baker	(\$250.00 donation or purchase over \$250.00)
Bill Archuleta	Joe Banovich	
Richard Arrowood	Tracy Bertaina	
Frank Bertaina	Dixon Browder	Jack Ghilardi
Art Bond	Chuck Cadman	J.D. Russey
Ronald Cox	Eric Elliott	John Gantner
Ben Cummings	Dave Inks	Fred Kunde
Den Davenport	Yancey Forest-Knowles	Tom Freeman
Dick Dennis	Bill Laurie	James Laier
Joanne Galvin	Emil Lewis	Carl Langeberg
William Geary	Karla Madsen	Dick Maugg
Jim Hakel	Phil Madsen	Roy Hinkle
William Hatcher	George Marcillac	Ron Abby
Mel Hodapp	Moore & Taber	Tooch Colombo
Hal Janssen	Ted Olson	
Craig Johnston	Dick Yeager	
James Keegan, Sr.	Les Eichorn	Michael Davis
Grant King		Mark DeMeo
Tony Landen	<u>Commercial Donations</u>	Genevieve Grundstrom
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Terry McNally	Lava Creek Lodge	Jon Foust
Elwin Millerick	Elk Trout Lodge	Jim Silviera
Jim Mitchell	Exchange Bank	Cal Kimes
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Chris Panagotacos	Guide Service	Matthew Walker
Russell Quistgard	Dave Inks Fishing	Fred Kunde
Gary Rasche	Outfitters	Bruce Reyes
Bill Robotham	Santa Rosa Dodge	Lynn Brinker
Charlie Schelter	Wyntoon Park Resort	Norm Mochel
Andy Shepard	Chateau St. Jean	Grace Cummings
Neil Silverman	Chuck's Jewelry	Jim Gribble
Bob Sisson	Rick's Lodge	Marion Rohrs
Kerney Towery	Western Angler	Frank Norman
Kirk Veale	Sage Rod Company	Pete Wooley
Lloyd von der Mehden		
Chuck Vrabel		
Darlene Vrabel		
Richard Wallrich		
Tom Walters		
Greg Weed		
Ken Wilson		
Liz Wray		
Don Zumwalt		



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



CASTING POOL

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

DWIGHT ALLEN
BILL ARCHULETA
RICHARD ARROWOOD
FRANK BERTAINA
ART BOND
RONALD COX
BEN CUMMINGS
KEN DAVENPORT
DICK DENNIS
JOANNE GALVIN
WILLIAM GEARY
JIM HAKEL
WILLIAM HATCHER
MEL HODAPP
HAL JANGGEN

CRAIG JOHNSTON
JAMES KEESAN ER.
TONY LANDEN
RUSS LOCKNER
TERRY McNALLY
ELWIN MILLERICK
JIM MITCHELL
ROBERT MORATTO
BOB NAUHEIM
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CHRIS PANASOTACOS
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GARY RASCHE
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ANDY SHEPARD
NEIL SILVERMAN
BOB SISSON
KERNEY TOWERY
KIRK VEALE
LLOYD VON DER MEHDEN
CHUCK VRABEL
DARLENE VRABEL
RICHARD WALLRICH
TOM WALTERS
GREG WEED
KEN WILSON
LIZ WRAY
DON ZUMWALT

FIRST FLY OFFICIALLY CAST BY CHUCK VRABEL
IN HONOR OF T.O. "HEAVY" BAGGETT

THIS PROJECT COMPLETED IN COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA
RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT CHARLES HOEFER, DIRECTOR



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. BOX 2673

SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

AT LONG LAST!!!

SANTA ROSA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 23, 1982

4:15 p.m.

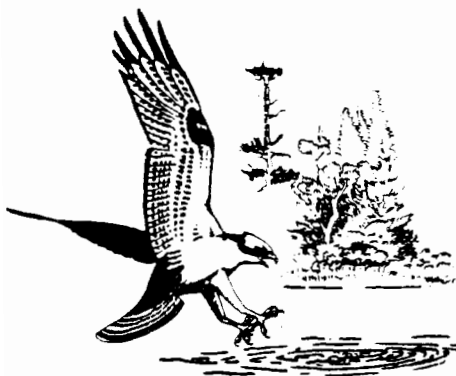
City Council Chambers
100 Santa Rosa Avenue

Charles Hoefer, Director of Recreation and Parks Department, will bring his recommendations regarding our proposal for a casting pool before the Council. The Council will be asked to approve a section of Dan Galvin Park for the pool.

YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING WILL HELP TO ASSURE
A POSITIVE OUTCOME.

Thanks in advance!

Liz



The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

JUNE 1986

NUMBER 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This message will be a very personal one as it will be the last one written as your president. Reflecting on the two years in which I have served in this position many thoughts come to mind. Foremost are the changes and unprecedented growth which we experienced. Our membership actually doubled, from about 150 to over 300. What is significant about this is that additional members bring with them new energy and ideas; resources which we can draw upon to bring our plans to fruition. And, of course, larger numbers mean more successful raffles, auctions and other fund raising events. These additional moneys not only afford us the finest guest speakers available, but also allow us the opportunity to further develop and refine our offerings.

The change with the most far-reaching affect is undoubtedly the completion of our Casting Pool. This is the culmination of a five year dream and untold hours of planning and labor, not to mention a great deal of money. The Casting Pool Complex will continue to be a major area of focus for the club and will serve as the conduit of communication with citizens of our community other than our club members.

Club outings have evolved to where we are now renting entire lodges for weekend fishing trips. As we gain more experience in this area even a greater variety of activities will be made available at reduced group rates.

We also went through a period of rather major reorganization. We developed aggressive goals and objectives and are meeting the time boundaries under which we guide ourselves. This, of course, should be an on-going process in any organization.

And finally, I wish to thank all of you for untold opportunities for personal growth you made available to me. The energy of my hard working, supportive Board and the full participation of the General membership at our many club events made it possible for me to feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. The many friends that I made during my tenure as club president are especially valuable to me and I look forward to sharing continued angling adventures with them. And so it is with some sadness that I bid you adieu, but also with a great deal of happiness over the prospects of a bright future for our club and that sense of community which binds us all together, angling with a fly!

Tight reels and empty creels,

Nancy

RR FF

GENERAL MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 18th, 1986

MADRONE SCHOOL

2050 Rinconada Dr., Santa Rosa

GUEST SPEAKER

Dan Blanton
Fly Fishing For Striped
Bass and Shad

BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 17, 1986

GUEST SPEAKER

Our June meeting will feature one of the world's most knowledgeable anglers and highly sought after speakers, Dan Blanton. Dan's presentation entitled "Fly Fishing for Striped Bass and Shad", will focus primarily on the quality angling opportunities available and the means of taking these excellent game fish.

Dan Blanton is an angling legend. He is an angling instructor, lecturer, author, photographer, travel and tackle consultant. In addition to being the former Managing Editor of Angler Magazine, he is a past Director of the Federation of Fly Fishers; is a founding member of Fly Casters, Inc., and is a member of Scientific Angler's Hall of Fame. He has been the recipient of numerous Field and Stream awards and is acknowledged by the nation's leading anglers to be one of the pioneers of Pacific saltwater fly fishing, particularly for striped bass.

A tackle innovator and fly designer, he has fished for nearly every piscatorial species, both in fresh and saltwater along both coasts, from North America to Central America. He spearheaded the fly fishing for giant tarpon in Costa Rica's rainforest jungle rivers in the early 1970's and is considered a foremost authority on this fishery. Using fly, spin and plug casting tackle, he has been extremely successful taking large tarpon, billfish and many varieties of reef species.

Dan is currently a Contributing Editor to California Angler Magazine; has had 15 articles published since March 1985 in such periodicals as California Angler, Salt Water Sportsman, Fly Fisherman, The Fly Fisher and in the Scientific Angler's Hand Books. Dons presentation promises to be informative about all aspects of fishing for our local game fish, as well as entertaining. You will want to come early, at 7:00 p.m., in order to see Dan's favorite patterns and visit with this most unique angler.

ART FOR ANGLERS AND HUNTERS

There is nothing like a fine painting or print to bring the out-of-doors into our homes, and some of the finest art available today is being created with the angler and hunter in mind.

We are lucky to have one of California's finest wildlife art showrooms right here in Santa Rosa--Wildwings Gallery, owned by club members Art and Bonnie Bond. If you have not taken the time to visit Wildwings consider doing so because it is quite impressive! Wildwings is located at 3535 Industrial Drive.

New additions that are worthwhile viewing at Wildwings are the exciting new Mike Stidham prints which Art and Bonnie are publishing. Mike Stidham is well known as one of the premier west coast wildlife artists. His prints, one of a Rainbow Trout and the other of a Brown Trout, are complements to his earlier series entitled "Steamboat Steelhead" and "Atlantic Salmon".

Art and Bonnie Bond are two of our strongest supporters when it comes to auction items for fund raising events. Again they have donated to our cause by giving us one each of the new Mike Stidham prints, framed. On behalf of the RRFF we would like to thank both Art and Bonnie for their generosity and continued support.

CASTING POOL DEDICATION

The formal dedication of our Casting Pool was a grand success!! The pool was officially named after Ben Cummings who has done so much to help us realize our dream.

Many city officials were present for the ceremony, including Council Members Dave Berto and Nanci Burton. City Manager Ken Blackman and Recreation and Parks Director Chuck Hoefer were there. Without their continuing interest and guidance from the outset of this project, nothing could have been accomplished.

The Pool received its first official cast by Chuck Vrabel in honor of his long time friend "Heavy" Madgett.

World champion, Steve Rajeff and national casting competitor, Eric Boysen, from the Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club simply amazed the crowd as they performed their

Casting Pool Dedication, continued:

casting magic. In turn they took us through all of the events required in casting competition, performing in near flawless style to the Ooh's and Ah's of entranced onlookers. It was especially thrilling to watch what everyone had come in anticipation of, to see Steve draw upon his well coordinated muscular energy and "propel" the line from his two-handed salmon outfit well beyond the 180' limit of the pool's length! Later we estimated his cast to approach 240'. Steve left us feeling like proud parents when he proclaimed our complex to have the greatest potential for future national events among those pools already existing. In fact, he asked us to consider a bid for the 1989 National Casting Championships, an event which we should be most anxious to consider!

After Johnny Failing and his hardworking crew of aspiring young chefs served their tasty barbecue luncheon under the "big top", Steve Rajeff went on to compete against such accomplished casters as Bob Naheim, Frank Bertaina and Dave Inks. It is rumored that the betting became serious and that Steve now owns Fishing International and Dave Inks Outfitters, Sonoma Properties and half a dozen other Santa Rosa businesses.

In all seriousness, many club members and guests stayed late into the day to take advantage of expert instruction by the aforementioned casting greats, as well as Grant King and other volunteers.

T V 50 and the Press Democrat were present, and both doing very nice articles on the event. And additionally, we arranged to have the day video-taped for posterity. Later in this issue there is information on a club gathering to view the tape.

Finally, a special and heartfelt thanks needs to go out to the many individuals who gave so many hours and so much energy to assure the event's success. The Casting Pool Committee: Bob Moratto, Liz Wray, Yancey Forest-Knowles, Russ Lockner, Bill Archuleta, Jack O'Neel, Emil Lewis, George Marcillac & Les Eichor. Pool Site Preparation: Russ Lockner, Liz Wray, Fred Finn, Ron Lindgren, Dick Yaeger, Bob Morrison, Jim Hackel, Chuck Baker, George Marcillac, Emil Lewis and Ben Cummings. Cooks and Cooks Helpers: Johnny Failing, Michael Deasy, Al Carrion, George Marcellac, Keith Franc & Garry Hylbak. Traffic Controllers: Rick Kelley and Grant Bever. Demonstration Casters: Bob Naheim, Frank Bertaina, Dave Inks, and Grant King.

CLUB SOCIAL

We have set aside the evening of Thursday, June 12th as a time for Club members and their families to join together for pizza and other refreshments, and to view the professional video which was made at poolside during the course of the day-long pool dedication. The event will be held at Pizza World, 1147 Yulupa Avenue (Mayette Shopping Center), starting at 6:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars. Reservations are not necessary, but we are counting on you and your families joining us for this fun filled evening. See you on Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m.

EXTRAS

Our account at the Sonoma County Blood Bank now stands at 27 units, thanks to our recent donor, James Mitchell.

Thanks to Jackson Art for the great membership signs which now stand in the major angling emporiums.

Our July speaker will be Hal Janssen, speaking on the numerous angling opportunities available in southern Oregon.

Need a good suggestion for a Father's Day gift? Consider a fly tying course through the Western Angler. Grant King will personally be instructing these classes.

Thanks to Grant King for generously donating the targets for our Casting Pool. A new Club directory will be printed and available in September.

The Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers has scheduled a conclave to be held September 19, 20, and 21 at the North Tahoe Community Center, Kings Beach, California. The Council is also organizing 6 member teams from each

Extras continued

of the California fly fishing clubs to assist the Department of Fish and Game for a few days during August on a project. More information will be provided on both of these events in the July issue of the Cast.

Anyone who has a copy of the October, 1984 issue of the Cast, please contact Yancey at 542-6047. This is important!

Signups will start soon for the September 26-27 fishing trip to the Lava Creek Lodge on the Fall River. The Fishmaster is Russ Lockner for this trip.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ron Lindgren says the following people have joined the club since September 1985: Mike Baldus, Roger Brown, John Cashman, Michael Deasy, Jay Gacey, Henry and Joyce Gronroos, Greg Jacobs, Rick, Hope, Gus & Jason Kelley, Travis Lipscomb, Michael and Frank Lisignoli, Frank Lloyd, Gary McFarland, James Maize, Dick Mattingly, Dee Merz, Dennis Murphy, Jay & Dorothy Nelson, Walt Oster, William and Joanne Peterson, Barney Pedlow, Gary and Mary Peterson, Karen Porteous, Don Rolph, Lewis and Phyllis Sarasy, David Shaw, Edmund Smith, Gardner Smith, Richard Stahnke, Mark Stanley, James Van Sickie, Darren Marshall, Dave Van Winkle, Steve Burdick, Bill and Sara Nesbit Jr., Jim McKenna, Loni Waller, Loni Waller, David Wright and Fred Flynn.

We wish to welcome all of you into the Russian River Fly Fishers!

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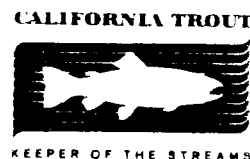
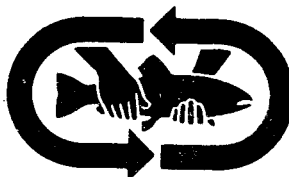
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Entomology Course Update

The first aquatic entomology course met in the revered halls of Sonoma State University to a full house. Topics covered were basic morphology and ecology of the Mayflies, Stoneflies, Dragonflies, Damselflies and the Caddisflies. We had the opportunity to work with live specimens each meeting and the course culminated with a "hands on" day collecting in Dutch Bill Creek near Camp Meeker. Many thanks to professor Joe Brumbaugh for a job well done. We are planning another course in the near future and will keep you informed.

Club Patches

Our club patches have finally arrived! If you are a new member and haven't received your patch yet, they will be available at this club meeting. If you already have a patch but would like another one, they are available for sale at \$3.00 each. See Ron Lindgren.

Membership Badges

If you have been coming to the club meetings and noticed that you haven't yet been given a membership badge with your name on it, there's a reason. We ran out. New membership badges were ordered and have now been received. Your name badge will be available at the next club meeting.

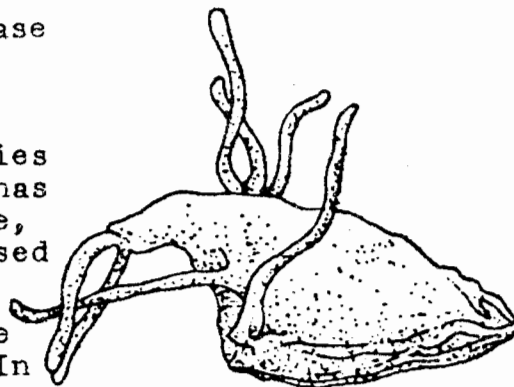
We are saddened to hear of the passing of our member, Ralph Phillips. May his spirit rest beside sparkling waters.

Don't Drink The Water!

Giardiasis (gee-ar-dye-asis) is a disease caused by a parasite found in water--the same water in which you fish. Although concern for this disease is fairly recent, it is apparent that the microorganism occupies most of the streams of the U.S. So far it has been proven that beavers, dogs, cats, cattle, and coyotes have been infected and have passed the parasite through their feces.

The most obvious symptom of the disease is diarrhea. The symptoms are recurring. In fact people can be carriers with no symptoms. Unless treatment has improved in the last year, one should be aware that treatment can be more unpleasant than the disease.

With such undesirable options, one hardly dare drink out of a stream unless it is melt water right off a glacier. It is said that heating water to above 122°F or adding chemicals will kill the organism. There are also hand pumped filters that are said to be effective. I personally feel the best advice is "Don't drink the water!"



A TIME PAST

There are certain experiences that one just never seems to forget. The first time that we waded across lower Rock Creek, the most famous of all the early Montana Blue Ribbon trout streams; where today there are "summer homes" there were once open stretches of water. The autumn days ~~were~~ often cold, grey and wonderfully alive with the smell of the forest mat of leaves. We were cockier then, not so much that we got ourselves into trouble, but enough so that when crossing the stream in heavy current we often got wet. The west bank of the creek was a deep and prolific run which shared many brown trout over the years. Beyond was a bottom land of 150 yards across that ended in sharp talus cliffs, and the steep canyon walls lined with small firs. An ancient oxbow of the river that had become a truly enchanted glade with a little creek that gurgled over the small rocks. Meadow grasses with wildflowers formed the boundaries with cottonwoods and some aspens. The little valley ended at a rocky bend of a side channel of the main stream. But upstream from this confluence 50 yards or so the little gurgling brook gave way to a series of the most diverse, clear, deep beaver ponds that any of us had ever seen.

We kept our secret hidden for all the years that we lived there, but our successors to the fishing secrets of the Missoula environs have long since reported tales of many 3½-4½ lb. brown trout. It's just as it should be for the river has since changed its course. No doubt after some heavy spring runoff created a new channel upstream. And the wondrous series of ponds that were the schoolyard for many a fisherman simply ~~were~~ not there the last time I waded across lower Rock Creek to look.

The first pond was the largest, out in the open with some large conifers on a "V" shaped peninsula that jutted toward the beaver dam from the opposite shore. One edge was formed by the sheer walls of the canyon and we never fished from that side. The water by the dam was full of good hides and cover from the fallen trees that lined the edge. Very short casts were all that were possible and at times the strikes were not only savage but unexpected as some brilliantly carmine-finned male brook trout slammed into your lure. I rarely saw fish in this pond, but I never failed to catch fish there and I do remember one evening with a fresh skiff of fall leaves at the waters edge, when I took a brace of brook trout over 17".

None of the ponds was visible from the main stream because of a narrow stand of timber and willows which particularly obscured the middle reaches. The middle ponds of which there were two, were far too large to fish across. It was here that I first learned the ways of the brook trout. Secretive only to a degree, they would often form wedges as dozens of them would pursue the retrieve. Four and five strikes per cast were commonplace. Once hooked and struggling, many a ten inch brookie has elicited a lunge and strike from one of his pisciferous brethren.

These were the days of our youth; and although this particular place is no longer there, each time we set forth on some new adventure we find a replacement for future memory banks.



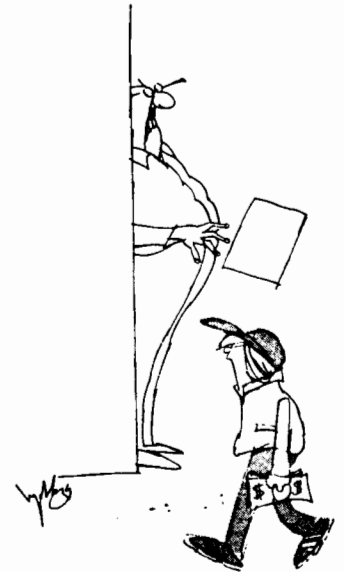
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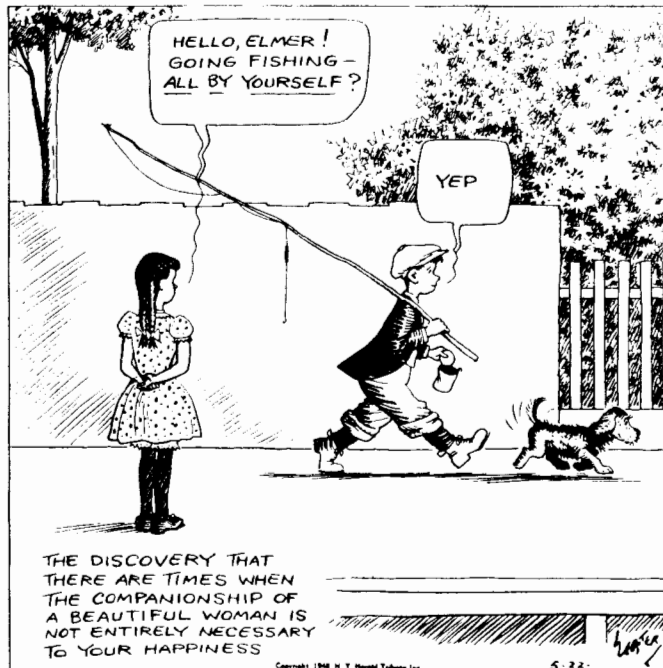
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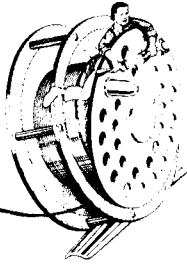
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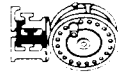
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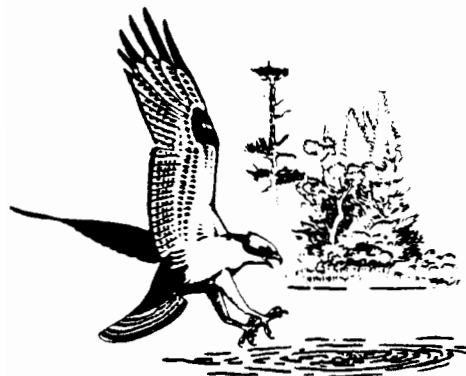
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The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

JULY 1986

NUMBER 7

DINNER MEETING JULY 24 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

This month's meeting is a very important one. Enclosed in this edition of the Cast you will find a two-part insert containing a ballot and a reservation for the dinner. This year's election will be done by mail. Please fill in your choices of candidates and return your ballot before the dinner meeting.

Please note that the board of directors has recommended candidates for the office of President. Vice-President and Treasurer.

Also,
if you or someone you know would like to run for any of the other offices, please write in the name and vote accordingly.

Don't forget--this month's meeting will be held on July 24th, which is a Thursday, at Oakmont Inn. Dinner will be **Sirloin tips with Mushrooms at \$16.00** per person. Please send in your reservations as soon as possible to enable the Treasurer to compile the list of guests and notify the restaurant. Happy hour starts at 6:30.

This month's Speaker is Hal Janssen. Hal will be speaking on fishing in Southern Oregon and he will be available before the meeting to demonstrate tying flies and answering questions. Please send in reservations by July 21st.

Summertime brings vacations with our families, and hopefully, time for fishing. The Sierra streams hold many types of trout and fishing situations, while down here in the valleys we may choose from Lake or River fishing for trout, bass, bluegill and other warm water species.

When the heat becomes too much to bear, I head for the Coast. Sturgeon, stripers and halibut are all available this time of year, and an occasional stingray or shark may liven up the day! We are indeed very lucky to have so many choices so close to home. I hope we all get a chance to experience the dreams we have during the winter while waiting out the effects of the big rain storms.

Bill Archeleta

RR

FF

GENERAL MEETINGS

Beginning in September 17th meetings will be held in the

DE MEO ROOM
Recreation and Parks Department Building.

415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa.

There will be no
General Meeting in August
September 17th meeting 7 p.m.

TO ALL NEW MEMBERS

Brian Wong of Lyle's Tackle has generously donated one half hour of his time for each new member who wishes to have a basic casting lesson. All that is needed is to contact Brian at 527-9887 for an appointment. Thank you, Brian, your guesture is greatly appreciated.

CASTING POND ACCESS

Keys will be available shortly at three locations to be checked out on a 24 hour basis. King's Western Angler, Lyle's Tackle and Dave Inks outfitters have agreed to handle these keys on a first come-first serve basis.

While we are on the subject of the casting pond, a hearty THANK YOU and a WELL DONE goes out once again to all those individuals who participated in the planning and execution of our superb facility. More fun will soon follow as we proceed on the next phase.

And THANKS AGAIN to you, Yancey, for guiding the club through the last two years. Your leadership was as inspiring as your enthusiasm.

A HEX ON THE FAL

On the northwest skyline Shasta thrust its cone into a flaming sunset sky that evoked thoughts of how the World must have looked during its birth pangs. The river was a scarlet mirror reflecting the fury of a disintegrating thunder-head lighted by the setting sun.

Our guide asked the time. It was 8:30 p.m.

"The first emergence should occur in about a minute or so---there's one now! See it? There! right across, in front of you, about 50 feet upstream!"

My eyes, unused to the appearance of this particular mayfly, took a few seconds to pick up its straight flight across the stream. I was startled by its size, the first Hexagenia Limbata of my experience. Soon there was another, and another, then several.

Upstream the mirror was broken by a swirl. "They're hatching along the bases of the reeds, cast a little upstream right next to those bullrushes and let the fly drift downstream with the current." The first cast was about four feet upstream of the rising fish and he took the fly as soon as it came over his lie; a fine, plump 16 inch rainbow; a strong fish.

As the light failed the hatch accelerated and the rises increased in frequency until there were so many that it was a problem to decide where to cast next. The fishing was fast and furious until it got too dark to see the fly, when we called it a day, and a very good one at that, and headed for home.

The fly that worked so well is one tied specially for this hatch by our guide, Bob Quigley of Burney. It is a fine durable floater and seems to be attractive to the Fall River rainbows, when the Hex hatch is on.

Quigley has made careful survey of the progress of this spectacular emergence, and seems to know precisely where and when it occurs.

Fall River rainbows are notoriously selective and a competent guide can save many days of fruitless fishing.



FALL RIVER/HAT CREEK

WHEN: September 26&27

WHERE: Lava Creek Lodge

WHO: Russian River Fly Fishers

WHAT: Fishin' and Fun

We have reserved the infamous Lava Creek Lodge for what promises to be a great weekend of autumn fishing and camaraderie in this beautiful region of northern California. The cost will be \$40 per person for the weekend based on double occupancy. Boats will be available for \$35 per day including motor, battery and launching; private boats can be launched for \$10 per day. Reservations are due by August 1st and it will be on a first come first served basis. Be prepared to make a deposit at the next meeting or call Russ Lockner @ 544-1593 or 526-6523.

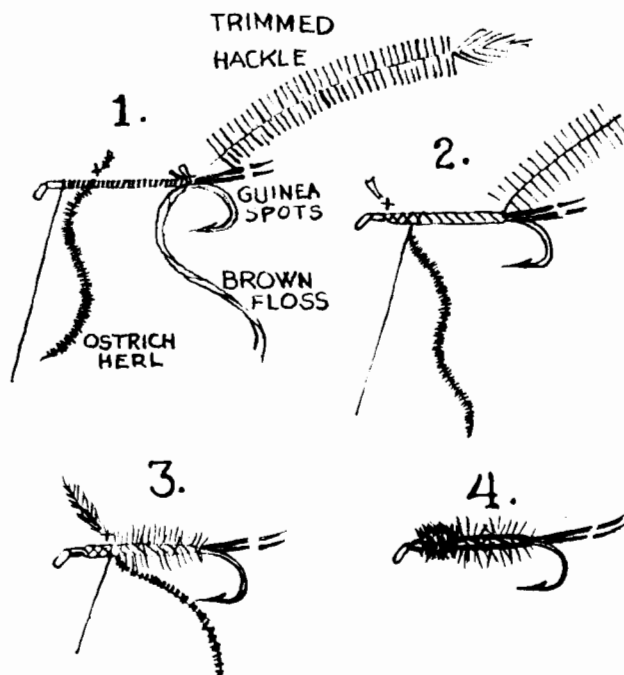
We will plan one group dinner at the Lodge and additional meals are available in the excellent dining room. Our own Jim Gribble has promised to concoct a special fall mixture in his capacity as head bartender at Lava Creek.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Quick hackle spur pattern

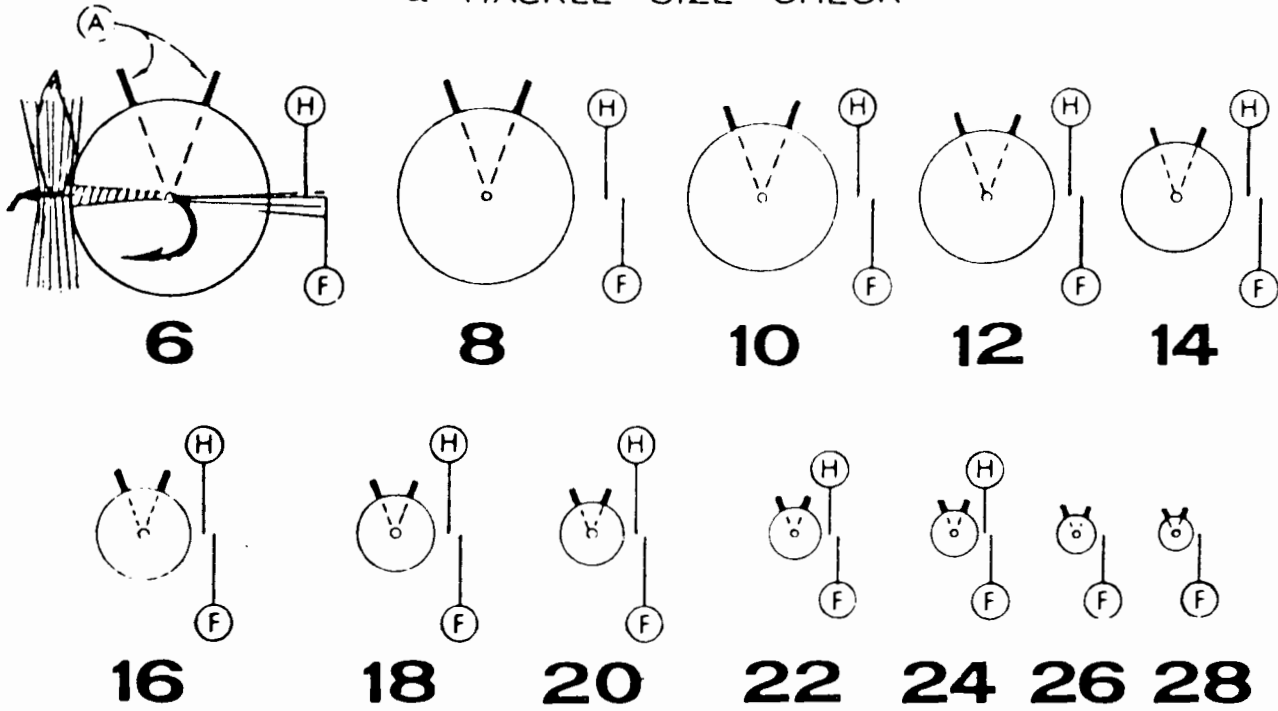
Materials-

hook--- Sizes 8-12 3x long, heavy wire
Tail--- Guinea fowl slot
Body--- Brown silk floss
Legs--- Trimmed black hackle
Head--- Black Ostrich herl



DRY FLY PROPORTION CHART

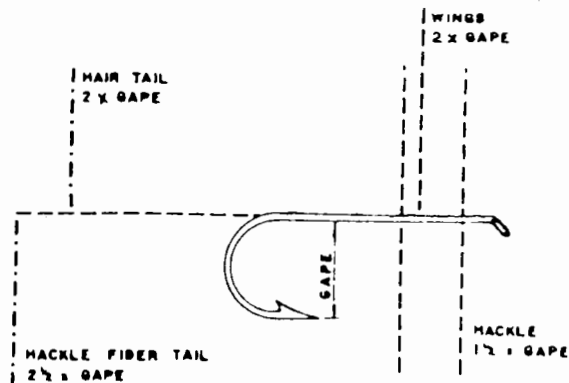
& HACKLE SIZE CHECK



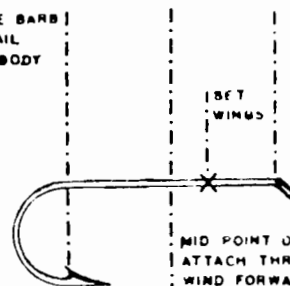
(A) Wing Angle. To check Hackle size, Wing length and angle, place the eye of the hook on the center circle. Center can be punched out so the hook eye can be inserted.
 (H) Hairwing Tail Length (F) Featherwing Tail Length - Measure from top of hook bend.

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POINT ABOVE BARB
SET TAIL
BEGIN BODY



BASIC DRY FLY HOOK
MUSTAD 94840
OR 94833

The Rod Is A Real Shocker

(Reprinted from the Gordons' Quill, the newsletter of the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Inc. of New York.

The weather forecast called for afternoon rain and possible thunderstorms, bass fishing got slower as the front approached and we heard a faint roll of thunder in the distance.

As clouds began to build I became aware of a strange squeaking sound that continued to grow in volume until I finally stopped fishing and searched for the source.

The strange sound turned out to be coming from my graphite rod as I held it high for the cast. I twitched the rod back and forth and was able to make the rod sing a squeaky tune.

The incident was discussed with Major Austin Chapelle, a physics instructor and a consultant to the Navy in electromagnetics. "You guys came pretty close. Those graphite rods were acting as lightning rods since they are good electrical conductors," he told them.

"The squeaking noise was produced by charges building up on the rods that caused the rotation of dipolar molecules of the graphite fibers. The fibers were being physically moved by the electromagnetic field developing around the rod," Chapelle said.

"Electrical charges were building in the clouds and, as the high point on the water surface, you were gradually developing an opposite charge. Some of the charges were leaking off the rod - that is why Chad felt a shock when he touched his reel. If the clouds had built up a strong electric field, electricity would have been discharged from the sky to the water through a path of least resistance, which would have been you. This high voltage could have killed you with no lightning ever striking anyone."

Major Chapelle advises fishermen to lay their boron and graphite rods on the bottom of the boat to maintain a low profile as you quickly (with a lot of emphasis on quickly) get off the water.

For those of you that have graphite rods, if your dipolar molecules begin to rotate, remember the emphasis is on "quick" before mother nature lights up your life in the worst way. —

DINNER MEETING--RESERVATION LIST

OAKMONT INN

July 24th 1986

7025 Oakmont Dr., Santa Rosa

Happy Hour--6:30 p.m.

Dinner--7:30 p.m.

Dinner--Sirloin tips with mushrooms Price \$16.00 per person

Number of Reservations Desired Total.\$ _____

Members _____ Guests _____

Mail your reservation list with your check, to arrive before July 21, to:

Russian River Fly Fishers, Inc.

P. O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA. 95405

Or: Hand deliver before July 21, at King's
Western Angler, 532 College Ave, Santa Rosa

cut on dotted line

MAIL-IN BALLOT FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR TWO YEAR TERM beginning July 1, '86

Members nominated by the Board of Directors are as follows:

President William Archuleta ☐

* _____

* _____

Vice President Russ Lochner ☐

* _____

* _____

Treasurer George Marcillac ☐

* _____

* _____

Secretary Tony Hebner ☐

* _____

*Nominee who must agree to serve if nominated by a member.

Mail this Ballot to Russian River Fly Fishers, Inc. P.O. Box 2673,
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
to be delivered before July 21, 1986

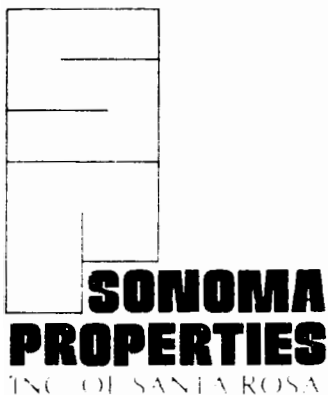
The time is here again--to pay your annual dues for the fiscal year 1986-1987.
Postage rates have gone up again so it costs more to get your news letters to
you, so we have to raise dues as follows:

Adult membership \$20.00

Family " 25.00

Junior " 12.50

Please mail your dues check to the above address.



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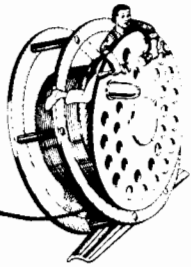
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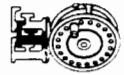
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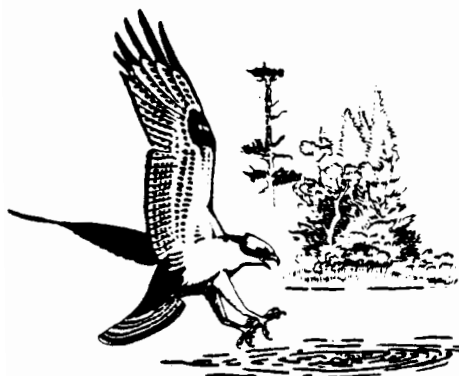
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The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

AUGUST, 1986

NUMBER 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I thank you all for the support and confidence you showed by electing me to be president of the club. I am very honored to hold this position and will do my best to run the club as you, the members, wish it run. If anyone has any suggestions on changes or improvements, please bring them to my attention. I'm a very good listener and am always interested in new ideas. Call after 6:30 PM. 545-3339.

RR

FF

GENERAL MEETINGS

Beginning in September 17th
meetings will be held in the

DE MEO ROOM
Recreation and Parks Depart-
ment Building.

415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa.

There will be no
General Meeting in August
September 17th meeting 7 p.m.

The July dinner meeting was a screaming success. We served 120 meals and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. Hal Janssen did his usual excellent job of entertaining us. I must comment on Hal's ability as a photographer. Some of those shots are prize winners.

I was so pleased with the way Jim Hakel handled the raffle I asked him to be raffle chairman. If anyone would like to donate anything please contact him. While we are on this subject, please remember that we are a non profit organization and donations are greatly appreciated. The items do not necessarily need to be fishing related. We all enjoy a nice bottle of wine or?? The raffle is our way of paying for the speakers at our monthly meetings. Won't you please help us.

Many of us will be traveling to exotic places during the month of August. Because of this, the club has also traditionally taken a vacation in August. There will be no general meeting this month. I hope you all enjoy fishing and family. I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting. Don't forget the new meeting place is the city Parks and Recreation building at 415 Steele Lane. The meeting will start at 7:00.

Thanks again,
Arch

OUTINGS

Russ Lockner is on vacation. He should be back in Santa Rosa about the middle of September with a wealth of new fishing experiences to share with us. In the meantime I'll try to fill in for him.

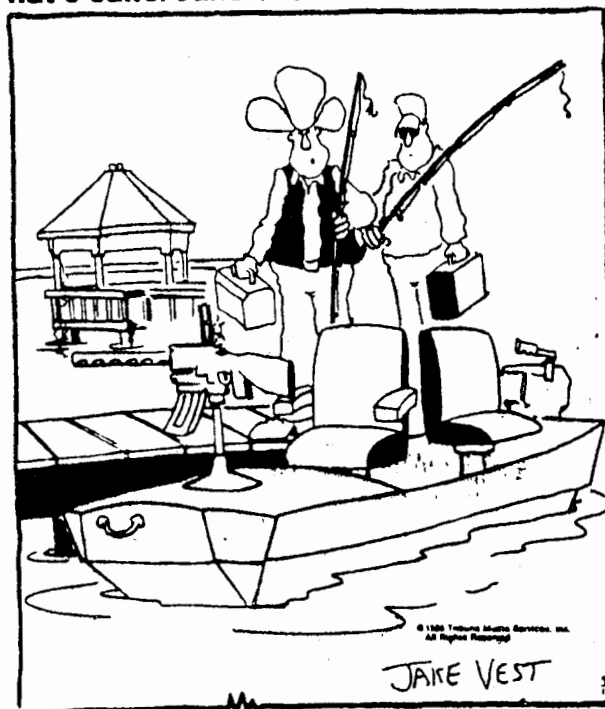
LAVA CREEK LODGE The Lava Creek Lodge trip scheduled for September 26 and 27 is sold out. Bill Archeleta tells me that Russ has a stand by list for anyone who would like to take advantage of cancellations. Check with Russ for details.

ROCKCOD TRIP We have reserved the Merry Jane for a rockcod fishing trip on October 19. We will take a maximum of 35 people. The price will be \$30.00 per person. Rental equipment is available on the boat for \$5.00 a day. Bring a lunch and something to drink. We will leave The Tides at 7:00 AM and return between 4 and 5 PM. It would be a good idea to take your favorite motion sickness remedy before leaving port. To reserve your place call either Russ Lockner or King's Western Angler. This is somewhat of a departure for us, but it should be lots of fun. Mike and Rick from Western Angler have made this trip several times, and tell me that they always catch lots of rockcod and lingcod. Also - the latest posted and signed rumor is that your president will try out his latest electric lingcod jig on this trip. G.C.

CASTING POOL ACCESS

There is now a combination lock on the gate to the casting pond. The combination is available at the three tackle stores in Santa Rosa, DAVE INKS', LYLE's and WESTERN ANGLER. To get the combination all you need do is go to one of these stores and show your RRFF membership card. If you do not have a membership card, contact Ron Lindgren, Membership Chairman.

That's Jake/Jake Vest



'It doesn't shoot anymore, but it still keeps those ski boats on their side of the pond.'

Conclave '86 Fly: CREAM VARIANT

Designed by: Art Flick

Notes on Dressing by: Larry Duckwall

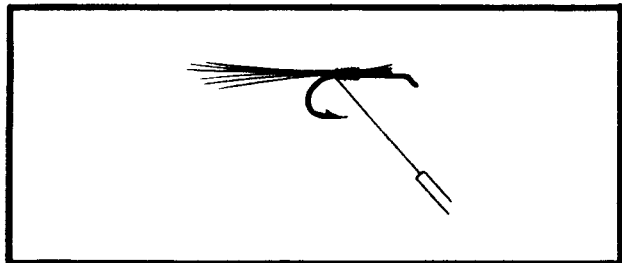
Hook: Dry Fly Hook #10, 12, 14

Thread: 6/0 cream silk or nylon

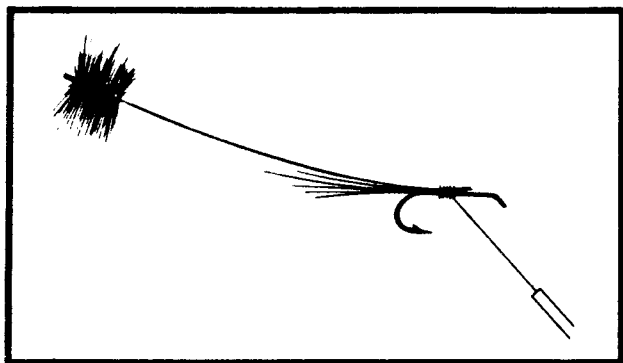
Tail: cream of lightest ginger hackle barbs; preferable spade hackle

Body: stripped quill from a cream hackle

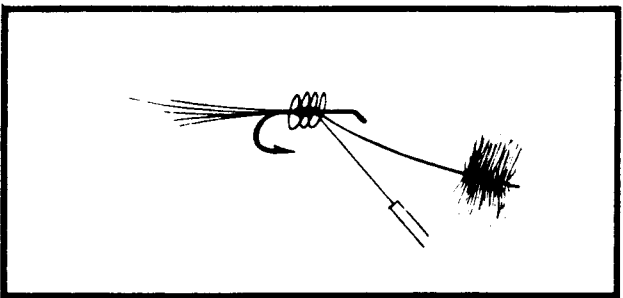
Hackle: cream or lightest ginger; very long



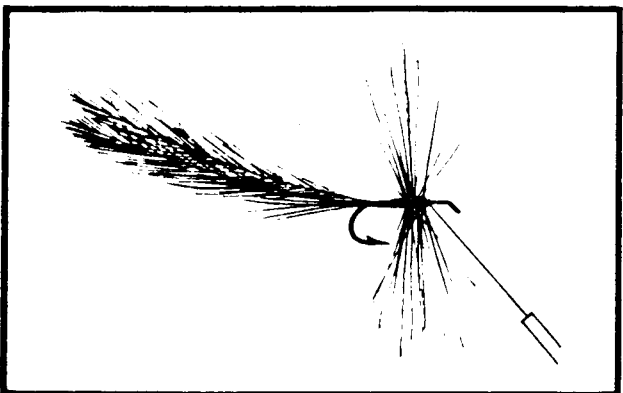
1. Place the hook on the vise; attach thread, and wrap back to a point on the shank of the hook above the hook point. Tie in the tail fibers on top of the hook shank, and wrap toward the rear. Be sure to stop short of the bend of the hook. (I like to leave room for 2 more wraps of thread).



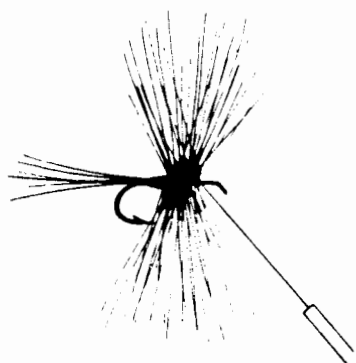
2. Tie in the stripped quill beneath the hook shank with one turn of thread. While holding on to the tail fibers (I tie right handed, so I would be holding the tail fibers with my left hand) to prevent pulling them out of alignment, take one more turn of thread toward the rear. Now wrap the thread forward to a point on the hook shank slightly ahead of the hook point. The thread wraps must be tight against each other to provide a smooth base for the body.



3. Wrap the quill forward, making sure that the first wrap of quill is directly behind the rearmost turn of thread. The quill should be wrapped forward with each succeeding wrap tight against the one behind. When you reach the point where you have left your thread, lock the quill in with one turn of thread. Holding the thread tightly, clip off the quill next to the thread, and take one more turn of thread over the butt of the quill. DO NOT use more than the 2 turns to lock the quill; it makes the fly too bulky if you do. Now apply a thin coating of head cement over the body. This gives the body strength and protection.



4. Select 3 stiff cream hackles (either neck or saddle). Strip the butts, and tie them in under the hook. The bases of the feathers should be even with each other. (I like to tie in the hackles with about 1/64th of an inch of bare quill exposed. This will keep the hackle barbs from jumping all over the place when you wrap them.) Wrap the forward hackle toward the eye, making sure that the wraps of the first hackle are spaced so that the succeeding hackles will have room to lie in along the hook shank.



5. Wrap each of the remaining hackles. If you use a side to side motion while wrapping your hackles, you will avoid trapping and distorting the hackle barbs which have already been wrapped. (It is important to wrap your thread forward after tying in the hackles and trimming the butts to a point back from the eye of the hook. The mistake that most beginning tyers make is that they crowd the hook eye with the hackles. After you wrap each hackle, lock it with one turn of thread and trim off the end next to the thread. Each succeeding turn of hackle is wrapped on turn ahead of the preceeding hackle. When your last hackle is wrapped, trim, whip finish the head, and cement the head.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Liz Wray and Fred Flynn were married on August 9, 1986 in a small, private ceremony on Mount Sonoma. They will honeymoon in Hawaii.

Congratulations from all of us.

COMMITTEES

The next two years promise to be active for RFFF. In addition to our regular meeting activities, our committee chair people are putting some programs together that ought to provide something for most interests.

Dan Coleman is going to head the Conservation Committee. Dan has been very active in habitat rehabilitation on Sonoma Creek, and on some of the other waterways in Sonoma County. Dan has some exciting ideas for projects in which RFFF can play an important role in restoring and preserving a viable wild trout fishery in our area. He'll have more to say in future issues to The Cast.

I was going to try to say something about each of the other committees, but I'm running out of space. So I'll just list the committees and their chairpeople. They will have more to say about their committees in succeeding issues of The Cast.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
Cast	George Caywood
Casting Pond Activities	Bob Sisson
Conservation	Dan Coleman
Finance	Joe Banovich
Membership	Ron Lindgren
Outings	Russ Lockner
Raffle	Jim Hake
Youth Activities	Brian Wong and George Caywood

We are still looking for someone who would be willing to be Program Chairperson. If you would be interested, give Bill Archuleta a call. Additionally, all of the committee chairpeople are interested in your ideas and would appreciate any assistance you can give us. Give us a call or corner us at the meetings. We'd like to hear from you. G.C.

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Several years ago I edited a club newsletter. I'm supposed to be smarter than that now. I guess some things don't change. Be that as it may - here I go again.

Before I go any further, I would like to express my appreciation for all of the fine work that Ben Cummings did as editor of The Cast before I came along. I have a large pair of shoes to fill. I hope I'm up to it.

One of the advantages of belonging to a club such as ours is the opportunity we have to meet and share our experiences and ideas with others with whom we share a common interest. A good place to start might be right here, in The Cast. As I said at the dinner, all contributions to this newsletter will be accepted and printed. Hopefully I will get so many articles from our members that I will have to save some for future issues. That is not the case now. So, if you would like to see something of yours in print remember that the deadline for contributions is the monthly meeting. Give your articles to me or to Bill Archeleta. Your contributions will be appreciated.

A word to our advertisers, and those who would like to advertise in The Cast. We have been reprinting your business card adds from past issues. The more we reprint, the more indistinct the adds become. Therefore I am asking all advertisers to give me 4 or 5 of your business cards, or other materials that you want included in your add. That way I can use fresh copy and give you the kind of quality add you expect for your money.

Speaking of money. Advertising space in The Cast sells for \$19.00 per column inch per year. This comes out to \$25.00 for a business card size add. Most people find this adequate and most convenient. But we will sell you more space if you wish. Just let me know what you would like and I'll do my best to arrange it. George Caywood



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GRANT F. KING



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER

by

John R. Gantner

Most people consider California's water use plans as consisting of collecting northern runoff in sterile concrete canals and moving it to the southern desert to flush toilets in Bakersfield and supply L.A. car washes. But California was blessed with thousands of miles of wondrous waterways. Some of these have withstood the worst man could wish them and are now feeling the first effects of society's change of heart. The Upper Sacramento River is just such a steady stream.

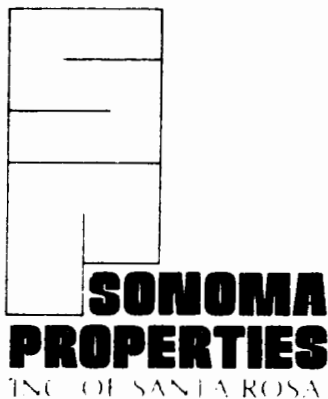
Potentially one of our country's premier trout streams, the Upper Sacramento River currently provides some of the finest year-around trout fishing in the state. I have enjoyed my best fishing on the river in the fall. The setting of the river canyon creates an aura of wilderness even though, for most of its length, it runs beside a very busy freeway and a major railroad; but despite this proximity to man and his travels, it endures remarkably well. Beginning at Box Canyon Dam, below Lake Siskiyou, and flowing south along Interstate 5, through the town of Dunsmuir, to Shasta Lake, this steep gradient stream cuts a colorful canyon through rock-bedded dogwoods and pines, presenting a forty-mile progression of whitewater riffles and classic pocket water. An abundance of aquatic insect life in the river and its tributaries, and lush streambank vegetation, repel the perils of progress to provide necessary sustenance and habitat to wild and planted trout alike. Mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies abound, making the Sacramento into a flyfisherman's dream stream.

Banked with ferns and firs, evergreens and elephant ears, the river persists in spite of its annual fishing pressure, proving itself to be fantastic holding water and breeding grounds for wild rainbow and brown trout. The Upper Sacramento River, laced with fishable feeder creeks, has more than 20 access roads which allow the angler entrance to either the river or the feeders. Supplies and campgrounds are available near many of these access roads and a few unmarked open camping sites are also available along the river. In the rustic old railroad town of Dunsmuir, the central urban area on the upper river, most of the roads lead down to the river which ribbons in and out of town. Because of heavy in-town fishing pressure I suggest leaving this area to the locals. North of Dunsmuir, the Mott/Azalea Road leads to Mott Campground and the river, and ties into the Canterra Loop Road, the northernmost access to the river below Box Canyon Dam. This area provides excellent fishing and the fall flyfishing here is really spectacular. The State Wildlife Conservation Board has purchased 105 acres of streamside property for public use of the river.

A medium length and weight flyrod is most popular on the Sacramento, lightweight spinning tackle is also well suited for this stream. Wading is essential to properly fish this rough and tumble pocket water as casts above, below and between the myriad in-stream boulders cannot be properly made from shore.

I have had consistent success using a Paradun fly to imitate the mayfly hatches and an Elk Hair Caddis for the evening caddis flights. The Upper Sacramento also has a fishable concentration of stoneflies which tend to hatch in May. The stonefly nymph fly is an all-year winner. Fish them deep, fish them often, and enjoy this excellent trout stream.

X X X X



ROBERT MORATTO
President

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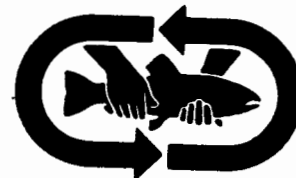
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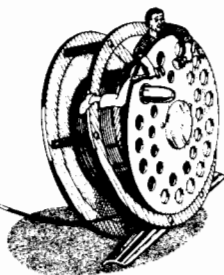
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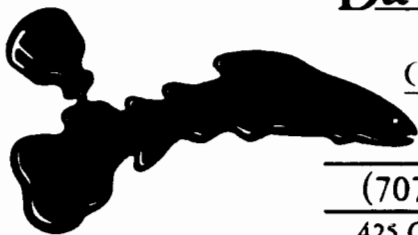


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The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

SEPTEMBER, 1986

NUMBER 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As our new year gets underway there are quite a few exciting activities going on. Our new raffle chairman is Jim Hakel, who promises to put on a good show at our meetings. A new member, Frank Lloyd, has graciously accepted the duties of program chairman. Frank has a few new ideas for meeting programs, and they should be very interesting.

Dan Coleman has agreed to take on the conservation program. We, as a club, have never really been too involved in this important area, but we are going to become involved since this was part of the reason the club was formed. Dan and his assistant, Frank Sanchiotti, will be concentrating their initial efforts on Sonoma Creek, but they are open to any suggestions we may have. They also desperately need volunteers. Give Dan a call at 996-7758.

We still need volunteers to help with the continuing work on the casting pond. The permanent fence and gate have been completed and we are now concentrating on getting the watering lines installed and the grass planted before the fall rains come. Please call me at 545-3339 or Bob Moratto at 527-5211 if you can lend a hand.

While there is still plenty of trout and bass fishing left this season, I'm sure that many of us are starting to prepare for salmon and steelhead. The Klamath should be producing well in September and the Eel will be showing salmon in October and November. I'm sure we'll see each other on the Russian and Gualala this year. I wish each and everyone good luck and tight lines.

Arch

RR

FF

GENERAL MEETING
September 17, 7:00 p.m.
DE MEO ROOM
Recreation and Parks Department Building
415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa

Speaker - Bill Cox
Biologist with D.F.G.
"Salmon and Steelhead
Enhancement Programs in the
North Coast Area"

BOARD MEETING
September 15, 7:00 p.m.
Warrack Hospital Board Room
4700 Hoen Ave. Santa Rosa

OUTING NEWS

1. Fall River Trip - Currently full with a waiting list.
2. Deep Sea Wet Fly Trip (very wet and very deep) - Probable date, October 19th. Cost \$40.00/person; plenty of good eating for your table should come from this one. (Beer and cigars for the trip out to the banks definitely at your own risk.)
3. Bass/Pan Fish Extravaganza - Late Fall or early Spring; Sonoma County location, idyllic setting with lots of action; minimal cost.

Give us your ideas, suggestions, etc. Call me at 526-6523 or 544-1593.

Russ Lockner

EDITOR'S CORNER

I have often read and heard it said that the worst day fishing is far better than the best day working. I heartily subscribe to this philosophy. Therefore, the Cast will be somewhat abbreviated this month.

I apologize for the lateness of September's issue of the Cast. Now that I know what I'm doing (?) following issues will be published more promptly.

This happened before I became involved with RRFF, so I don't have as much information as I would like, but here goes. At the Harvest Fair in 1984 a young man left a rod at our club's booth to be re-wrapped. He doesn't remember with whom he left it, and those of us who have been trying to find it have met with no success. If anyone has any ideas, please call me at 538-3179 or 576-2390, or King's Western Angler at 542-4432.

I leave you with this thought. Everyone should believe in something. I believe I'll go fishing.

George Caywood



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The casting pool and the area around it is in excellent condition and waiting for your use. The weeds have been mowed and the stubble poses only a minor inconvenience. This is a temporary situation and is one that will be much improved when the irrigation system is installed and the turf planted. All of this is in the planning stage and should be completed before the rain season sets in and limits the use of the pool because of the mud. The area is now enclosed in a new chain link fence with a walk through turnstile gate at the end nearest the tennis courts and an access gate across the road. This gate is locked with a club combination lock which opens with the numbers given at the last club dinner. It protects the area from unwanted vehicle travel and must be kept locked.

The main access gate at the paved parking lot entrance is also locked with a club combination lock which operates with the same numbers as the other. There is a second padlock for use by city personnel and these two must be linked into each other so everyone can use the gate. Please park outside the pool area in the open space at the end of the soccer fields if you must drive in. Vehicle access is restricted to work party vehicles within the pool grounds for the time being.

Plans are progressing to finalize the formation of the casting pool activities committee and a few more "willing to work" committee members will be very welcome. There is a need to know what kinds of club conducted activities we should be considering and how often they should take place. If you have any ideas along these lines and/or are interested in working on the activities committee please contact me.

BOB SISSON

GUESTS FOR MONTANA

Montana is a special place, a second home really, and I jealously guard my summer fishing time there. So it was with more than a little apprehension and some annoyance that I received the news that we would have visitors with us for the duration. Not just ordinary visitors, but two young ladies from Japan who had never fished before.

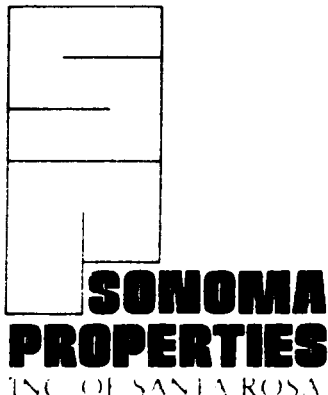
One of life's lessons fortunately long ago learned, is that having no expectations can never lead to disappointment. The freshness of youth is one of the purest joys I know. Whether in fruits from the garden, an evening breeze down the canyon, or in ourselves. Our guests were quick pupils and soon looked forward to the daily ritual of doning their chest waders to do battle on the streams. Having the opportunity to explain basic fundamentals of trout habitat and habits rekindled my own awareness of the essence of our sport.

I remember one morning in particular as I was working up through pool after pool of the gin-clear water of the lower Wise River. Large mossy boulders, perilously slippery, and the smaller ochre colored cobbles that give the bottom a friendly appearance. The trout are numerous and full bodied with backs that greenish color I remember from some long past covers of Outdoor Life. I have fished the same stretch for twenty years yet I noticed things that I had never seen before.

The Japanese word for fish is Sakana and for Rainbow trout of the Wise River Nigi-Masu. I don't know the word for fisherperson especially one who is female; but I can tell you how it is a fire is made to cook the fish that they caught. Small hands pick up very small slips of wood, each long enough to form the framework of a teepee with a small crumple of paper in its base. Delicate pieces almost interwoven as each is placed carefully against the sturdiness of the one before. Larger and larger splits of dry pine, so dry the color is that of a pale blue dun, are placed. The entire process fits my imagination of a tea ceremony unfolding as a ritual dance. Then one match struck with deliberate care produces an immediate fire. Never having to watch to see if it would continue to burn, nor blow across the small flames; nor ever strike a second match.

They learned to fish, did our Japanese guests, and inside of two weeks were secure in their newly acquired abilities to read the water, place proper casts, and expect the excitement when they landed each fish. Their gratitude for our teaching and hospitality was the essence of that freshness of youth. And to Hiroko and Tomoko, I thank them for my rediscovery of some of my old fishing favorites; and for an appreciation for some of the simple things in life, like making a fire.

f. murray



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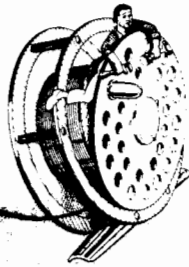
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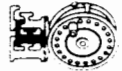
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The Cast

The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

OCTOBER 1, 1986

NUMBER 10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steelhead. I start to shiver just thinking about them. Not only thinking about the fish, but knowing what the weather will be like when we fish for them. The Klamath is producing fish up to 30 lbs down at the lower end. Waukel Riffle is producing these fish with small plo-buys being the prime attractor. The Eel is just starting to show signs of action and I'm ready to try them all.

The Russian should prove to be a real challenge this year. The flood wiped out all the familiar runs and holding lanes as well as the established holes. Everyone will be starting out fresh as we try to locate the Steelies and Salmon. In fact, the recent rains triggered a run of Salmon and they are being caught as far up river as Dry Creek.

I'm very excited about the future of our club. We have some very interesting activities coming up in the near and distant future. We are putting together some programs for the casting pond as well as another fund raiser to start the club house. We are going to try to vary the meetings and outings from the usual. If anyone has any suggestions, please give me a call in the evenings at 545-3839.

Bill Cox gave us a very informative program on Steelhead and Salmon on the North Coast and we will try to have more meetings like this, using local talent discussing local topics, as well as exotic, far-off places. I hope to see everyone at the next meeting. Until then, I'll see you on the river.

RR	FF
<p><u>GENERAL MEETING</u> October 15, 7:00 P.M. DE MEO ROOM Recreation and Parks Department Building 415 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa</p> <p>Program by Grant King "Steelhead/Salmon Fly Fishing Techniques"</p>	
<p><u>BOARD MEETING</u> October 13, 7:00 P.M. Warrack Hospital Board Room 4700 Hoen Ave., Santa Rosa</p>	

EDITOR'S CORNER

Bill Archeleta gave me two letters from Dan Coleman which anyone who feels so moved can use as a model to write to the Sonoma County Planning department and urge them to give serious consideration to the protection and management of the streams in Sonoma county. There are many people who would just as soon see no controls put on the use or misuse to which our streams may be put. They are well organized, and rather vocal. I feel that it is important for all of us to let the County Planners know where we stand on this issue. We have a rather unique resource in our fishable waters in Sonoma County. With intelligent management all of our interests will be advanced, those of the developers as well as those of fishers and nature lovers. Without proper management we will all loose.

Enough soap boxing. This first letter is a guide that you might use to develop your own letter.

ADDRESS TO: Kenneth Milan, Director of Planning
Sonoma County Department of Planning
575 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

ADDRESS THE ISSUES: Express your desire for protection and proper management in a natural condition of the streamside corridor in Sonoma County. List the specific streams which you personally wish protected on the General Plan.

Let them know it's important that they act now. There won't be another update for 10 years. Will you be around to defend our streams, and will there be any streams left to defend?

This next is a letter which Dan, himself, sent to the Planning Department.

Date

Kenneth Milan
Director of Planning
Sonoma County Department of Planning
575 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Mr. Milan:

I'm writing to address the current update of the Sonoma County General Plan, specifically with regards to riparian corridor setbacks and streamside management and protection.

As a resident of Sonoma County, I believe in the preservation of the stream systems that comprise our waterways. I am a fisherman and a person who simply enjoys the beauty and tranquility afforded by a naturally vegetated and undisturbed stream corridor.

I wish to take this opportunity to implore you and your colleagues to stand up for our waterways with strong and effective protective language for the stream ecosystem, it's scenic beauty, and it's value to the fishery. Such action will be a lasting and memorable complement to an intelligent, long-term future for a better and beautiful Sonoma County.

It is with the deepest concern that myself and many others will be watching the actions of the Planning Committee to see that the streams of Sonoma County receive the protection they so desperately deserve. I am specifically interested in seeing that Sonoma Creek (Sonoma), Green Valley Creek (Sebastopol), Salmon Creek (Bodega), and Mark West Creek (Santa Rosa) are included for specific protection within the current update.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Daniel Coleman

Speaking of the Board. I would like to remind the members that the Board Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. We meet the third Monday of each month in the board room at Warrack Hospital at 7:00 P.M.

Brian Wong and Grant King have asked me to tell the membership that they are offering free casting instruction on a one on one basis to club members. If you would like to take advantage of either of these generous offers contact either Brian Wong at Lyle's, 527-9887, or Grant King at King's Western Angler, 542-4432.

I have not heard from our Activities Chairman, Russ Lockner, this month.

At the last Board meeting we decided that due to the overwhelming lack of interest the deep sea trip would be canceled.

I have heard from some of the people who went on the Lava Creek Lodge outing that it was a big success. If anyone would like to write up a report, I would be happy to print it in the next Cast.

George C.

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MEMBERSHIP

Our club is growing by leaps and bounds! As of September 30th, our membership consisted of the following:

Family members: 78
Junior members: 6
Single members: 205
Life members: 5

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 294

We wish to welcome the following new members into the club:

Art Agnew	Craig Lima
Carl Bellovich	Paul Masuero
Dave and Jan Brown	Clark McHuron
Tom Brown	Tom Marsich
Bill Cooper	Harold Miller
Robert & Mike Dugan	Charlie Miner
Fred Flynn	Kathie and David Morgan
Ed Foster	Robert Muszynski
Bill Gianquinto	Peter Niebauer
Tim and Stacey Grogan	Frank Sanchiotti
Bob and Verna Handel	Jenny and Valerie Sullivan
Charles, Pat & Brian Hartmann	Jeffery Templin
Bill Hutchinson	Brian Wong
Carl Kissler	Dave Wright
Tom, Veronica, Nick & Bill Larson	Chuck Zahl

As of September 30, 1986, only 42% of our membership have paid their dues for 1986/87. An ANNUAL DUES NOTICE was mailed with last month's Cast. If you have not already done so, please send in your dues as soon as possible. (They were due and payable July 1st of this year.)

We are in the process of updating our membership roster. A membership information form was included with the August newsletter; however, very few members have responded to date. It is a constant effort to keep the club's membership roster current throughout the year as members move, change phone numbers, etc. We usually find out about changes, after the fact, when someone tries to call you to invite you to a club activity. Due to the poor response to the membership information form, the board members are phoning all of the club members in a final effort to bring the membership directory up-to-date. The new membership directory will be mailed to all current club members in the Fall of this year. And lets face it, there is nothing more frustrating than to have your name misspelled, or the wrong telephone number listed. Please help us make this directory the most accurate yet.

Ron Lindgren

POOL CAPTAINS CORNER

***** SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE *****

WHAT: PRE-STEELHEAD SEASON CASTING CLINIC.

WHEN: SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 26th, 1 PM to 5 PM.

WHERE: THE CASTING POOL. (Dan Galvin Park at Bennett Valley Golf Course location.

YOU NEED: Your steelhead equipment rigged with a shooting head and running line, if possible, and an appropriate leader with a hookless fly.

WEATHER: Whatever it adds up to. We fish in the rain and the event will go on rain or shine.

This event is intended to feature long line and double haul casting techniques. Most of our water in the region is big enough to make it necessary to get some substantial distance to cover the lies properly.

Most of us, myself in particular, are far from world class, tournament class or even good steelhead class distance casters. If you feel a little less than adequate you have lots of company. We are also fortunate in having some excellent casters and teachers among our members.

Our primary instructors for the event will be Brian Wong and Grant King. Grant is an excellent caster and has taught the subject for more years than he cares to remember. Brian is also an excellent caster and teacher and has been working out with the Golden Gate casters in tournament competition.

We need more coaches. If you are interested, capable and are willing to help your fellow members please let me know.

Your Casting Pool Captain
Bob Sisson
545-3721

The next item is a clip from the Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital bulletin. We think it deserves to be reprinted here.

"Frank W. Norman, M.D., has been named California's Family Physician of the Year...and was nominated as a candidate for the same national honor...Dr. Norman has served our community for over 37 years, has been a past president of both the Sonoma County Medical Association and the California Association of Family Physicians...and he was the President of the Medical Staff here at Memorial in 1968...if you have met him, you know why he received such appropriate recognition...congratulations, Frank."

No more need be said. G.D.



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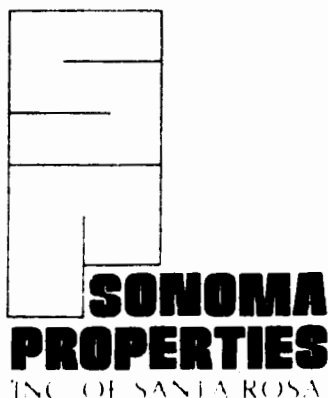
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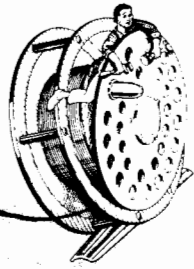
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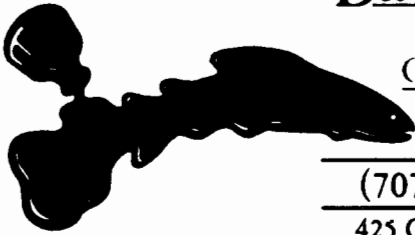


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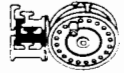
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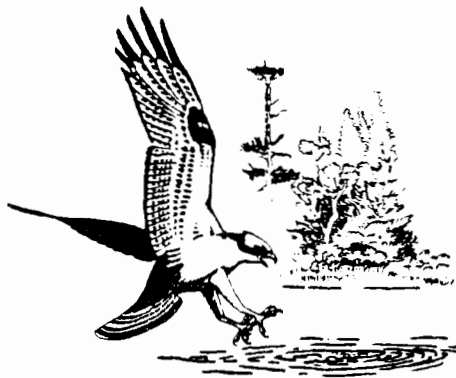
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The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

NOVEMBER, 1986

NUMBER 11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holiday season is rapidly approaching and with it comes parties, family get-togethers and the annual Russian River Fly Fishers Christmas dinner. This year, because of all the usual commitments, we are going to have a "Holiday" dinner in November instead. Just to try something different, Mike Fong, along with his lovely wife, Christine, will talk on a very timely subject, "Where to Catch Steelhead in Northern California." It is always a pleasure to have this couple entertain us.

A big thanks to Grant King for his fine presentation on Steelhead fly tying techniques. It was very informative and his use of a drawing board was a great idea. It showed us all very clearly how different wings and bodies could be made without trying to tie each one. It also showed us how much of an artist this gentleman is.

The early rains brought in large runs of salmon in a number of rivers, but those runs were short and sweet. Without more rain, the mouth of the Russian is now closed, as is the Eel. At last report, there are about 2,000 fish stuck up at Fernbridge in Fortuna with fishermen drooling over the rail watching them, because when Mother Nature closes the river, the D.F.G. closes the fishing.

I'm looking forward to a good Steelhead/Salmon season this year. Record numbers of Salmon were caught in the ocean and a large number have made it up to the Warm Springs Hatchery already. Steelhead will show soon and I'll be there. I hope you will be too.

Tight Lines
Arch

RR	FF
<u>GENERAL MEETING</u> November 20, 1986 Los Robles Lodge Cocktails 6:30 P.M., Dinner 7:30 P.M.	
Guest Speakers Mike & Christine Fong	
<u>BOARD MEETING</u> November 17, 7:00 P.M. Warrack Hospital Board Room 4700 Hoen Ave., Santa Rosa	

EDITOR'S CORNER

It is with some sadness that I write this column today. I will be moving to Eureka to join my old partner from San Jose in the Labor Commissioner's office there. (Our supervisor is sure that the only reason he requested me is so he'll have someone with whom to hunt and fish.) But I will miss you all. Santa Rosa has been, and always shall be a special place to me. I will, however, maintain my membership in RREF. Also, I imagine that I'll see some of you when you come up my way to fish the Eel.

Now for the bad news. We need someone to take over the Cast. I think this is one of the Club's most important positions. It is also fun. So, if you think you might like to try your hand at writing and editing give Bill Ancheleta or me a call.

Some of you may be aware that we have had a problem keeping locks on the gate at the road to the casting pond. Bill did some checking and found that the City also needs access to this road. They have put their own lock on the gate with ours, forming, if you will, a chain of locks. When one of us goes in and locks the gate in such a way that the other lock is bypassed, these other folks have no option but to cut our lock to get in. This they have been doing. So, when you use the casting pool please, when you leave, attach our lock to the other lock instead of directly to the chain. This way anyone who comes in will just unlock his own lock without disturbing any of the other.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the FLYFISHER'S CLUB OF OREGON. I know everyone in the RUSSIAN RIVER FLYFISHERS joins me in extending to them congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

ACTIVITIES

FALL RIVER TRIP. Although the prospects for warm autumn days were severely damped by the weeks worth of rain before our outing, we were treated to one of the more spectacular weekends that I have experienced in Northeastern California. The previous rains and snow blanketed Mt. Shasta and the surrounding hills with a skiff of fresh snow and they literally shone in the bright sunlight of a cloudless, sunny, warm Sunday afternoon. Hebner and partner had the "best day fishing since I've been coming to the Fall River". Porteous and Mertz had "a glorious time on Squaw Creek fishing and finding Indian artifacts." Schelter kept asking, "Are there any fish in this river?" Lockner and crew spent the day with Jim Gribble playing "dude" so that he could practice his guiding which he did an admirable job of. Havel and a certain decadent group spent the evening at the bar drinking mudslides and telling one another lies. Doc Pearson promised to lead the next off road outing in his redvette with his cram strapped on top.

As my daddy used to say, "the fishing's great but catchin' is just so-so". By all counts both fishing and catchin' were great and we plan to repeat at least two more times next season.

Russ Lockner

RECOLLECTIONS ON A RIVER

By Ben Cummings

Back in 1911, when I was two, my Dad bought a small prune ranch on West Dry Creek Road near the old Lambert Bridge. (It's still there.)

My first fishing memory extends back to the summer of that year when my parents took me to a swimming hole in Dry Creek behind the prune orchard, where I wandered to the edge of a deep hole. There, in the clear depths were lovely green-gold shapes passing in and among other similar shapes. Some instinct impelled me to make those lovely creatures mine and I plunged in. This caused considerable consternation among the grown ups and I was promptly retrieved, fried off and taken home. End of first fishing trip.

My next recollection involved a trip with my father to Healdsburg via horse and buggy. In those days there were no paved roads, and by mid summer the roads were six inches deep in dust. It was just as easy, and a lot more pleasant to drive the five miles to town down the gravel bars of Dry Creek. The bed of the creek was mostly dry gravel, but in certain sections there were shallow pools where underlying hardpan forced the subterranean water to the surface. Some of the pools held fish, mostly warm water species, i.e. squawfish, suckers, various minnows, sticklebacks and sculpins.

In one of these pools there were many dead and dying fish. My father explained that the local Indians used mashed turkey mullein as a poison to kill the fish. (Evidently it contains rotenone). The mashed leaves are put into a porous bag (an ordinary jute sack was used) and located where inflowing water could carry this poison downstream. The Indians could collect and use what fish they wanted and would leave the remainder for the birds. This was common practice in many California streams where isolated pools prevailed.

It had the effect of eliminating most of the squaw fish which now comprise a predatory population in the Russian River that may have adverse effects on the steelhead fishery.

Prior to the 1920's many of the headwater tributaries of the RUSSIAN River were surrounded by big timber, Douglas Fir and Redwoods. The waters were clear and cold and provided ideal nursery waters for young steelhead trout. The chill waters were not suited to warm water species and the young steelhead fry had little competition.

However, after the surrender of Germany in 1918 there was a building boom, and the big trees that had shaded the head waters of Austin Creek, Warm Springs creek, Dutch Bill creek and many others, were cut. Much of the slash that was left on the ground after logging became fuel for forest fires that led to erosion

and pollution of the streams with ash and ultimately the virtual elimination of hundreds of miles of nursery water for steelhead.

Since the 1960's public concern for the quality of our landscape has led to some improvements in land use practice, and we are seeing a gradual restoration of habitat in some of the streams. Meanwhile massive changes are taking place in the regimes of our streams as the human population and its demands for water and food imposes increasing stress on the natural environment.

Thus it seems that the only constant in this universe is change.

Don't forget the Holiday dinner on October 20, at Los Robles Lodge. The price is \$20.00 a person. If you have not sent in your reservation, you can mail it to P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405. George C.

SAGE.

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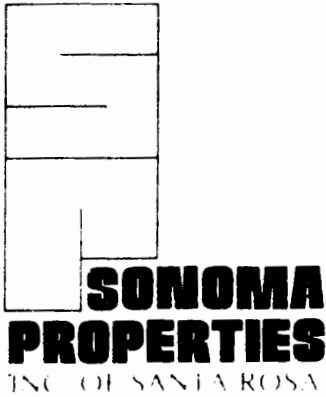
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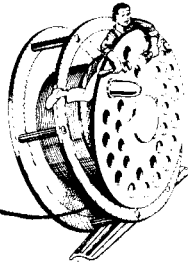
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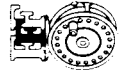
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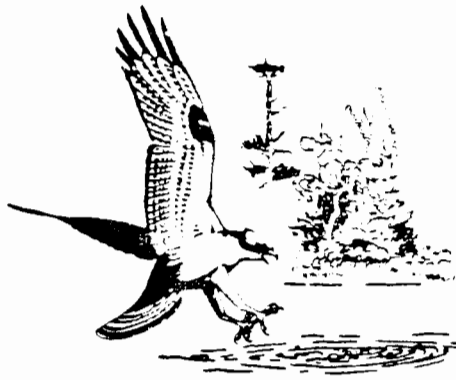
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The Russian River Fly Fishers

VOLUME 11

DECEMBER, 1986

NUMBER 12

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all of you who attended the annual holiday dinner for helping to make it a success. The auction could have gone a bit better (*Craig Johnston claims he lost four pounds during the ordeal*), but the raffle was a great success. Since these events are our only means of raising money to pay for our monthly speakers, I hope all members will continue to be generous.

Mike and Christina Fong entertained us with a great show of Steelhead. Christina's photography is second to none, and Mike's gentle speaking manner combine to make a team that's hard to beat.

The next speaker will be yours truly. I will give a short "clinic" on reel maintenance, so if you have a particular maintenance problem on any type of reel, bring your questions to the December meeting.

January brings Wes Sheey to show us how to properly fit our pram for a comfortable and safe day of fishing. He will have a fully equipped pram with him so we all can see how it is done.

Mark February 21st on your calendar! We are proud to announce that LEFTY KREH will once again entertain us with one of his delightful shows. Hope for a clear day and we will have him put on a demonstrations at the pond in the afternoon. If any of you haven't had the pleasure to see Lefty in action, you won't want to miss this. The evening dinner meeting will be something quite different for the club. We hope you will be pleasantly surprised.

The Eel river is HOT! Big fish in the 20 pound category are being taken at Dos Rios. A lot of them are already spent, but some bright fish are being counted. The next month will bring our much needed rains (hopefully) and with it will return runs in the Russian and Gualala. I guess I'd better spend some time at the pond to limber up my arm. Hope to see you on the river, ...and I want to wish everyone a very happy holiday season. May all of your family gatherings be safe and joyful, and may your fishing be the same.

Merry Christmas and tight lines,

Arch

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 17th

De Meo Room

Recreation and Parks Bldg.
415 Steele Lane, S.R.

7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Bill Archuletta

"Care and Preventative
Maintenance of Reels"

Board Meeting, Dec. 15th
Warrack Hospital Board
Room, 4788 Hoen Ave.

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A SPECIAL NOTE...Ben Cummings generously donated a commissioned original watercolor for our last auction. Thank you Ben! Look for a special showing of Ben's works at Wild Wings Gallery in Coddington in the near future.



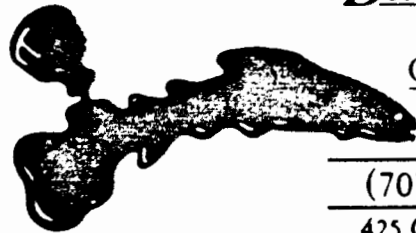
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CONSERVATION NEWS FOR RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

By Dan Coleman



Dear Fellow Fly Fishers,

Winter is approaching and with it a variety of opportunities for our membership. Fishing opportunities will be presenting themselves on the many streams utilized by various anadromous fish species. Also presenting itself, is the opportunity for members to get involved with conservation projects. This upcoming December 6th, volunteers are being solicited to complete the planting of stream banks enhancing natural vegetation on the on-going rehabilitation project on Rogers Creek in the Sonoma Valley. The project involves planting previously destroyed or damaged stream banks. Interested persons should call *Frank Sanchetti*, 996-1867 (evenings), or *Steve Klausner*, 996-5972.

Another project involving the removal of channel clogging debris and willow growth, is a cooperative effort with the Department of Forestry, is on Fowler Creek, a spawning tributary of Sonoma Creek. We will need 12 to 16 able bodied individuals in good health to commence this pilot project. The Project date is tentatively set for December 13th. Please respond by calling *Dan Coleman*, 996-7758, or *Frank Sanchetti*, 996-1867.

On another note, the conservation arm of the Russian River Fly Fishers wants your responses regarding your desire to become involved in stream conservation with the club and affiliated organizations. Let us know! Send your name, address, and a note about any aspect of stream conservation you may be especially interested in. I need feedback from the membership regarding special areas of interest, ideas, direction regarding our stream conservation program, etc. If you have streams you are interested in attentions given to, LET US KNOW! We can't target projects if we don't receive your input and your support.

We are still awaiting the completion of the Russian River Basin Streams Tributary list. When complete, this list will be made available to the membership to help identify specific streams you may be interested in with the target projects.

On another note, anyone who has experience in the Grant obtaining process and would be willing to share that expertise for future possible grants for the R.R.F.F., please drop me a card: *Dan Coleman*, 2675 Warm Springs Road, Glen Ellen, CA. 95442.

Two last notes...will any one with information regarding the Shad runs of old in the Russian River please contact me. Your information is needed! News articles, written records, i.e. book articles, etc. ...specifically anything related to the past existence of Shad above the town of Healdsburg from the late 1800's through the mid 1900's would be appreciated. Please send any information to the above address.

Last, your letters of support are needed to the Board of Supervisors and Department of Fish and Game. Letters urging the addition of fish ladders and correction of splash pool problems at the Healdsburg dam are needed and could be a precedent setting issue. By law, any dam on a stream such as the Russian that impedes fish passage, must mitigate that obstruction. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors have not met their obligation in that regard. Currently, they, and the Department of Forestry, have been named as defendants in a suit brought by the United Anglers of California and Trout Unlimited. Letters of support, stressing the need for fish ladders and the correction of the splash pool problems should be addressed to:

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
575 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

OR

Department of Fish and Game,
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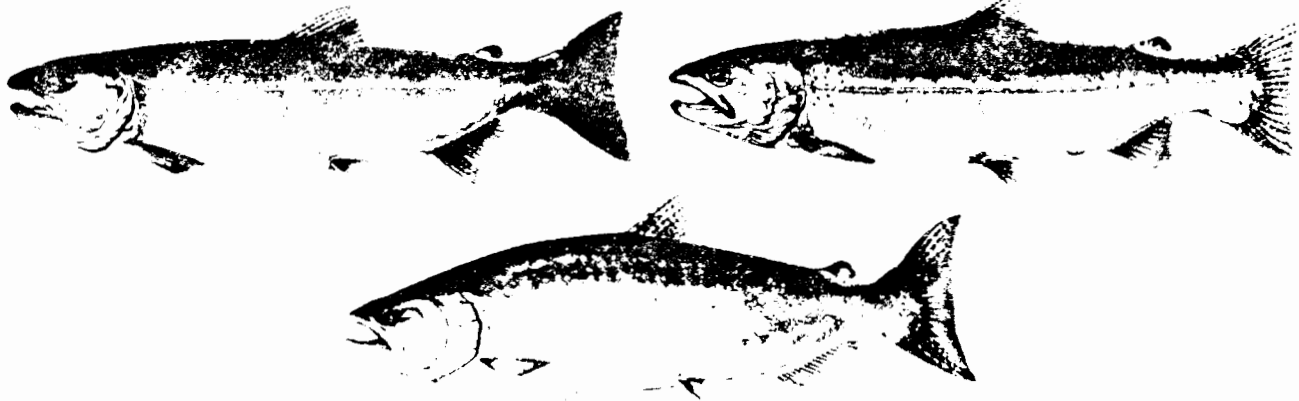
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SALMON & STEELHEAD TROUT

Our club has received the 1986 annual report of the California Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout. The report lays out the findings and recommendations of the Committee during its first full year of work, 1985.

The citizen's committee was created late in 1983 by the Legislature to develop a strategy for restoring California's native salmon and steelhead resources. The damage to these fish in recent years, primarily from the destruction of aquatic habitat by water exploitation and pollution, has cost our state nearly \$1 billion in reduced fish harvest and lost recreation use.

The eleven appointed members of the Committee represent the fishing industry, sportsfishing interest, fish scientists, Native American users and the public at large.

Community volunteers are surveying each watershed in the state having salmon and steelhead spawning runs, or potential runs. Presented below is the Committee's report on the Russian River. The Committee welcomes your reactions to the report. Comments should be directed to: Earl Carpenter, Chairman, #120 Schoonmaker Point, Foot of Spring Street, Sausalito, CA 94965.



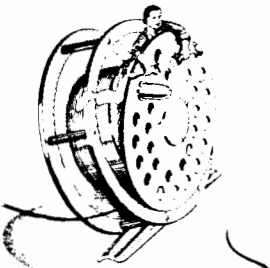
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EDITORS' NOTE: The statements regarding the City of Santa Rosa and its "sewage line to the ocean", while representing the authors' frustrations, may not in fact represent literal reality.



Russian River

Historically, the Russian River was one of the finest steelhead streams in the world. New Zealand stocked its own inland streams with our Russian River stock because the fish were so spectacular. The Russian River is a coastal stream that rises in the eastern slope of the Coast Range and flows southward to a junction with Santa Rosa Creek (Sonoma County) before turning westward. Then it flows through a low canyon and empties into the ocean at Jenner, just north of Bodega Head. This river is very accessible to large urban areas, consequently, it is one of California's most important steelhead trout streams.

Water flows in the Russian River, which is nearly dry each summer, have been augmented since 1909 by diversion of the Eel River water by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Some sustained flows are provided by Coyote Dam on the East Fork of the

Russian River. The completion of Warm Springs Dam could provide additional sustained flows to a portion of the lower river, instead, it is likely that flows will be manipulated to provide water for other purposes. The coordinated management of Coyote and Warm Springs Dams could be helpful. The seasonal changes of the Russian River are also affected by the city of Santa Rosa, which uses the Russian River as a sewage line to the ocean. Sewage is supposed to be treated, but from time to time untreated sewage is pumped directly into the river.

The operation of the new Don Clausen Hatchery at the Warm Springs Dam may help reestablish chinook salmon in this stream and provide additional silver and steelhead trout. The survival of the wild steelhead stock, however, depends on successfully resolving problems caused by the deterioration of habitat in the tributary streams where wild steelhead trout spawn.

Soil erosion, destruction of vegetation cover, the proliferation of summer recreational dams and the many other problems caused by a rapidly growing suburban population and poor land management are subjects being studied by a large citizens' basin subcommittee.

FISHING REPORT

- RUSSIAN RIVER:** The steelhead are running and are being taken in the lower-mid portions of the river. Like most steelhead fishing...on/off.
- TRINITY RIVER:** Salmon are in. For more information, contact Herb Burton at Trinity Alps Angling Experiences (916) 623-6787. Try Dave Lackey's Sashon Bug, Silver Brindle Bug or Silver Hiltons fished with a high speed-high density line on the bottom.
- PUTAH CREEK:** Still a favorite for good trout fishing early in the morning.
- SMITH RIVER:** Salmon Fishing is at its peak but expect to taper off shortly.
- EAGLE LAKE:** Excellent trout fishing, up to 7 lbs.
- KLAMATH RIVER:** When the salmon fishing slowed down, the Steelhead began.

For up-to-date reports, contact anyone of the following individuals:

RUSSIAN RIVER

Kings in Guernville	(707) 869-2156
Kings in Santa Rosa	(707) 542-4432
Lyles - Santa Rosa	(707) 527-9867
Dave Inks - Santa Rosa	(707) 546-5555

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EDITORS' NOTE: This edition has many articles on conservation. Members' fishing reports would be greatly appreciated !

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EDITORS' NOTES...

As the steelhead season is upon us we can't help but feel how fortunate we are to have chosen Sonoma County as our home base. Not only do we have an abundance of truly outstanding anadromous fisheries within an easy drive north, but Northern California abounds with superb trout fishing and our local farm ponds offer an untapped resource of warm water fishing.

Christina and Michael Fong's evocative images of some misty morning remind us that the actual catching of fish is sometimes just an added extra to an outstanding experience. The reverence with which Michael described some favorite hole was presented as an experience to be shared rather than a story to be told. We welcome them as new members to R.R.F.F.

Speaking of the membership, our club is now large enough that much preparation and planning are necessary for our daily existence. A dinner meeting which lasts a few hours begins with negotiations for a place and selecting a date. A dinner menu must be selected and a commitment given for a fixed number of dinners. Many hours are consumed in eliciting and gathering items for auction/raffle. The quality of our speaks is outstanding for a club of our size.

Your participation is vital to our continued success. Please communicate your desires and suggestions to any board member and please check to see if you are one of us who has forgotten to remit your dues.



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COMING EVENTS

January 23, 1987 - General Meeting featuring
Wes Scheehy talking on : "Boat Riggings and Tac-
kle for Local Fishermen"

February 2, 1987 - SPECIAL EVENT
Featuring Milt Jensen talking about: "Califor-
nia's Newest Big Trout Fishery"

Mark these important dates on your calendar
Today !



Jim Hinkel
1941-1987

3450 Airway Drive
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