



# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

*The RFR*



Volume 15  
Number 1  
January 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone who came to the December dinner meeting with Abe Quanang. His presentation was excellent and I, for one, am anxious to try the Baja myself.

As I sit at my desk writing this, we are in bad need of rain. I hope by the time you receive it adequate rain will have fallen and fish will have moved into the coastal rivers. This should be one of the really great times of the year for steelhead fishing, and perhaps soon will be. I have had friends fishing both Lake Shasta and Lake Oroville for rainbow and brown trout with some success. Locally, Puta Creek might be productive as well.

If the weather has been bad for water supply and fish, it has been good for the grading and landscaping of our casting pond. This work is nearing completion and we can expect a greatly improved appearance by spring when the grass fills in. It's a real treat not to have cockle burrs and thistles reaching up to grab your back casts.

### General Meeting

**BOB NAUHEIM**  
*Salmon & Steelheading  
The Way It Was*  
Wednesday  
January 17  
Parks & Rec Building  
Steele Lane  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
January 15  
7:30 P.M.  
Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

Neil Light  
Florida Tarpon  
February

*Tight Lines,  
Bob Morrison*

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*No human being,  
however great,  
or powerful,  
was ever so free as a fish.*  
*John Ruskin*

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*Angling may be said  
to be so like the mathematics,  
that it can never be fully learnt.*

*Izaak Walton  
The Compleat Angler  
1653*

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# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, January 14  
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Place: Casting pond  
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa

If weather forces postponement of the clinic on the 14<sup>th</sup>, we will attempt to hold the event on the following Sunday, January 21. **Remember, Sunday, January 14 is the second Sunday of the month, not the third.**

The area around the pond is very muddy and the only access is to walk across the soccer field or stay on the shale road behind the baseball diamond and enter the pond area at the main gate.

Distance casting qualification and coaching will be in progress. Beginning and intermediate instruction will be provided by the coaching staff.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has several basic full-line outfits he will provide to beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve the use of one of these outfits, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

## DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

### OCTOBER CLINIC

#### 60 Feet

- #25. Lynn Bartholomew  
(8wt-SH)  
#26. Richard Bicknell  
(8wt-SH)  
#13. Chuck Baker  
(5wt-SH)\*\*

#### 80 Feet

- #21. Lynn Bartholomew  
(8wt-SH)  
#22. Richard Bicknell  
(8wt-SH)  
#12. Chuck Baker  
(5wt-SH)\*\*

### NOVEMBER CLINIC

#### 60 Feet

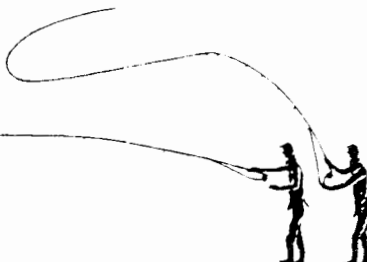
- #27. Aldo Bianchi  
(8wt-SH)  
#28. Clark McAulrow  
(6wt-FL)  
#6. Bob Morrison  
(3wt-FL)\*\*

#### 80 Feet

- #23. Aldo Bianchi  
(8wt-SH)  
#24. Clark McAulrow  
(6wt-FL)  
#11. Aldo Bianchi  
(8wt-SH).

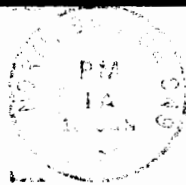
#### 100 Feet

\*\*Repeated distance with a lighter-weight rod.



## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa  
California  
95405



Address correction requested  
Return postage guaranteed



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Russian River Fly Fishers Club offers much to its members, including fellowship, an opportunity to learn something new, and to share what we know. One of our members, Bob Nauheim, shared many of his experiences on our local coastal streams with his wonderful salmon and steelhead program at the January meeting. Most folks can't believe that such high-quality fishing ever existed outside such exotic places as Canada or Alaska. Bob showed that for the talented fisherman, this area produced as well as any. Wouldn't it be wonderful if such conditions could be restored? Thanks, Bob, for such an informative and exciting program.

Well, we finally got some rain. I checked with Mike at Western Angler and he told me that folks are catching fish in the Gualala and Garcia Rivers, as well as in the upper portion of the Russian River. At this time the lower river is still quite muddy, but perhaps will be productive by the time you read this.

I have had some calls from some of you asking why the Russian River is clearing so slowly after the last rain. The reason is that

the rain we had on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> of January caused Lake Mendocino to fill up to the top of the water conservation pool on Friday, January 12. During the flood season, encroachment into the flood pool is not permitted, as this space is needed for flood storage should a major storm occur. Hence the Corps opened the gates on Sunday, January 14, and has been releasing the reservoir inflow ever

since. After sometime in March or April, depending on the weather, the Corps will allow the Water Agency to encroach 20,000 acre-feet into the flood pool for water supply. Hopefully there will be enough inflow in excess of the required releases after that date to make the encroachment possible. In the meantime, as long as Lake Mendocino is muddy, so also will be the upper river. Some clearing will occur downstream.

### General Meeting

**NEIL LIGHT**  
*Florida Tarpon*  
Tuesday  
February 21  
Parks & Recreation Center  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
February 19  
7:30 P.M.  
Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

**MIKE FONG**  
Tuesday  
March 20  
*Dinner Meeting • \$20*  
The Black Forest Inn  
Santa Rosa

*Tight Lines,  
Bob Morrison*

## GUALALA OUTING REPORT

Minor Hole was shoulder-to-shoulder by 9 AM, so Charlie Shelter, Joe Tucker, and I decided to leave the Gualala hoard and head for the Garcia. We weren't disappointed since there were only two cars at Minor Road when we arrived. However, more Gualala refugees pulled in and marched off to the river before we could get changed and geared up. By the time we hit the Garcia's Minor Hole two things were evident: the river was extremely low and clear, and we were not alone.

Undaunted, we set up with slow-sinking and floating lines, long leaders, and small Comet and dark nymph patterns. Moving through the mud flats down to the Bay, the very low water level made it evident that we weren't over fish. Having fished this area an average of ten days a year since 1983, I was content to see what these conditions could reveal about possible holding spots.

Charlie and Joe headed on down to the bluff where fish are occasionally caught moving in and out of the mouth while waiting for the tide to turn. They made the right choice, because over the surf's roar I heard a 'whoop' and looked up to see Charlie with arched rod moving rapidly along the bluff towards the ocean. He stopped at the edge of the surf, but obviously the fish didn't. Even from a distance I could see Charlie's rod snap straight as the chrome sider broke off his fly. The guys estimated that the fish was over fifteen pounds. I believed them since two other regulars on the Garcia—Bill Massey and Bob Dodds—have landed 16- and 20-pounders, respectively, in the last month.

After another hour of casting we decided it had been the only fish around, so we returned to the Gualala. The receding tide had reduced its lower holes to an accessible, but equally fishless level. Switchville also held far more flyfishers than fish, but since Dave Dempsey was going to meet us we started casting just to keep our skills at a peak.

The water was near 40° and soon my feet went numb. As I moved out to find a sunny spot, Joe Tucker headed towards the water saying, "Hey, I'm gonna try using two flies." A minute later he yelled out and I witnessed the most incredible sight: two steelies soaring out of the water in tandem on the end of Joe's line! The bigger fish snapped off the dropper in midair. Apparently, this weakened Joe's tippet section, as the second fish parted his company on the first run. Only he and I saw this remarkable action and never spoke to anyone about it, but the tale must be told.

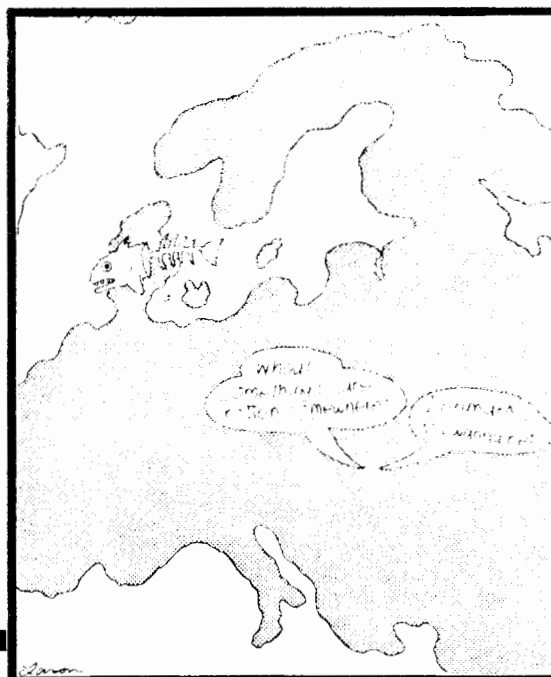
The next day we were back at Switchville with Dave Dempsey added to the group (modesty and the desire to maintain long-term marriages prevents me from describing our night in Gualala). Dave's guiding experience put us right in the 'bucket,' where the majority of fish hold and are hooked. But it wasn't exactly a secret spot and the thirty other guys standing three feet apart helped us to foul-hook six fish in places where no hook has gone before. Miraculously, none of the fishermen were hooked.

At the height of our casting frenzy, Dave said he saw a fish rise at the end of the line-up. He put on a little wet fly pattern, moved down, and 'hooked that puppy.' (This is a phrase you encounter in flyfishing line-ups which have been infiltrated by bait fishermen; listen for it on our Pyramid Lake trip.) Unfortunately, Dave's fish came 'unbuttoned' (a legitimate flyfishing term).

There you have it—all the excitement of the latest RREF outing. Imaging yourself there hooking those fish, I know I did. (Actually, only one of these fish stories is true and I'll let those who were there decide whether to divulge which one.)

—Ken (Isuzu) Magdon

*Sign up for the Putah Creek trip  
on February 24  
at our next meeting!*



# CORRECTION

MARCH DINNER MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st

WHERE: Black Forest Inn, in the St. Francis Shopping Center, at the corner of Calistoga Rd. & Hwy. 12

TIME: Cocktails at 6:30  
Dinner at 7:30

PROGRAM: Michael and Christine Fong, Trout Fishing in California. Published in just about every Fly Fishing Publication printed, Michael and Chistine are known worldwide for their very informative and beautifully illustrated articles.

With the trout opener soon upon us, this should prove to be a most appropriate program.

PAYMENT: Cost of dinner is \$20.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Russian Fly Fishers or call and make reservations at our number, 573-8903, and pay at the door. Please make reservations by March 16.

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Mail to: RRFF Inc.  
P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa, CA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 per person

Total Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

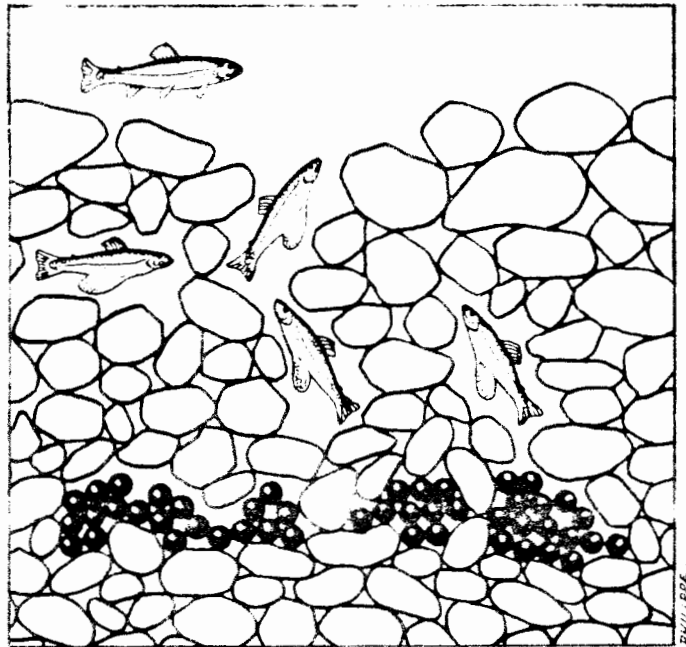
## NEW "SCHOOLS" FOR LOCAL CLASSROOMS



We now have a "steelhead in the classroom" rearing program available to teachers in the Russian River watershed. Bruce Wvatt of U.C. Extension in Sonoma County led a January 13 teachers' orientation of interested participants at Warm Springs Hatchery. Fishing club members from ARFF, UC Oakmont Anglers, and anyone else who feels qualified are asked to help teachers as "advisors."

Each classroom needs a 10-gallon and a 15-gallon aquarium and a pump, as well as a few other materials listed in a simple procedure pamphlet. Most schools need some financial help to get started—around \$60 per classroom. Eyed eggs (approximately \$0) will be provided by Warm Springs manager Royce Gunter.

Student-hatched-and-raised fingerlings can be released into any "healthy" creek in the Russian River drainage. Bill Cox will be glad to help the students choose a suitable tributary that's near their school. Hopefully, the school might "adopt" the stream and learn its needs and help see to its care. Depending on the age or the class, studies could encompass anything from basic fish survival, to fishing, to the politics of water and resource management.



If you want to get involved, talk to your school and call Bruce Wvatt at 527-2621, or call me at my office, 542-4236, and I'll put you in touch with someone who needs your help.

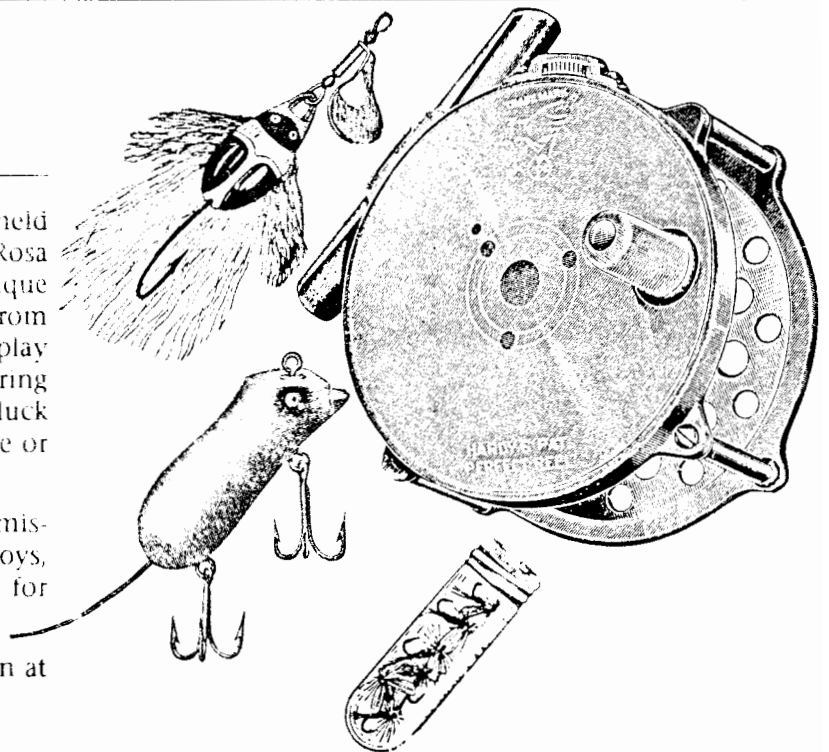
—Mike Hawes

## SPORTING COLLECTIBLES SHOW

The West Coast Sporting Collectibles Show will be held at the El Rancho Tropicana Resort Hotel in Santa Rosa on April 7 & 8, 1990. Vintage fishing tackle and antique duck decoys will be featured by 100 collectors from throughout the West. They are expected to have display tables exhibiting their collectibles, and will be offering fishing rods, reels, lures and tackle, old wooden duck decoys, knives, and sporting memorabilia for sale or trade, as well as offering to purchase such items.

The general public is welcome to attend (free admission) and is invited to bring any fishing tackle, decoys, knives, duck calls, or other sporting artifacts for identification, appraisal, or sale.

For further information contact either Jim Keegan at (707) 542-0235, or Dave Inks at (707) 538-5861.



# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, February 18  
Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.  
Place: Casting pond  
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa

If weather requires postponement of the clinic on the 18th, we will attempt to hold the event on the following **Sunday, February 25.**

If the real rainy season has arrived, the area around the pond will be very muddy and the only access will be to walk across the soccer field or to stay on the shale road behind the baseball diamond and enter the pond area at the main gate.

Distance casting qualification and coaching will be in progress. Beginning and intermediate instruction will be provided by the coaching staff.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has several basic full-line outfits he will provide to beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

## DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

### December Clinic

- 60'
- #29 Craig Lima  
(6wt-SH)
- 80'
- #26 Harry Schoonbaert  
(6 wt-SH)
- 100'
- #12 Harry Schoonbaert  
(6 wt-SH)

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



Volume 15  
Number 3  
March 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Conservation is becoming a more and more important part of our sport. The days are gone where we can take and kill limits of trout to carry home, put in the freezer, and after allowing them to freezer-burn sufficiently, throw them out. I, like many others, have been guilty of this. We all need to be more conscious of the frailty of the resource when compared to the hoards of fishermen we have today. I find no fault with taking an occasional fish for the table—fresh. I think the freezer, however, not only renders the fish less palatable, but also is largely responsible for the depletion of the resource. The Department of Fish and Game is on the right track by reducing the daily take limit to five trout this year. But think of how many fish would be lost if each of us did kill five trout every time we went fishing. Fortunately, most of us today do practice conservation in a responsible manner. We do need to spread the word when we get a chance.

Spring is approaching and with it will come trout season. As always, I am awaiting it eagerly. Perhaps I get so restless and excited because the weather (and therefore fishing

conditions) are more predictable; or perhaps because the weather is warmer and more relaxing; or even perhaps because many more miles of stream are open, making it possible to get away from the crowds; or maybe it's the hatches or the flowers or the wildlife running around attending to their daily routines. It's probably all those things and more. Whatever it is, it's a magical time of year and I've never missed an opening day and God willing I'll be there again this year.

Here I am talking about trout fishing in the future when steelhead fishing is still here and now. I hope all of you have done better than I have this year. So far the score is "Steelhead: 1; Bob: 0." That happened just above Wohler and lasted only about ten seconds (it seemed much longer). I'll keep trying—maybe I'll catch one yet.

### General Meeting

**MIKE FONG**  
Wednesday  
March 21

*Dinner Meeting • \$20*  
Cocktails 6:30 • Dinner 7:30  
The Black Forest Inn  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
March 19  
7:30 P.M.  
Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

**HAL JANSSEN**  
Wednesday  
April 18 • 7 P.M.  
Parks & Recreation Center  
Santa Rosa

*Tight Lines,  
Bob Morrison*



# PYRAMID LAKE

The club outing to Pyramid Lake has been rescheduled to March 30 through April 1. We have ten beds reserved in the two trailers at Crosby's Lodge for Friday and Saturday nights. Each trailer rents for \$60 per night, so individual rates will be \$12.50 on up per night, depending on how many people go. I'm going to request a \$15 deposit by March 21. You can call me to reserve a spot. There is camping available at \$8 per night for those who need their privacy. We'll need to bring all our food and cooking utensils. Usually, the only common meal is a Saturday night barbeque.

The fishing at Pyramid this year has been rated fair to good. Most of us fish from dawn to dusk, weather permitting. The bite is often best when there's a good chop on the water and at twilight, so plan to dress warmly. Most people fish from ladders, but float tubes and prams work well, as Bob Neille discovered last year. You just have to be very mindful of changing wind conditions and be considerate to the guys lined up on ladders. (The Nevada spin fishermen relieve their boredom by trying to hit a float-tuber with a 3" spoon.)

I've included the check list from last year which describes the gear you'll need. This is rather specialized fishing with hours devoted to heaving a shooting head as far as you can. But it's all worth it when a ten-pound Lahontan cutthroat grabs your fly so hard it rips the line from your hand. And then the fun really begins.

## PUTAH CREEK

Our little outing to Putah produced little in the way of fish. Six of us put in a long day and only got one fish and one other take between us. That water has been fishing tough this year, although some people, like Dwight at Western Angler, report hitting good days. I'll keep going back, though, until I figure it out. It is, after all, the only winter flyfishing trout stream around. Such as it is.

## LONG RANCE OUTING PLANS

Dave Dempsey has suggested trying the Sacramento River in the Redding-Anderson area for trout. It's all wading and fishing riffles, so we have to go before the irrigation flows raise the river to high. The latest we could go would be in mid-April. Let me know if you are interested.

The Northern California Fly Fisherman's Federation Conclave will be held the weekend of May 4 to 6 in Sacramento. I'm planning to attend and maybe get up to the foothills for a day of early season trout fishing, too.

The Yellow Creek trip is scheduled for the weekend of May 19. This is a restored meadow stream with good hatches of Baetis, Caddis, and Green Drakes. We had a nice campout there last year.

Several people have suggested going to Jackson Meadows/Milton Reservoir in June. How about going June 2 and 3 to beat some of the summer vacation crowd? Still another alternative would be a shad fishing trip to the Sacramento River in early June. Let me know what you would be interested in—I'm always ready to go fishing somewhere.

—Ken Magoon

## LIST OF ITEMS

1. Two sets of warm clothes (guys tend to fall in the lake by falling off ladders or tripping on the rough bottom!)
2. Chest Waders
3. Gloves
4. Aluminum ladders: Two steps or more with curved bar across top (Merchant's Ladder) with three-foot rope-and-float attached (bleach bottles work fine). We stand on ladders in the water in order to avoid snagging back casts and to give our arms a rest. Float tubes and prams are used by many guys, but watch the wind very carefully! It can overwhelm even powerful craft.
5. Seven, 8, and 9-weight rods with Hi-D #3 and Hi-Speed/Hi-D #4 Shooting Heads for distance. People use Level Floating Running lines instead of Amnesia for backing in order to avoid fouling casts with line wrapped around their ladders. But Amnesia gives you more distance. Six- to 9-foot leaders with 6- to 12-pound tippets are all that's needed to fool those 'cuts.'
6. Flies in Woolly Worm/Bugger patterns on 3x or 4x hooks (Mustad #9672 and 79580 respectively) sizes #2 to 6 are used almost exclusively.  
**Patterns:** In descending order of popularity (among the fishermen, anyway)—you can combine them in your own creative fashion:  
**Bodies:** Chenille in black, purple, olive, white, and pink.  
**Hackles:** Black, grizzly, purple, olive, and brown (they are tied 'palmered' style and you may want to use double hackles on some of your 'bigger buggers').  
**Tails:** Red (wool or feathers), black, purple, and olive (marabou).  
Weighted flies are not recommended as the bottom is very snaggy and you will occasionally snag the back of your head too. Rely on the shooting heads to get you down.  
For a final touch to these subtle offerings add some Flash-abou or Mylar to the sides and tails.
7. Fishing licenses are purchased at the lake.
8. In order to confirm your reservation I'll need to receive \$15 by March 21 (the night of the dinner meeting). But you may want to call before then as there are only ten beds available. My number is 527-8376. There will be a meeting 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 27 at the Montgomery Village Round Table Pizza Parlor—we'll organize rides and meals then.

# TEN YEARS OF FISHERY RESTORATION WORK

A partnership between the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has spawned a decade of achievements for the largest stream clearance and habitat improvement project in the country. The two state departments have worked together since January, 1980, on the Salmon Restoration Projects, designed to restore the natural populations of chinook salmon, coho salmon, and steelhead in North Coast rivers. During the past ten years, members of the CCC have cleared barriers or improved fishery conditions in 163 streams in Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Trinity counties.

The work has had substantial impact on fishery resources, according to DFG Director Pete Bontadelli. "This hard work is proving successful," said Bontadelli. "Salmon and steelhead are spawning and rearing in some areas where they have not been seen since the first half of this century."

The CCC/DFG effort has included work on more than 560 miles of tributary streams of the Eel, Mattole, and Van Duzen rivers, and the South Fork of the Trinity River. Using state-of-the-art techniques, corpsmembers have modified or removed hundreds of fish migration barriers; planted 400,000 trees along the rivers and streams; stabilized 11,000 feet of stream bank; constructed 600 instream structures to encourage spawning; and built 500 floating log covers to provide fish shelters.

The CCC currently has four full-time crews working on the project, based out of the Corps' Humboldt Center in Fortuna. More than 82,000 corpsmembers' hours are annually devoted to the work.

CCC Director Bud Sheble said the Salmon Restoration Project offers people a chance to enjoy seeing the impact of the natural resources work they do. "Corpsmembers often find themselves working knee-deep in the water, doing some of the toughest work in the CCC," said Sheble. "But when they spot a salmon going upstream while they're working there, they know there's a direct and positive benefit from their efforts." The project has generated tremendous support from a wide range of groups, from environmental organizations to sports and commercial fishermen to local business members.

With more work still to be done, both Sheble and Bontadelli expect the two departments to continue their working partnership for many years to come. CCC crews are currently protecting stream banks along the South Fork of the Trinity River in Trinity County, and removing barriers and planting trees at Mill Creek and Sprowel Creek, Eel River tributaries in Humboldt County.

In addition to the Salmon Restoration Project, the Corps is also working with the Department of Fish and Game on other fishery projects, including an angler creel census on the Sacramento River and a chinook salmon survey on forty Eel River tributaries.



Take I-80 to Sparks and exit onto Pyramid Lake Hiway.  
If lost phone (702) 673-4015.

## DFG PLANTS LARGE TROUT

The Department of Fish and Game is conducting a series of experiments to determine how big a trout is too big for a cormorant to swallow. As part of this research project Lake Ralphine/Spring Lake, Sonoma County, was stocked with 800 one-pound rainbow trout. Later this spring, the Department plans to stock even larger fish.

The one-pound fish were planted on February 22, 1990. Anglers should be aware that these large fish are part of an experiment and should not anticipate pound-plus fish on a regular basis. However, the Department is revising its planting goal in 1990 and 1991 so the average size of planted trout should be about one-half pound each.

One hundred of the one-pound fish were marked with reward tags. Fishermen are requested to return the tags from any of these fish that are caught. The proper address for returns is printed on the tags. For more information on the project and tagging, call (707) 944-5527.

# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, March 18  
 Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.  
 Place: Casting pond  
 Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
 Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa

If weather forces postponement of the event on the 18<sup>th</sup>, we will attempt to hold the clinic on the following **Sunday, March 25.**

If the pond area is still muddy we will set up casting courses on the soccer field as we have for the January and February clinics. The area that will be used will continue to be just inside the paved parking lot. Hopefully things will have dried out enough for us to use the casting pond for the April clinic and will also have permitted work on the finishing touches of the pond landscaping to be headed for completion.

Distance-casting coaching and qualification will be available, and beginning and intermediate instruction will be provided by the coaching staff. Coach Emil Lewis will work with those of you who are interested in ring-casting accuracy.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has several basic full-line outfits he will provide to beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

## DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

### January Clinic

	60'		100'
#30	Per Brandin (10wt-SH)	#13	Per Brandin (10wt-SH)
	80'		120'
#27	Per Brandin (10wt-SH)	#4	Per Brandin (10wt-SH)
			135'
		#3	Per Brandin (10wt-SH)



ERNIE STRONGLY SUSPECTS  
 HIS GUIDE IS LYING.

## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

*The RIF*



Volume 15  
Number 4  
April 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The process for electing some new board members, a new vice president, and a new president has begun. A nomination committee has been formed and they are actively seeking candidates who are interested in the administration of the club. These people should be able to attend the board meetings, which are now held on Monday evening, two days before our regular monthly meetings. Please contact any officer or member of the board if you have any interest in serving your club in this manner. The officers are elected for a one year term, while the board serves a staggered two year term. The new term for office begins in July, and we welcome your participation.

Trout season is but a couple of weeks away. It's time to dust off your trout gear, tie some new flies and decide where you are going opening morning. I know that opening morning there are usually more fishermen to contend with, but there is something magical about casting your fly upon the water and knowing that you are the first one to fish this hole since last fall. Your imagination can run rampant about what might have run into your section of stream over the winter. It's

something that started with me at about age 8 or 9 along Santa Rosa Creek and has stayed with me ever since. In the early days I had neither the ways or the means to travel to the river for Steelhead in the winter, and local wardens Ray Bruer and Lee Shea frowned on us fishing the local creeks during the winter time, so we had to wish and wait. My school work often suffered from my daydreaming, but somehow I'd always get through. It's that same anticipation that gets us

all through the more boring and trying times. If we ever quit feeling it, it will be time to give up fishing.

Mike Fong didn't do anything to lessen my excitement regarding the opener. His presentation on trout fishing made at our dinner meeting at the Black Forest Inn was excellent. I, for one, really enjoyed both the meal, and his presentation. I hope to see all of you at the April meeting to hear Hal Janssen. His presentations are always exciting and of interest to all of us.

*Tight Lines,  
Bob Morrison*

### General Meeting

HAL JANSSEN  
Wednesday  
April 18  
7:00 P.M.

Parks & Recreation Center  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
April 16  
7:30 P.M.

Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

BILL ARCHULETA  
Wednesday  
May 16

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# PYRAMID LAKE OUTING REPORT

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Here's the bottom line on RRFF's Annual Pyramid Lake outing. Five guys fishing about 20 hours each over three days managed to only hook 14 fish. Using my new Cabella's "FISH-O-MAN-HOUR-CASTING-METER," I figure that's approximately one fish for every 142.86 casts. (This is based on an estimated average of 20 casts per person per hour.)

Not only were the fish few and far between casts, they were small too. Only the 10-plus pounder landed and released by Mike Pellagrini is worth mentioning. All the rest of the fish I saw hooked over the trip (est. 40) were between 16 and 20 inches. Usually, several big fish have been brought in on past Pyramid trips, so this year represents a new low.

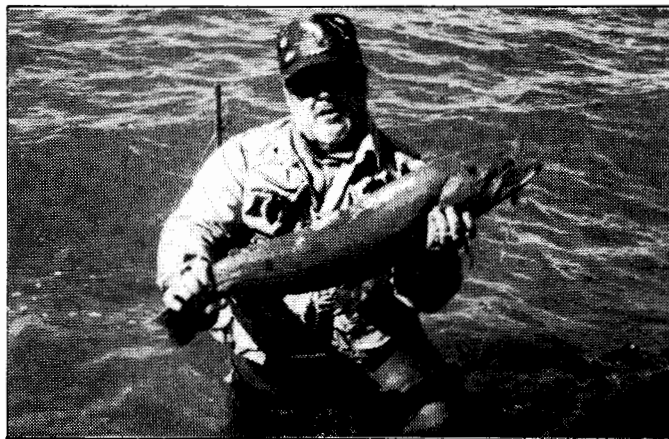
So why is the fishing off at Pyramid Lake? Many blame the Paiute's mismanagement of the hatchery program. Others say the "locals" take too many fish for the freezer. Then there are the "fish derbys" sponsored by the Nugget and again by Crosby's Lodge. But as easy as these "its overfished" explanations come, they pale against an exorable force that we Californians know all too well. It's called growth.

I don't know the numbers, but the growth of Reno and its suburbs, combined with agribusiness, have reduced the flow of the Truckee River to a trickle by

the time it reaches Pyramid. Couple this increased demand for water with several low snow pack years and it's not surprising that this year we put our ladders in water we were casting to 4 years ago.

Does this all mean that we should forget about Pyramid Lake outings? It has a certain mystique and is ecologically unique. So I think we need to stay in touch with it for aesthetic and environmental reasons. Besides, where else can you put to such good use those long distance casting skills learned at The Casting Pond.

—Ken Magoon



Mike Pellagrini's 10 1/2 lb. Pyramid Lake cutthroat which he released

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## FUTURE DATES TO NOTE

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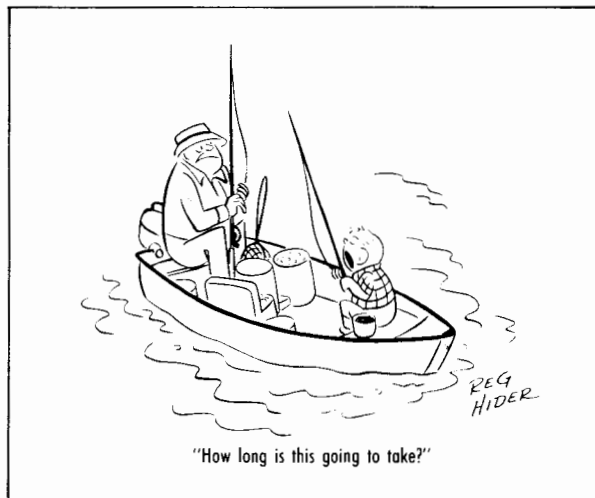
**May 4, 5 and 6** Federation of Fly Fishers Conclave  
Sacramento

Call 916-674-8532 for location and hours.

**May 18 - 19** Yellow Creek Outing  
(Camping)

**June 2 - 3** Manzanita Lake or Baum Lake  
(Camping)

Call Ken Magoon (527-8376) for Outing Information



# EARTH DAY EVENTS – APRIL 21 - 22, 1990

There are at least two weekend celebrations for Earth Day this year that should be of interest to local anglers:



The Committee for Restoring Santa Rosa Creek, Trout Unlimited, and many related groups will be represented.



Another important event is a benefit to help stop gravel dredging in the middle reach of the Russian River. The Westside Road Wineries & Friends are working to protect the water quality and riparian habitat of our fishery as well as the vineyards, farms, and forest of our agricultural preserves:

## Special Salmon Barbeque

Date: Saturday, April 21

Time: 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Place: Hop Kiln Winery

By Madrona Manor • Fine Wines of 7 Wineries • Dancing and Songs • Dedication of the new Riparian Preserve & Greenway • Blessing of the River • River Tours & Exhibits • Silent Auction of Art and Wine • Cost \$40 (includes above events Saturday & Sunday)

## Sunday Country Brunch

Time: 10:00 A.M. to 12 P.M.

Place: Westside Farms for donors of \$100 per person or more. (Includes all above events)

## Progressive Wine & Food Tastings

Date: April 21 & 22 – Saturday & Sunday

Time: 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Cost: \$10 for logo glass, map, badge, special sales  
Admits both days

Special tours of wineries and farms not open to the public. Sale of library wines

Sign in at either Alderbrook, Mill Creek, Belvedere, Hop Kiln, Rochioli, Davis Bynum, or Porter Creek Tasting Rooms.

Exhibitors: Trout Unlimited • Friends of the River • Sonoma Land Trust • Farmlands • Circuit Riders • Madrone Audubon Society

—Mike Hawes

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## **POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER**

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### **CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER**

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Date: Sunday, April 15

Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond.

Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa

The pond area, including the parking at the inside gate, was dry for the March clinic. We hope the same conditions will prevail for the April clinic. If the dirt parking area has become rewetted it will be necessary to walk to the pond. If the dry weather has held since the last event the landscaping project should be moving along again. Lets hope we see completion soon.

Distance casting coaching will be available and beginning and intermediate instruction will also be provided by the coaching staff. Emil Lewis will work with those of you who are interested in ring casting accuracy.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has basic full line outfits he will provide to beginners—both members and non-members—on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself, or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

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## **DFG**

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### **EARTH DAY SUPPORT FOR WILDLIFE**

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As the nation prepares to celebrate Earth Day on Sunday, April 22, Pete Bontadelli, Director of the Department of Fish and Game, urged Californians to make a personal commitment to support wildlife and protect the environment.

April 22 will mark the 20th anniversary of the original earth day observance in 1970. This year, Earth Day will initiate National Wildlife Week, April 22-28, sponsored annually by the National Wildlife Federation.

"I urge Californians to become personally active in supporting programs that benefit wildlife," said Bontadelli, whose Department seeks to safeguard California's wildlife resources and natural environment.

"Californians can benefit wildlife by buying fishing and hunting licenses and by contributing to the California Wildlife Campaign," said Bontadelli. Funds from hunting and fishing licenses go into wildlife management programs to help assure that wildlife species are abundant.

The California Wildlife Campaign provides funds for maintenance of dozens of California wildlife areas and ecological reserves. DFG manages approximately 500,000 acres of such wildlands habitat for wildlife throughout California.

For more information about the California Wildlife Campaign please call 1-800-THE-WILD.

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## **RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.**

P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa  
California  
95405



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# OUTING REPORT

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## RRFF MEMBERS ATTEND FFF CONCLAVE

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Last weekend, Bill Laurie, Richard Bicknel, Larry and Eric Schoenbaert, and I attended the **Federation of Fly Fishers Conclave** at the Sacramento Hilton. The quality of the seminars, the ongoing fly tying demonstrations, and the friendly intimate atmosphere made this event one of the best I've been to. Some of the highlights for me were:

**Kent Bullfinch's** tying demonstration of life-like stonefly imitations. He used durable "buggy feeling" materials such as polyfoam, rubber bands, and Tyvek paper, all colored in the appropriate salmon fly and golden stone colors with Pantone pens.

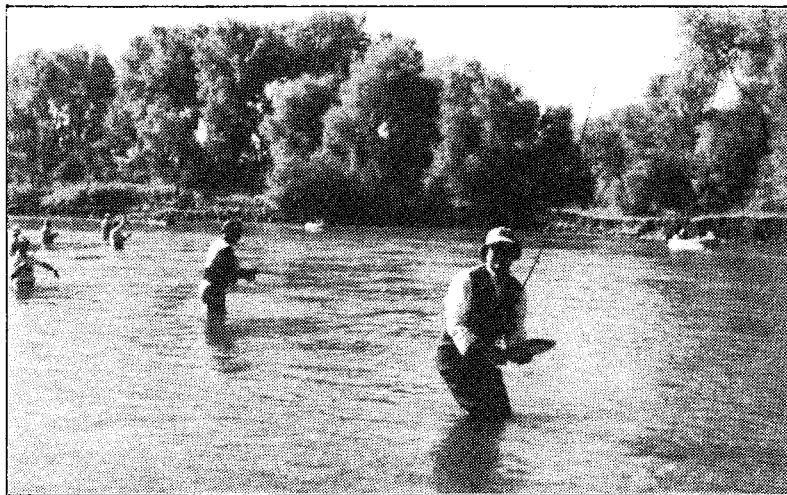
**Dan Berry's** humorous explanation of how to fish emergers sunk just below the surface on a tight line. He prefer to "yank" on the fly line as soon as it hits the water to get the fly about a half inch below the surface throughout the drift and swing. I have often used this technique, albeit unintentionally. This coincides with Hal Janssen's comments on how fish expect to see insects rising or falling. This may be an imperceptible action to us, but with Dan's approach it would be a continuous one as the tippet moves with the current.

**Andy Burke**, who guides out of The Fly Shop in Redding, gave a beautifully photographed slide presentation on fishing the Norther California waters in his area. I found his commends on winter and spring steel-heading the Trinity an intriguing part of his talk. Even though it's a six-hour trip from Santa Rosa, it's not an unrealistic possibility for a long weekend. Besides, there's always trout fishing the Sacramento River from

Redding to Anderson in the fall and winter months, if the Trinity is unfishable.

**Randy Johnson** asked a group of 30, "How many of you fish the Truckee River?" Twenty people raised their hands. But I didn't see any hands in response to his question, "Who does well on the Truckee?" He said that first you have to find the fish. In low water conditions that means looking for springs and seeps identified by denser foliage and grasses along the riverbank. The fish will gather in the cooler water. You then must approach cautiously with upstream fishing techniques. He said that fishing pocket water in the same manner can also be quite productive.

The highlight of Bill Laurie's weekend was winning the "doorprize" raffle—two nights in a row! His "loot" included a Bitter Root fly box that hangs on your chest and a \$100 gift certificate towards a Scott fly rod.



*Richard Bicknel releases a shad at Verona. The people in the background represent less than a third of the crowd that day.*





# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

# the RIF



Volume 15  
Number 5  
May 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your slate of candidates for next year's board has been selected. I thank all the nominees for their willingness to serve and encourage all of you to vote. Membership dues are due and payable on July 1. Family memberships are \$32; single membership is \$27; and junior (under 21) is \$19.50.

The By-Laws have been updated, so those of you who wish can get an updated copy. We will have some at the next meeting.

The trout season opener has come and gone. I hope many of you participated and had a successful experience. I fished the Pit River with my brothers and had a wonderful time. The rain that had been forecast did not occur and both caddis and stone fly hatches were heavy in the evening. Nymphs seemed to be the best attractors during the mornings and midday. We pack in a couple of miles to the area we fish, so there were not too many other fishermen to contend with. We had a great time and are looking forward to returning.

Our next meeting should be lots of fun. Bill Archuleta will share his Alaska fishing adventure with us. I have fished Alaska six or seven times and have found it to be fabulous at certain times and places. I am looking forward to Bill's presentation as I'm sure it will bring back fond memories. For those of you who haven't as yet made a trip north, it will give you something for your wish book and something to plan for. I hope to see you all there.

### General Meeting

BILL ARCHULETA  
Wednesday  
May 16  
7:00 P.M.  
Parks & Recreation Center  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
May 14  
7:30 P.M.  
Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

GENERAL MEETING  
Wednesday  
June 20  
Program to be Announced

*Tight  
Lines,  
Bob Morrison*

## **FUTURE DATES TO NOTE**

May 18 – 19 Yellow Creek Outing  
(Camping)

June 2 – 3 Manzanita Lake Outing

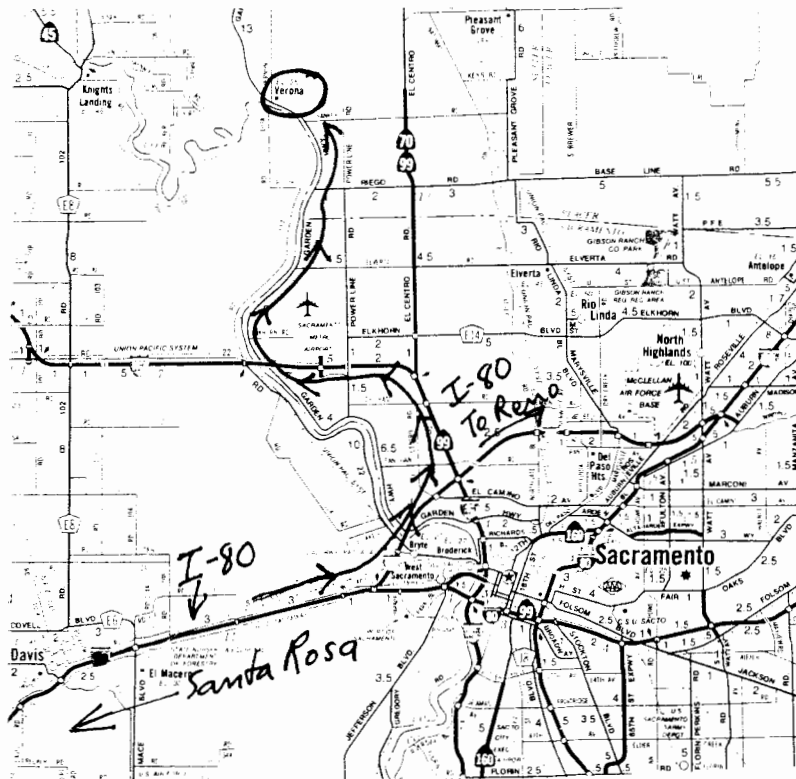
Shad Fishing on the Russian has been poor and worse. The runs on the Sacramento and American Rivers are quite good though. We went to Verona at the confluence of the Sacramento and Feather on Sunday and got into some nice sized fish. According to people from the San Jose Fly Fishers, the bite was hot all weekend. Call the Verona Marina (916-927-8387) for further information. The fishing may be good there for another two weeks and then look for it to pick up at Princeton.

Yellow Creek Outing informational meeting will be held right after the May 26 club meeting. I'll have maps and fishing/camping suggestions. We will be going that weekend.

The Manzanita Lake Outing is scheduled for June 2 and 3.

—Ken Magoon

*The road to Verona:  
Take I-80 towards Reno, then I-5 towards Redding;  
take Sac Airport Exit & get on Garden Hwy. going north  
to Verona Marina*



## **LIGHT BOAT NEWS**

Due to continued demand, the Light Boat Company is planning another production run of 8-foot prams. They have been out of production for some time, so if you have ever wanted one this would be the time to have yourself included. Contact Mike Hawes at 542-4236 for additional details.

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# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

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## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

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Date: Sunday, May 20

Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond.

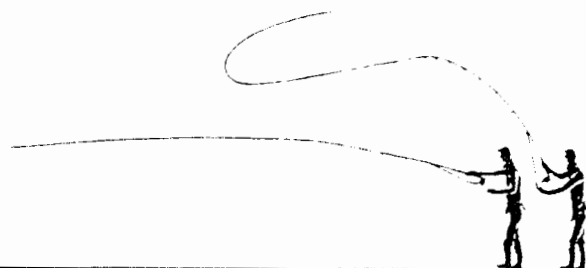
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

The Parks Department crew has been going full bore since early in April and have made considerable progress toward completing the landscaping project at the pond. There should be grass growing in the very near future. The access to the pond via the turnstile gate is fence off as is all other access until the new sod has a chance to become established. We will have access for the clinics, but will have to be careful to walk only on the marked areas. You should be able to bring the family and a lunch by summer.

Distance casting coaching will be available and beginning and intermediate instruction will also be provided by the coaching staff. Emil Lewis will work with those of you who are interested in ring casting accuracy.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has basic full line outfits he will provide for beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

Next clinic will be JUNE 17.



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### RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



Volume 15  
Number 6  
June 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June is the last month for this administration. I wish to thank the board for all their hard work and their willingness to give so freely of their time. I'm sure that next year will be very productive and fun with Russ Lockner and your new board at the helm. Good luck to your new board and thank you for letting me serve.

The recent rains should have helped the fishing situation generally. Since many of our water supply reservoirs hold largemouth bass which spawn in shallow water during the same spring months that reservoirs are frequently drawn down for water supply, bass often suffer the loss of their spawning beds prior to the egg hatch. This problem is compounded during dry periods since drawing the same amount of water from a half full lake pulls the water surface elevation down much more than it would if the lake were full prior to the water draw. This year many of the lake levels actually went up during the bass spawn. I hope this results in a better than normal hatch.

Our program this month is timely and covers some of our best north state fishing opportunities. Dick Galland from Clearwater House on Hat Creek will present our program. Dick owns and operates Clearwater Trout Tours. He will present his inner mountain wild trout show—Mount Lassen to Mount Shasta, including Hat Creek, Pit River, Fall River, McCloud River, Upper Sacramento River, and Manzanita Lake. I hope you all can make it, as it promises to be a very worthwhile program.

### General Meeting

DICK GALLAND  
*Inner Mountain  
Wild Trout Show*  
Wednesday  
June 20  
7:00 P.M.  
Parks & Recreation Center  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
June 18  
7:30 P.M.  
Warrack Hospital

### Coming Events

July  
No Meeting

August  
STEVE RAJEFF  
World Champion  
Fly Caster

*Tight  
Lines,*

*Bob Morrison*

# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, June 17

Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond.

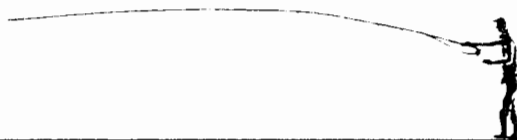
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

This will be the last clinic of the season. The next clinic will begin the 1990 - 1991 season in August. A new format will be put in effect to commemorate the completion of the pond landscaping. In the future the pond will be reserved for distance casting instruction and achievement qualification from 10 A.M. until 12 noon. This will provide an opportunity to go for distance without interference from other casters working across the pond. Beginning and intermediate instruction and ring casting for accuracy will be conducted from 12 noon until 2 P.M. There is also a regular club meeting featuring champion Steve Rajeff scheduled for August. Time and date for this event will be detailed by the program chairperson at a later date.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has basic full line outfits he will provide for beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

Next clinic will be August 19.

*SOME OF THE MORE DEFIANT STRAINS  
OF TROUT DIED OUT MYSTERIOUSLY  
BEFORE THE "AGE OF REASON."*



## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

# *The Cast*



Volume 15  
Number 7  
August 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year again—summer vacations, the fishing trip you've been planning all year; and the beginning of a new year of the Russian River Fly Fishers.

As your new president I am looking forward to the year ahead and am personally committed to making this our club; one that is receptive to and representative of the membership at large; an active participant in the environmental community; a fiscally sound club and, above all to continue as a friendly, helpful forum for our sport.

To this end your new Board of Directors has already met to address some ongoing concerns to ensure a successful year. Our new membership committee under the direction of Dick Mattingly will be formulating a membership drive as well as reminding the existing membership to send in their renewals. It is a collective goal of the Board to have *The Cast* in your hands by the first week of each month. (We welcome input from you for *The Cast*.)

I want to take this opportunity to thank Bob Morrison for a job well done as past president. Under his leadership the past club records have been assembled and the By-Laws updated and reprinted for distribution. It's a time consuming job and we appreciate his efforts.

I will be taking off for Montana on my yearly trek. I am especially looking forward to this year when my life-long fishing partner from New York will be there with his thirteen year old son. I will be back for our special meeting with Steve Rajeff on August 13.

I welcome the opportunity to serve as your president and will be receptive to your suggestions and input.

### ★ General Meeting ★

Monday  
August 13  
6:00 P.M.

STEVE RAJEFF

7 Time World Champion  
Casting Demonstration  
&  
Workshop  
Casting Pond – Galvin Park  
Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors Meeting

To be Announced



*Russ  
Lockner*

## DON'T LET 'EM GET AWAY!!!

Over the years the R.R.F.F. has lost prospective members because the public doesn't realize what great people make up this organization.

In addition to fishing, the club promotes conservation of water resources, cooperates with other fishing clubs, and provides instruction in all phases of fly-fishing for teenagers and adults. The club has also provided the city of Santa Rosa a great casting

pond adjacent to the Bennett Valley Golf Course for casting instruction and practice.

Unless we get the "word" out over the next few months many potential and prospective members will "get away." To this end we need several fishermen to dip their line in the pond and work with the membership committee. It won't take much of your time. Call Dick Mattingly, the membership chairman, at (707) 526-4477 and let's *bring to net!*

## A LAME DUCK OUTING REPORT

Before someone else officially takes over the responsibility of Outing Chair and I join Dan Quail in V.P. obscurity, I thought that I'd propose yet another trip to Fall River/Hat Creek. How about going the weekend of September 29 and 30? It will still be warm enough for the mayfly hatches and we might find some horny little *Dicosmoecus* (October Caddis) trying to get a jump on their mating season. If we're real lucky the autumn leaves will provide a beautiful backdrop for our piscatorial activity.

In order to keep it simple, I suggest that we stay at the P.G. & E. campground in Cassel. While it lacks some of the amenities of the "Big Mac" camp in Burney (no showers) it has much better proximity to the best water. There's the forebay area of Hat Creek within walking distance and it's only a few minutes drive to the wild trout water on Hat, and it's just up the hill from Baum Lake. In addition, Cassel is about 14 miles from Fall River. Those of us with prams and canoes can store them over

night at the Cal Trout access, which greatly reduces the hassle of the daily commute. Furthermore, the very affable owners of the Cassel General Store, Bob and Edie Baltzer, will allow you to hook up a battery charger for about \$2 per night, (a big plus over the "Big Mac"). Bob is a knowledgeable "local" fisherman and provides a good selection of flies in his store.

Does it sound like Cassel has something for everyone? Well, for those of you who don't like to camp or have a fishing vessel, there's Dick Galland's very pleasant Clearwater House right across the street from the General Store. At Clearwater you can enjoy the benefits of a comfortable bed and breakfast, fish the forebay or even hire a guide to take you to the Hat, Fall, or Pitt Rivers. You have to make your own reservations though. For reservations call (415) 381-1173. I'm going to be camping and spending the day on the Fall River and then fishing the evening hatch on Hat Creek. Hope you can join me. Give me a call at 527-8376 and we'll plan a great outing.

—Ken Magoon

# THRILL OF A LIFETIME



STEVE RAJEFF, 18-TIME NATIONAL AND 9-TIME WORLD ALL-AROUND CASTING CHAMPION, WITH HIS FIRST THOMPSON RIVER STEELHEAD. THE ROD OF CHOICE, A G. LOOMIS 10' FOR #8 IMX.<sup>®</sup>

*IMX<sup>®</sup>...THE LEGEND LIVES ON!*

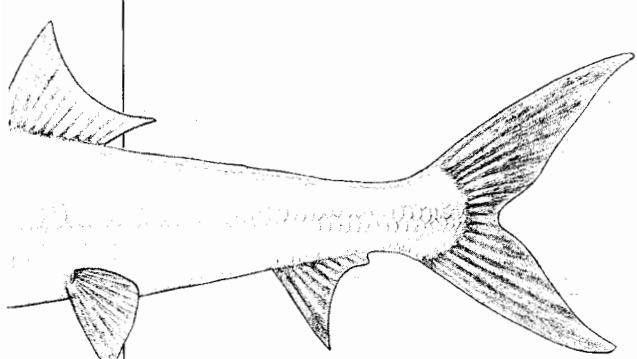
**[G·Loomis<sup>®</sup>]**  
INC.

Send \$1 to G. Loomis, P.O. Box E, Woodland, WA, for our new catalog and the location of the G. Loomis Pro Shop nearest you.

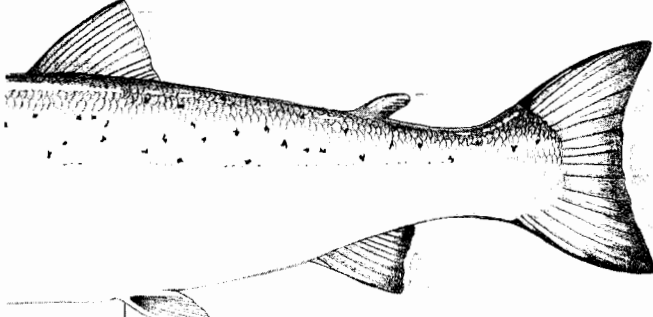
IMX is a registered trademark of G. Loomis, Inc.

Photo by Dave Decker





FASTER THAN  
A SPEEDING  
BONEFISH



MORE  
POWERFUL  
THAN AN  
ANGRY  
SALMON

## The New HLS Fly Rods

### The ultimate in graphite technology

Finally — a high modulus graphite fly rod that is a pure pleasure to cast, has the power to throw an entire fly line, and has the strength and durability fly fishermen demand.

The new Orvis HLS fly rods will simply change the way fly fishermen think about big game fly rods. Offered in three 9-foot models for 7-weight, 8-weight, and 9-weight fly lines, the HLS rods combine lightness and strength as no rod has ever done.

At the heart of the new rods is an exciting new high modulus graphite fiber called HLS (High Line Speed) 19. It is the first high modulus graphite material to meet Orvis exacting performance standards — and we've tested scores of graphites, including those used by our competitors. Our rod designers look at both the material's modulus of elasticity (its resistance to bending) and its tensile strength. The ratio of those two reflects the lightness of the rod relative to its strength. No one else in the industry has a material that can compare to HLS 19 (see chart).

	Tensile x 10 <sup>3</sup>	Modulus 10 <sup>6</sup>	Ratio
IMC	590	39	15.1
IMX®	789	47	16.8*
Graphite III	800	46-48	16.7-17.4
Orvis HLS-19	800	42	19.0

The new HLS rods are 25% lighter than lower modulus graphite and even tougher. We are so confident of their performance we offer the unprecedented Orvis 25-Year Guarantee on them. If the rod breaks, for any reason, we will repair or replace it free for 25 years. No other rod maker will give you that assurance.

Experience a rod that can fish at 20 feet with finesse and still boom out the entire line. A rod that you'll swear is at least two line sizes lighter. A rod that handles smoothly and tracks straight. A rod that will be the talk of fishermen on big trout streams, steelhead and salmon rivers, and saltwater flats and surf for years to come.

Cast an Orvis HLS fly rod at a dealer near you (see our dealer listing inside) or write for a FREE 1989 Fishing and Outdoor Catalog from Orvis, 10C River Road, Manchester, Vermont 05254. Or call toll-free at 1-800-548-9548.



ORVIS®  
Manchester, VT 05254

\*We regret having inadvertently printed incorrect figures for IMX® in recent ads and catalogs. The correct figures are given here, resulting in a new ratio of 16.8, not 16.6. We apologize for our error.

Orvis supports and endorses Trout Unlimited, The Museum of American Fly Fishing, The Federation of Fly Fishers, The Ruffed Grouse Society, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, and The Atlantic Salmon Federation.

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## CONSERVATION NEWS

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Over the next year I would like to present topics of interest to club members on conservation issues and news that is useful to local fishermen. The Board also hopes to hold a series of workshops on such topics as fly tying, fly rod construction, care and repair of equipment, and perhaps conduct a few work days for stream restoration projects on the Russian River or other important fishing streams.

I would appreciate information from club members on both the type of conservation issues members are interested in reading about and the kinds of workshops you would like to participate in. During the next few meetings I will talk to members and hopefully receive your suggestions, so be thinking about conservation and workshop ideas.

I am sure you all have been reading about the current problems and issues surrounding logging operations along the northern California coastal areas. Much of the news is centered around the issues of cutting old growth redwoods, clear cutting, difficulties for the logging industry with proposed new logging requirements, and more recently, the listing of the spotted owl as an endangered species. While all these issues are at the front of the news, the California Forest Practice Regulations are undergoing a complete revision by a series of committees within the California Division of Forestry. The meetings are public and CDF is looking for strong input from the public that uses forest areas.

One important issue for fishermen is the logging practices along stream courses. New

requirements are being developed to protect streams from increased temperature, disturbance of spawning gravels, siltation, and distribution of up or downstream migration of fish by the creation of a watercourse protection zone. This zone has strict wildlife protection requirements and a prescribed zone along streams that maintain year round flow, where cutting and road construction are not allowed. The forestry department is developing a state-wide stream monitoring program to determine if the new stream side protection zone and logging regulations are sufficient to ensure that wildlife will continue to occupy this area and that the streams will continue to support viable fisheries.

Public input is really needed at the District Technical Advisory Board meetings to ensure that the new policies will protect wildlife and still provide a source of logs for lumber. I will note meeting times in this column and urge members to attend and provide the board with input.

The second area of concern for fishermen is the status of the State budget. With the possibility of wide spread cuts in state spending, the Department of Fish and Game, Water Quality Board staff, and CDF staff have been targeted for possible cuts in staffing. These cuts in state personnel could have widespread effects on fishing seasons, biological research, stream protection efforts, and law enforcement. How these cuts are made will require close watching during the next few months.

—by Ed Smith

# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, August 19

Time: 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond  
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

The new activity format will schedule the pond for distance casting practice, instruction, and qualification from 10 A.M. until noon. From 12 noon until 2 P.M. the scheduled activities will be ring casting for accuracy and beginning and intermediate instruction.

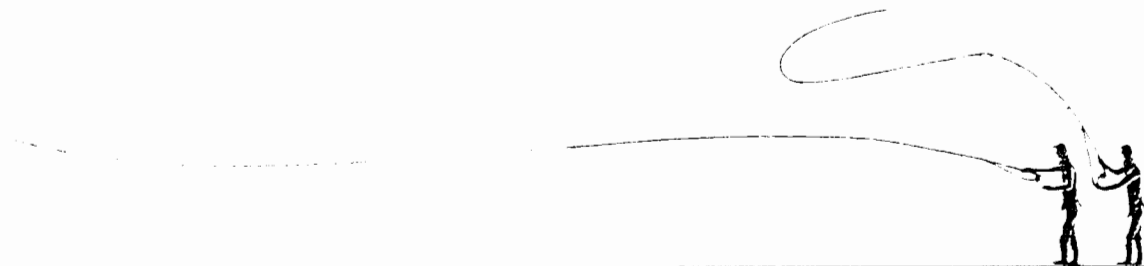
The seeding of the pond area took place on July 9 and the turf should be up and looking good by the August event. The turf will not be tough enough for other than looking at until September, however, it will be a finished product for all to see and enjoy. There will be a hard surface pathway of

stepping stones in place leading from the shale surfaced road to the dedication monument. Please use the path until the turf becomes well established and tough enough to walk on. The only entrance to the pond area will be through the swinging gates at scheduled events until the parks supervisors give the OK.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line outfits he will provide for beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

—Bob Sisson

Next pond event will be SEPTEMBER 16



## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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Santa Rosa  
California  
95405



Bob Sisson  
3607 Green Hill Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

*The RFR*



Volume 15  
Number 8  
September 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Most fishing literature or the evening talk around the campfires seems to focus on two kinds of fishing. Either the exotic places of brochures and slide presentations—whether they are brawling western rivers full of gluttonous trout gorging themselves on THE HATCH or stalking a saltwater prey which will be the ultimate test of tackle and the fishermen's mettle—or trekking into some remote area where few can afford the fare or expend the physical energy required to get there.

I have rediscovered an alternative which most of us hold in the memory banks of our youth—a barefoot lad trudging down a dirt path carrying his cane pole and a can of worms. He is returning from a successful trip on some little creek. These small streams are the humble beginnings, not only for many fishermen but also for the rivers that we dream about. (If you go upstream far enough, one can literally jump across the Mississippi River).

I suppose some of us do fish small creeks, but it's something that we don't talk about, perhaps once you've grown up you must graduate to more challenging fishing. Well, I've got a confession to make. After returning from one of my trips to the famed Big Hole River, one of Montana's Blue Ribbon trout streams, someone invariably asks me—how was the fishing? "It's okay," I answer, but often with a false enthusiasm, for in truth I find as much satisfaction fishing some willow bottom feeder stream of which there are so many I haven't begun to fish them all.

Imagine a little stream so clear you can count the pebbles on the bottom, no more than twenty feet across and in most places, only half of that. Not only do you not see the other fishermen, you rarely see any evidence of their passing. As in most streams in this drainage, the predominant species are brook trout, a char actually, which are so prolific that the bag limit (yes, Virginia, we do keep some fish) is ten pounds plus one fish. (Ten pounds of brook trout at an average size of six inches is a lot of fish!) Additionally, there are arctic grayling in this stream, which are protected and must be released.

Although the stream is small, the fishing *can* be challenging. Everyone, including the absolute beginner, can catch fish here, but they are spooky, and some of the best pools are quite difficult to reach because of the overgrown willows.

It is possible to take nine and ten inch fish which is similar to catching fish double their size from larger waters. I usually fish with a 7-1/2 foot rod and a 4 weight line and 50 fish days are not unusual. I have, on occasion, caught legitimate 12 inch fish in this creek and the last time I fished it I landed a 16-1/2 inch male that was beginning to take on the brilliant coloration of the coming spawning season. As I released that fish I was absolutely fulfilled with the joy of fishing and in the knowledge that I had rediscovered a secret of my youth.

*Russ Locken*

### General Meeting

DAVE DEMPSEY

*California*

*Spring Creek Fishing*

Wednesday

September 19

Demo & Workshop

6:30 P.M.

Meeting/Slide Show

7:30 P.M.

Steele Lane

Elementary School

301 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday

September 17

3554 Round Barn Blvd.

#200

Santa Rosa

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## **FUTURE DATES TO NOTE**

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### **September 29-30 Hat Creek/Fall River**

There has been a good response to the suggestion to fish Hat Creek/Fall River on the weekend of September 29-30 (see the August Cast). There's a diverse fishery around Cassel. You can wade Hat Creek and the Pitt, float tube on Baum and Manzanita Lakes, or cruise Fall River with electric motors.

Tried and true mayflies for this area include: Baetis (#16 & 18 Blue Wing Olives); Pseudocloeons (#20-24 Tiny Blue Wing Olives); #14-18 Callibaetis (for Baum/Manzanita); and infrequens (#16 to 18 Pale Morning Duns). You should have emergers, spinners, and dries for all of these flies. Among the more successful attractor patterns are PT nymphs and Zug Bugs (#14-18); Parachute Adams (#14 to 20); and the old reliables, Woolly Buggers (olive/black) and Chironomids (gray, olive, black, and tan). Finally, have some caddis patterns in tan, olive, and orange (the big October caddis).

This will be a great outing, so sign up at the next meeting or call me at 527-8376.

### **October 27-28 Lake Almanor**

Last October, Dave Simmons from the Powell Fly Shop was raving about the hot bite at Almanor. Apparently, big Browns and Rainbows began feeding heavily on large schools of "pond smelt," which in turn provided good action near the surface for anglers using appropriate imitations. We went there on November 11, but were frozen out by that early snow storm. I'd like to try it again this year on the weekend of October 27-28. There are several resorts around the lake which offer camping and cabins. They also provide launch facilities. Those of us with boats should be willing to take out a few of our landlubber colleagues, so sign up even if you're "vessel-less."

### **November 10-12 Feather or Trinity River Steelhead**

This trip is only in the fantasizing stage, but I heard that both of these rivers have been offering some decent fall steelhead fishing even through this drought. I'd appreciate any information on your experience with these rivers at this time of year.

Please call me at 527-8376 for directions.

—Ken Magoon

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## **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

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<b>October 17</b>	Green River, Wyoming
<b>November 14</b>	Swap Meet/ Show and Tell
<b>December 14</b>	Christmas Dinner

All regular meetings will be held in the multi-purpose room at Steele Lane Elementary School at 301 Steele Lane. This facility is right next door to the Rec Center where we have been meeting.

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## CONSERVATION NEWS

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A number of club members have talked with me about starting some activities along the Russian River and/or tributaries. These activities might include clean-up of stream banks, removal of junk, and minor stream improvement. The areas selected would have to have the support of land owners or occur in public area. The club has conducted this type of activity in the past. If this type of event is of interest please let me know at the next meeting. I will be meeting with Fish and Game and Water Quality personnel over the next two weeks to discuss possible projects for local stream improvement.

On a broader note, a recent article in the Audubon Magazine brought to my attention a new sport called "crikkin" or creek hiking. The object of the sport is to hike the length of the creek from its mouth or where the creek enters a larger stream to the source of the creek. The hikers are to remain in the stream at all times and to walk in the water or on rocks and logs. These hikes may take days during which time the hikers do not leave the stream. If you fall *out* of the creek or have to leave it for any reason you are disqualified. This sport is growing in the western

states with active groups in Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. Fish and Wildlife biologists are concerned because hikers are endangering very fragile environments by walking through fish-spawning areas and rearranging important gravel patterns. They frighten wildlife and muddy the water during transport, and with the rule about staying in the stream, urination becomes another water quality problem. As the sport grows, conflicts with fishermen will arise and also draw attention to fishing activities where large numbers of fisherman "work" a pool for steelhead or trout. Creek hikers claim they have as much right to walk in a stream as fishermen. A few stream hikers most likely have little impact, however, large numbers will effect small tributary creeks and most likely interfere with stream fishermen. Perhaps it is a good time to take a hard look at our stream behavior and make sure we have as little impact on the stream or creek as possible while fishing. It will also be important for fishing groups to follow this issue carefully because regulation aimed at reducing the creek hiking impact could also affect access to streams by fishermen.

—by Ed Smith

### CHUMMING THE MEMBERSHIP WATERS!!!

We are preparing the 1990-1991 membership roster and remind those Fly Fishers their renewal memberships are due and payable by October 1. Although envelopes were sent to the membership, less than 50% have responded. Thus, we chum the waters once again before the renewal deadline.

Single Membership: \$27.00  
Family Membership: \$32.00  
Junior Membership: \$17.50

Those who have not renewed their membership by October 1 will not be included in the

Roster; will not receive the Cast; and will lose all the benefits, rights and privileges afforded them in the BYLAWS!

Excellent programs are scheduled or are in the works for fly fishers at all levels of experience including several trips.

If you have questions concerning your membership status, please contact Dick Mattingly (707) 526-4477; or Mike Lisignoli (707) 542-7725; OR mail your renewal dues to P.O.Box 2673, Santa Rosa 95405.

# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, September 16

Time: 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond  
Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

The activity format will schedule the pond for distance casting practice, instruction, and qualification from 10 A.M. until noon. The pond will then be set up for ring casting for accuracy and beginning and intermediate instruction.

Those of you who are interested in casting and improving your casting missed a great program and opportunity by not attending the outstanding program put on by Steve Rajeff (who had just successfully extended his collection of national championships to nineteen) and runner up Chris Korich. The pond area with its new landscaping

ranks, according to the two champions, in the top three or so that they have seen in the country. The grass still needs more time to toughen up and the pond will remain closed to the public until the end of next month. By that time there should be a new gate next to the access road and a concrete walk in place from the road to the pond itself.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line outfits he will provide for beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

—Bob Sisson

Next pond event will be OCTOBER 21



### RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa  
California  
95405



Bob Sisson  
3607 Green Hill Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Address correction requested  
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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

*The R.R.F.F.*



Volume 15  
Number 9  
October 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Television is a device which preys on the impulsive, addictive minds of the bored—like mine. I can go for days, even weeks and months without watching it, but once it's turned on I may sit there, unable or unwilling to turn it off. Recently after watching a football game (by my own choice) I began roaming the channels for some other diversion and chanced upon fishing. Voila! I settled in and watched the fisherman cast his plug toward a brushy shoreline and set the hook on what proved to be a bass of modest size. As the camera person moved from one fisherman to another in some other spot, several similarities of a very curious nature became evident. Consider this: Although there were two people in each boat only one was fishing; each boat was equipped with a small electric motor and another motor of truly outlandish size (to enable the fisherman to move to his next chosen spot at the greatest possible speed); each fish that was hooked was brought to the boat in summary fashion—playing the fish was apparently not an element of this game. Of course—it's a tournament! The whatever-annual B.A.S.S. Master Tournament to determine *the winner*. How one would decide who is a better fisherman than another is still unclear to me, although it didn't seem to be at all correlated to having fun.

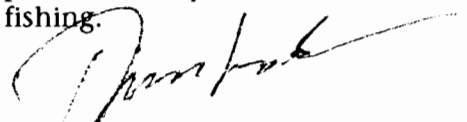
The spectacle continued, culminating in a daily *weigh-in* ceremony in Richmond, Virginia, which to me was a cross between a presidential nominating convention and the Calgary/Stampede Rodeo. Each

*contestant*, bedecked in his finest jacket emblazoned with sponsor's logos and decals, entered the area waving and cheering to a crowd of 30,000 or so as his boat was towed toward the dais where the cowboy-frocked M.C. would interview the gladiators while their catch was being weighed.

Each Fisherman reached into his live well to hold up his catch one by one to the cheering crowd before dumping his maximum of five fish into a bag for the scales. At the final day the cumulative results were posted and a winner declared (with a three day total

of some 30 pounds of bass). This year's *master* made an impassioned plea for conservation of resources and recycling, and of course the M.C. assured the multitude that no bass had been killed. The winner, accompanied by his jubilant wife and tearfully happy daughters, was holding the last day's catch by the gill covers while cameras clicked and flashes illuminated the squirming trophies. The dichotomy of the entire spectacle was amazing to me. The contrast of the lazy talk of the "good ole boy" southern fishermen as they were interviewed with the scene of bass-boats roaring from the dock at the start of each day's fishing was almost too much.

Well, obviously these views are mine and don't reflect those of the R.R.F.F., however, this event and those similar are really a product of our competitive society and to me are not fishing.



### General Meeting

BILL ARCHULETA  
DWIGHT LONGUEVAN  
KEN MAGOON  
*Fishing the Green River*  
Wednesday  
October 17  
7:30 P.M.  
Steele Lane  
Elementary School  
301 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
October 15  
6:30 P.M.  
3554 Round Barn Blvd.  
#200  
Santa Rosa



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# CONSERVATION NEWS

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## COMMITTEE FOR RESTORING SANTA ROSA CREEK

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At our last club meeting Liz Flynn brought the club members up to date on the Santa Rosa Creek project. For those members who could not make the meeting I will provide a brief overview of the project. The first stage of Creekside walk paths is currently under construction with the cooperation of the City of Santa Rosa Park and Recreation and the Sonoma County Parks Department.

A \$100,000 grant from Tobacco Tax money (obtained by Bev Hansen) is being used to construct a walk bridge over Brush Creek and walk path along the north side of Santa Rosa Creek to Farmers Lane. This path will connect with an existing path from Mission to Brush Creek. This is the first link of an entire creek walk path system along Santa Rosa Creek.

Help is needed from volunteers for two construction days, September 29 and October 13 (both Saturdays). This is an opportunity for the club to help the Santa Rosa Creek project and a start at helping to improve local streams and the public awareness of the beauty and benefits of streams. CONTACT BILL BARNHART at the County Parks Department, 527-3041 (you will need to sign a liability waiver) to volunteer for one or both work days. Lets get out and help.

## SALMONID FISHERIES

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David Dempsey, our speaker at the last club meeting, provided some information to me on the continuing problems of ocean poaching for salmon often done by foreign vessels. North Korean, Japanese-owned vessels continue to fish in northern waters of the Soviet Union and U.S. In one case reported in the *Ketchikan Daily News*, some 500 tons (\$8 million) worth of salmon were taken illegally in Soviet waters. The control and regulation of commercial fishing for migratory salmonid fish is a difficult task. Standing croup, age classes, fishing limits are all hard to establish. When nations continue to allow poaching by their nationals in foreign water with set catch season and limits, the hope of maintaining a viable standing croup is almost impossible.

The fact that another drought year will take its toll on the spawning conditions in many western streams means that salmonid survival levels will be low. When projected larger runs of salmon and steelhead find reduced rudd (spawning gavels) areas spawning success will be reduced. Many of the western stream flows are controlled by dams and the demand for power, agricultural waters, and water for domestic uses. Unfortunately, these uses have more priority than fish survival needs in many streams. This battle for water use will only get worse and fishermen and conservationists must keep pushing for a just share of the limited water for habitat, stream, and fishery survival.

*Ed Smith*

# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, October 21

Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond

Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

The activity will resume its former time schedule of 11 A.M. to 2 P.M. for all activities planned. The distance casting course will be marked at the 60' and 80' distances for those of you who are interested in finding out what you can handle and for those of you who wish to learn shooting head technique. The longer distances will be marked out into the downwind lawn area to give everyone a chance to test themselves at the 100', 120', 135', and 150' distances while casting from the long side of the pond. The accuracy dry fly ring casting course will be set up together with scattered practice rings for those of you who are interested in improving your skill for small streams and lake fishing.

The pond area has never looked better. The new gate should be in place as of the week of September 20. A concrete walk has been designed from the pond to the access road. This may require some work from the membership to complete. The pond cleaning will take place as soon as the park superintendent is ready. This job will also require the assistance of a few of you members who can get away for a few hours during the week. A shale surface is planned for the parking area at the end of the soccer field before the rainy season sets in. The pond should be reopened to all time access by early October.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line outfits he will provide for beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

## DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

February through September 1990

60'

- #31. Steve Rajeff (10wt-SH)
- #32. Chris Korich (10 wt-SH)
- #33. Anne Bakker (8wt-SH)

80'

- #28 Steve Rajeff (10 wt-SH)
- #29. Chris Korich (10 wt-SH)
- #30. Anne Bakker (8 wt-SH)
- #1. Bob Sisson (8wt-FL)\*\*

100'

- #14. Charlie Schelter (10 wt-SH)
- #15. Steve Rajeff (10 wt-SH)
- #16. Chris Korich (10 wt-SH)
- #3. Bob Sisson (6wt-SH)\*\*

120'

- #5. Steve Rajeff (10wt-SH)
- #6. Chris Korich (10wt-SH)

135'

- #4. Steve Rajeff (10 wt-SH)
- #5. Chris Korich (10wt-SH)

150'

- #1. Steve Rajeff (10 wt-SH)

\*\*Repeated distance with a lighter outfit or a full line.

Next pond event will be NOVEMBER 18

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Frank M. Arriaza and his family of Sebastopol. Frank says that he is a beginner and wants to learn casting and fly fishing with other members. Going to the pond??? Call Frank at 829-0805.

Ann-Marie Bakker of Sonoma. She classifies herself as an intermediate fly-caster, and like Frank, would like to join with other members to practice casting and help novices. She earned an 80' casting certificate at the September meeting.

Kent Swisher and his young son Ryan joined as “beginners” at the last meeting. Young Ryan “sandbagged us” during the drawing—and almost got away with all of the prizes!

Kent and Ryan want to join with the experienced “casters” of the club and really learn the art of casting.

Including the foregoing new members, we want to thank those members who have renewed their memberships before the deadline. No, there is no penalty if you renew your membership late, but you may miss your *Cast* until your membership is made current.

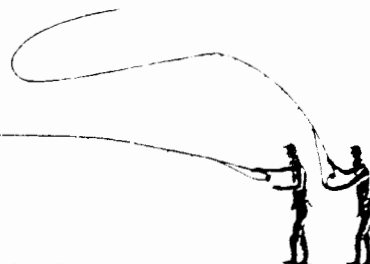
A current membership roster is being compiled and should be available at the October meeting. By the way, the membership is now over the century mark! Lets get it up there. Enlist a new member. Application blanks are available from Brian Wong, Lyles Tackle Shop; Western Angler; or from Dick Mattingly at 526-4477—Yep, just a phone call away.

**Wednesday, November 14**

**Swap Meet/Show and Tell**  
Bring items to trade or sell. Tables  
available for mini-workshops.

**Saturday, Friday, December 14**

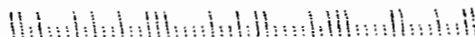
**Christmas Dinner**  
Mel Krieger, Fly Fishing Around the World  
Space will be limited. Reservation forms  
in the next *Cast*.



P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa  
California  
95405

BOB SISSON  
3607 GREEN HILL RD  
SANTA ROSA CA 95404

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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

*The RIF*



Volume 15  
Number 10  
November 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The young fisherman was alone, on the pool where he was fishing, and on every other pool he had fished that day. No wonder—it was a designated wilderness area and he was eleven miles from the nearest motorized access point. The native western cutthroat trout is a beautiful fish, brilliantly colored and loving a fast moving, boulder strewn mountain stream. Coursing down the canyon floor, with its small glade-like meadows choked with ferns and mosses and the damp fresh scent of cedar, this "creek" had always been home to the western slope cutthroat trout.

He fished the tail fan riffle gravel before fishing the body and head of the pool. Fishing was good, very good, which justified the long trail in. The fish took large dry flies in sizes 10-14 and it wasn't unusual to hook six or more fish from one pool and run. They were 11 to 15 inch, well fed and full of energy.

The western Rocky Mountains give rise to several large river systems, some of which are known for their populations of Dolly Varden trout. Dolly Vardens are not well known in California—they occur in the mid Sierras and the McCloud drainage. Distinguished by their very large mouth and fins that are trimmed in white, they are relatives of the lake trout and brook trout. When hooked, (usually by bait fishermen) they run deep and shake their heads, probably adding to their nickname of bull trout. In the major drainage they range up to 30 pounds and are not uncommon to 15 pounds.

A small cutthroat took the young fisherman's fly and started up into the head of the pool. As it was a small fish, he wanted to play it quickly before it spooked the upper end of the pool. He saw the form and shadow of the large fish that suddenly had the little cutthroat in its jaws. He played the big fish for close to a minute, but he had no way of setting the hook. The big Dolly released his stolen prey and the fisherman beached an eight inch cutthroat, its flanks replete with tooth marks.

The fisherman snipped off his dry fly, trimmed his 3X tippet back to about 2X and tied on a large black marabou streamer, all the while watching the big fish sit at the neck of the pool about two feet under the surface. The big streamer smacked down just upstream from the holding fish. Perhaps the struggling cutthroat had triggered the never forgotten hunting instinct, for as soon as the streamer entered the Dolly's feeding window it moved rapidly toward it and savagely took the fly. The strike was expected and the hook well set; after a prolonged fight, a hen fish of 28 inches was beached.

Since the day the young fisherman released that large fish, every trip back to the upper reaches of the creek has produced large Dolly Vardens in the 30 inch class. A truly unique fishery "discovered" really by accident—and a damn fine fisherman.

### General Meeting

ALL CLUB SWAP MEET  
*Bring Your Items to  
Trade or Sell*

Wednesday  
November 14  
7:30 P.M.

Steele Lane School  
301 Steele Lane, Santa Rosa

### Board of Directors

Monday  
November 12  
6:30 P.M.  
3554 Round Barn Blvd.  
#200  
Santa Rosa

### Coming Events

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER  
Friday  
December 14

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# **OUTING REPORT: PAST AND FUTURE**

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## **FALL RIVER, SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30**

Spencer Bader and I set out on a crisp autumn morning from Harley's Farm in the 14 foot john boat we had rented from The Fly Shop in Redding. About two miles downstream we encountered caddis activity with small fish making splashy rise forms. After spending too long pretending that refusals were missed takes, we moved on down to Spring Creek Run and Zug Bug Alley. Through the rest of the day Spencer landed a couple of nice fish on a #14 Zug Bug, while I had about the same success on #18 brown and yellow soft hackle.

The next day we were joined by Frank Arriaza, who is new to RRFF and to fly fishing. Spence and I shared our limited knowledge with Frank, who hooked one of the two fish we got into that day.

Meanwhile, Ed Smith and his two sons, Ed Jr. and Peter, had hot action all day without ever going upstream from Cal Trout. Their sensitivity to our obvious gloom restrained a natural tendency of fishermen to boast of a good days' catch.

Sunday we fished the Power House #2 Riffle and "hole" where we all hooked fish on Trico Spinners and PT nymphs. Ed Smith Jr. landed a 22 incher, while Spencer employed the "California release" on a couple of others in that range. Nice going, guys!

## **FEATHER (TRINITY) RIVERS/ PYRAMID LAKE, NOVEMBER 10 -12**

Those of you who have a three day weekend (Veteran's Day) might like to join me on either the Feather or Trinity Rivers for "half-pounders." Or, if conditions don't improve for steelhead, we could hit Pyramid Lake, Nevada, for 10 pound cutthroat. Apparently Pyramid offered its best fishing last November. It's also great practice for double-hauling those shooting tapers.

## **COMING EVENTS**

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**Friday, December 14**

**Annual Holiday Dinner**

World famous caster, teacher, and fisherman  
Mel Krieger with a presentation on  
Fly Fishing Around the World.

Make your reservations early as space will be limited to 100 persons, on a first-come-first-served basis.

Mail in your reservation slip NOW.

## **RRFF HOTLINE**

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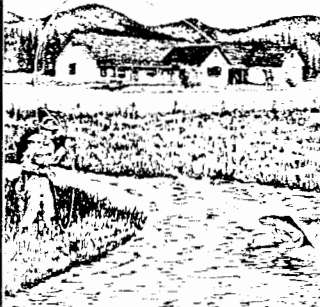
Our telephone number is 573-8909.  
Call for information about meetings, fishing, etc.

## THE OWEN'S RIVER, JUNE 9 - 12, OR JUNE 18 - 20

J U N E

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

*Arcularius Ranch*



Since 1919, the Ranch has been under the continuous ownership by the Arcularius family. Conservation of the river and proper land management are their primary objectives.

**CATCH AND RELEASE  
WET AND DRY FLY FISHING ONLY**

**ARCULARIUS RANCH**  
Route 1, Box 230 • Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
Summer (619) 646-7807 Winter (805) 238-3630  
April 15 to Nov. 6 Dec. 1 to April 15

Did Dave Dempsey's fine presentation on fishing the Owen's River create a stirring in your lines? Well, here's your chance to practically settle in for the summer! Through a process that's part serendipity and part self-interest, we have two sets of reservations at the famed Arcularius Ranch on the above dates. We have a couple of cabins (#11 and 14) which will give us space for ten people from June 9 - 12. The next week we have a cabin, #11 again, which holds five. Richard Bicknel will coordinate that weeks' outing, while I'm responsible for the previous period. (You see, we couldn't both

go at the same time.) Rates will range between \$32.50 and \$40 per day (plus food and trans.) depending on the turnout.

I want to reconfirm the reservations for all the cabins by the end of December. If we can only fill one cabin for the week of the 9th, I want to cancel the other early on. This means that you should give me a \$25 deposit by the December meeting. We need to send \$50 non-

refundable deposits for each cabin by February. Any extra cash will go into a food and beverage account.

Finances aside, this is an opportunity to join the club on a famous Blue Ribbon stream. Start making those vacation plans, now.

Ken Magoon (527-8376)

### RATES

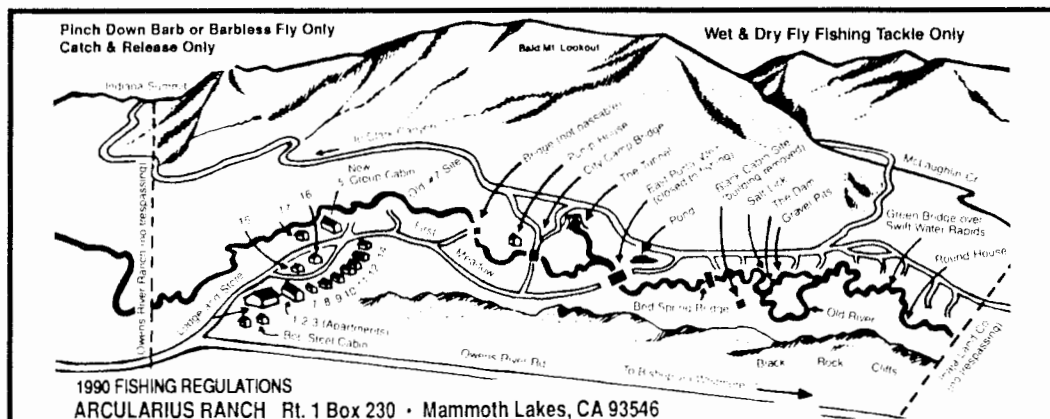
(Week day rates apply for 7 consecutive days)

**Modern two bedroom housekeeping cabin**  
(Nos. 9, 10, & 11 include one double and two twin beds, combination kitchen, and living area)

Maximum Occupancy	5 people
Two persons	\$70 per day weekdays \$88 per day weekends (Fri & Sat.) & holidays \$25 each additional person.

**Modern two bedroom housekeeping cabin**  
(Nos. 14, 15, & 16 include two twins, one double in bedrooms, two singles in enclosed porch, combination kitchen and living room area)

Maximum Occupancy	Seven people
Two persons	\$80 per day weekdays \$102 per day weekends (Fri. & Sat.) & holidays \$25 each additional person.



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# POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

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## CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

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Date: Sunday, November 18

Time: 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Place: Casting Pond.

Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of  
Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue,  
Santa Rosa.

This will be the last event where instructors will be on hand to help you sharpen up your distance casting techniques for steelhead season until after the New Year. Take advantage of the opportunity. Beginning and intermediate instruction will be offered as usual, and ring casting will be available for those of you who are interested.

The pond landscaping is maturing nicely and looks very attractive. There is a new walk-through gate next to the vehicle gate complete with stepping stones from the shale road to the gate and back to the shale on the pond side. Many thanks to Bob Neill, Tony Hebner, Charlie Schelter, and Brian Wong for helping with the stepping stone walk. The pond is open to one and all full time again. There will be a pond cleaning session coming up prior to Thanksgiving according to the park superintendent. He will let me know when they are ready to do the job and any of you who can help,

and can get away for a few hours during the week will be greatly appreciated. The walk from the shale road to the pond and the surfacing of the parking area has been put on hold by the City Parks Director. It seems that City legal counsel has now declared the access road around the baseball field as hazardous and all but highly restricted use of the road has been put in effect. This means it will be necessary to walk in to the pond either around the baseball field or across the soccer field until the City decides to improve the access road. There is some indication that this project will be considered next spring.

The event will take place as planned unless we are in the middle of an early rainstorm.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line outfits he will loan to beginners, both members and non-members, on a reservation basis. If you wish to reserve one of these outfits for yourself, or a non-member, contact Brian at Lyle's Tackle and Travel (527-9887).

There will not be a scheduled event  
during December.

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## RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673  
Santa Rosa  
California  
95405

BOB SISSON  
3607 GREEN HILL RD  
SANTA ROSA CA 95404



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# RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

# *The Cast*



Volume 15  
Number 11  
December 1990

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The clouds are thickly obscuring the hills as I write this, but as yet no significant rain has come from them. There are some fish in the Russian River and fish are beginning to appear at the Warm Springs hatchery. Remember that the current regulations provide for our coastal streams to remain closed until we get sufficient rainfall to ensure a flow. If you want up-to-date information on fishing conditions for our coastal waters, stop in to visit either King's Western Angler on College Avenue or Lyle's Bait-Tackle and Travel Service on Santa Rosa Avenue.

Perhaps this is a good place to comment on the interaction between the Russian River Fly Fishers and our two local angling shops. In the past there has been some confusion among the membership and public-at-large regarding the relationship between the Club, King's Western Angler, and Lyle's Bait-Tackle and Travel. Simply stated, these two retail businesses are just that—business establishments which, although they happen to specialize in fishing, do not speak for, and more importantly, are not responsible for the activities or lack of activities of the R.R.F.F. Both shops do have display racks where they make available copies of *The Cast* and membership applications. This is a courtesy to the Club.

The proprietors of each shop, Dwight and Sandy Longuevan of King's and Brian Wong of Lyle's, are friends and supporters of the Club. Brian participates as an instructor at the Club sponsored casting clinics; Dwight and Sandy offer both casting instruction and fly tying classes, and the Western Angler has been a consistent and generous donor to the Club raffles.

Both establishments are wonderful sources of information about local and regional fishing and function as gathering places for fishermen of all interests. But they are first and foremost places of business; if you as members of R.R.F.F. have questions about the Club, Club activities, *The Cast*, or the pond, call the R.R.F.F. "hotline" at 573-8909 and leave a message, rather than calling the shops.

See you December 14 at the Black Forest Inn for our annual holiday dinner.

### General Meeting

#### Annual Holiday Dinner

MEL KRIEGER

*Fly Fishing Around the World*

Friday

December 14

6:30 P.M.

Black Forest Inn

Santa Rosa

Reservations 573-8909

### Board of Directors

Monday

December 10

6:30 P.M.

3554 Round Barn Blvd.,

#200

Santa Rosa

### Coming Events

NEIL LIGHT

January

ROYCE GUNTER

February





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## OUTING REPORT

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This month a small group went to the Trinity/Lewiston Lake area with a stopover on the Sacramento River for day's drift.

The trip wasn't an overwhelming success in terms of numbers of fish caught, but it was a definite learning experience. I'll list some of the insights we gained.

- The weather in Northern California can be spectacular in early November, although you can expect freezing temps at night. (I guess we'd all prefer rain though.)
- You had better heed the camp host's advice to put away any valuables while fishing. We had all our meat and beer stolen from our camp at Reading Island in Cottonwood. That was an expensive and frustrating lesson.
- Squaw fish can do great imitations of nymphing trout. I was thrilled for a few moments by what seemed to be a 20-inch plus rainbow which I had stalked and hooked on a PT nymph. This was only one of two hook-ups I had on the Sacramento River, which made it even more frustrating when I realized that my 'bow was actually a rubber-lipped impersonator.
- As neophyte drift fishermen we learned that you don't throw an anchor out just before going into a fast riffle. It won't catch until you're into the "shoot" and then you're really in deep yogurt. Fortunately, my Zodiac isn't likely to flip or take on much water when sideways to the current, so we escaped with only our dignity damaged.

- The Trinity River just below Lewiston is a beautiful drift. We saw a few salmon and steelhead but none of them would hit a fly. Dave Dempsey got into a big brown that broke him off and that was the only fish hooked between five of us for the whole day.

- The Callibaetis hatch on Lewiston Lake is heavy and almost solely makes the trip worthwhile. After a couple of frustrating hours trying to catch fish on surface imitations I started to hit some by switching to an emerging nymph pattern, Cate's Turkey, fished on a leader "greased" to within six inches of the fly and twitched just over weed beds. I have to credit E. Neal Streeks' article in the September 1990 issue of *Fly Fisherman* on fishing damsels and Callibaetis for that inspiration. Dave Dempsey also did well using his Quigley Cripple emerger patterns.

So, the trip wasn't filled with fish catching action, but it was successful in terms of what we learned. The Trinity/Lewiston area is worth visiting again. My thanks go to Dave, Harry Schoonbaert, Mob Moran, and Bob Dodds for making this an enjoyable and adventurous outing.

Don't forget the "Long Ranger" outings to the Owen's River in June of next year. See the November *Cast* for details.

—Ken Magoon

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## COMING EVENTS

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- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| January  | Neil Light on Steelhead                   |
| February | Royce Gunter on the Warm Springs Hatchery |

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## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

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Welcome new member Dr. James L. Woolley of Deer Park to our family of fly casters. Dr. Woolley has indicated an interest in fly tying/casting and helping others do the same. He likes cycling too. He can be reached at 660 Sanitarium Rd., Deer Park, 94576. Telephone (707) 963-2066.

The Club membership has grown to 135. Most of the increase is the result of the membership reinstating themselves as active members. Now it becomes incumbent on each of us to start bringing in new members. We'll begin a drive after the start of the New Year.

Many of the membership applications show an interest in three areas:

1. Where do we go to fish??? Most of the monthly meetings cover this and *The Cast* always outlines trips sponsored by the members or the Club.
2. Learning or improving fly casting techniques. The Club sponsors casting clinics at Galvin Park at no charge to the members. Also, Brian Wong of Lyle's Bait-Tackle and Travel Service conducts casting clinics. Call 527-9887 for information.
3. Dwight Longuevan of King's Western Angler is eager to get members started tying their own flies. He has the best stock in the area and will get you started in the necessary clinics. Call 542-4432 for particulars.

Hope to see you at the annual Christmas party at the Black Forest Inn!



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## POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

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### CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

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THERE WILL NOT BE A POOL EVENT  
DURING DECEMBER

The next scheduled event will be January 20 unless there is a serious rainstorm in progress.

The pond (located at Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa Avenue in Santa Rosa) is open for use any time you are interested in using it. There is a muddy area between the end of the soccer field and the gate closest to the shaded access road. It will be

easier and drier under foot to follow the edge of the baseball diamond to the shale road, or just walk the shale road to the new gate if you wish to enter the pond area.

The pond has been cleaned—thanks to Al Bianchi and Frank Arriaza for your help—and it looks fine. In fact, the whole area looks fine. You all have a casting pond to be proud of.

—Bob Sisson



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