



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



Volume 17
Number 1
January 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IF IT RAINS, THEY WILL COME...MAYBE

The current steelhead season is looking like recent years—pretty grim. The coastal rivers are all closed to angling, and the Russian, while open to fishing, is remaining close-mouthed to the fish. The Eel and Smith have also remained accessible through the winter, but your best bet may be the Trinity River near Hoopa where fish were stacking up earlier in the season. Rich Culver will give us an update on steelhead fishing conditions there and elsewhere at our January meeting.

The good news is that Japan and Korea are reportedly going to discontinue ocean gill netting which will remove one of the alleged principle causes of the decline of anadromous fishing in the Western States and British Columbia. It seems apparent to me that we Northern Californians must also look at the impact of development in sensitive watershed areas, continued demands for water diversion, and the threats posed by over fishing and poaching.

With respect to the latter, I'm amazed that we haven't put catch-and-release restrictions on wild steelhead for all the state's rivers. Have we grown so cynical as to think that there are no naturally spawned fish in our streams? Even if their grandparents started out in a holding tank at the Warm Springs Hatchery, we should protect the gene pool of any fish whose parents managed to reproduce in the wild.

We can then continue to venture forth in good conscience to implement the selective steelhead fly fishing techniques which Lani Waller shared with us at our December dinner meeting. Wasn't he great? His discussion on the use of smaller flies on floating lines should be very applicable to our local waters in these low flow years. If you haven't seen his Mastery Series videos on *Pacific Steelhead Fishing* you have missed out on the very best information on classic techniques.

To end on an optimistic note, there have been suggestions by meteorologists that we may be entering an *El Nino* weather pattern, which could mean a wet season after all. If it does start raining, call for stream closure information on Thursdays at 707-944-5533 for Mendocino and Sonoma counties, or 707-442-4502 for the Humboldt/Del Norte rivers.

January, February, and March have always been my most successful steelhead fishing months anyway—so bring on the rain *and* the fish!

General Meeting

RICH CULVER
Spring Creeks
in Northern California
Wednesday
January 15
7:30 P.M.
Steele Lane School
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
January 13
6:30 P.M.
1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

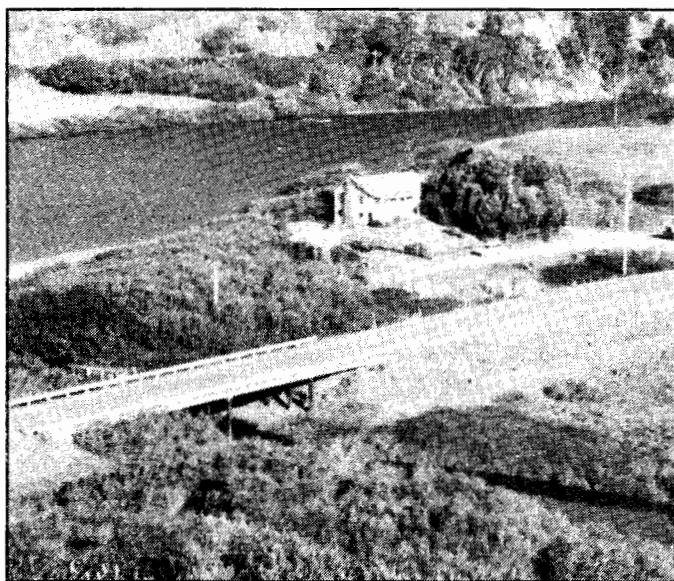
573-8909
*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*

CONSERVATION

A LITTLE USED CONCEPT OF THE RRFF

Conservation is one of the ideas (see the By-Laws) that our club was built on. However, only three members chose to join "Trout Unlimited" Saturday, October 19, 1991, at Willow Creek. Willow Creek is the first tributary stream above the mouth of the Russian River. The three stalwart RRFF members were Ben Cummings, Chuck Baker, and Henry Von der Mehden.

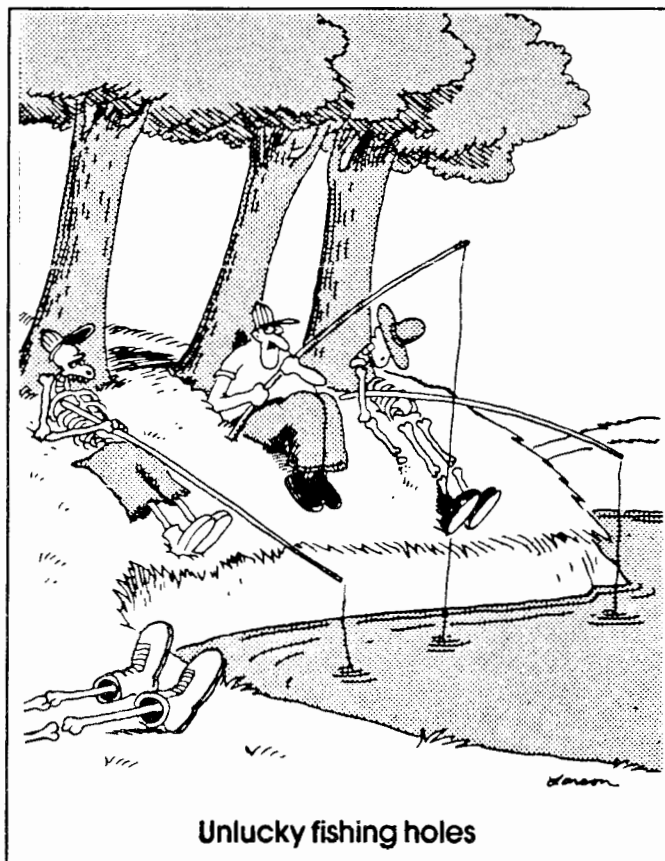
The excursion was set up to show us the stream at different points and the various problems affecting the Coho salmon and steelhead which run up this stream in winter. It was a very enlightening day and well worth the time spent.



On another critical issue, the Prairie Creek Salmon and Steelhead Hatchery north of Orich, Highway 101, may close due to lack of funds. Checks payable to the Prairie Creek Hatchery, c/o Anna Sparks, Humboldt County Courthouse, 825 Fifth Street, Room 111, Eureka, CA 95501 can help solve the problem.

Conservation is everybody's job!

Henry Von der Mehden



RAFFLE HATCHES

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the members at large, I would like to thank the following people for their donations to the Christmas Dinner raffle:

Ron Abby, Charlie Schelter, Dwight and Sandy Longuevan, James Woolley, M.D., and Brian Wong.

And a special thanks to Ben Cummings and Lani Waller.

John Thomas, Raffle Chairman

RRFF "NEEDS SURVEY"

If you have not already done so, please complete a survey at the January meeting so that the Club can better serve your needs.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

JANUARY GENERAL PROGRAM

The program speaker for the January 15, 1992 meeting will be Rich Culver. Rich is director of the Science Department for the North Marin School in Mill Valley. Rich is known for his boundless enthusiasm and dedication to fly fishing. He is at home chasing salmon on the Trinity, tubing for big browns on Lewiston Lake, or nymphing on the Pit. He spends the school year challenging biology students, and the fishing season guiding for Clearwater Trout Tours out of the Clearwater House on Hat Creek. In his spare time he is further developing his fly fishing techniques and scouting out new fishing waters.

Please join us for his fine presentation. Informal "show and tell" at 6:30 P.M. Thank you.

Bob Neill, Program Chairman

ARCULARIUS RANCH

June 8 to June 12, 1992

We have reservations for up to 10 people in the "bunk house" at Arcularius Ranch on the famed Owens River for the week of June 8 through June 12. That's five days on one of California's premiere spring creeks for around \$160, including meals. We will also be a few minutes from Hat Creek. At this time last year we had good success with little yellow stonefly nymphs and caddises, so we'll be prepared right from the first day.

I need to confirm our reservations with a deposit by February, so call me at 527-8376 to be included in this terrific outing.

Ken Magoon



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

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐

New members add \$10 Initiation Fee

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

Mail this application with the initiation fee and dues to the

RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, January 19

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.

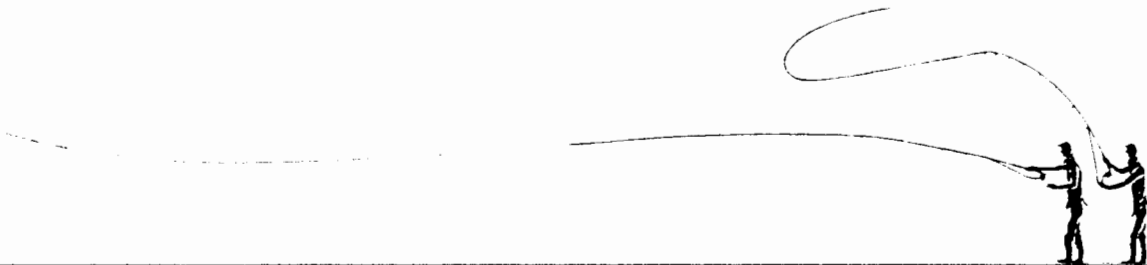
The January event will provide for distance casting practice and instruction, course qualification, together with ring casting. Intermediate and beginning casting instruction will be provided for both members and non-members.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Coach Brian Wong has basic outfits for 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).

If the hoped for rainy season has arrived and a storm is in progress the event will be postponed until February.

Bob Sisson

The next event will be held on February 16



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa
California
95405



BOB SISSON
3607 GREEN HILL DR
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404-6206

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Return postage guaranteed



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

PISCATORIAL POTPOURRI

Dan Fischer, our Youth Chairperson, has extensive experience with organizing outings for disadvantaged youth. He has a project in the works that brings together the talent and resources of the RRFF, The 20-30 Club, and the Department of Fish and Game to provide a memorable day of fishing *and* a fund raiser for kids served by Big Brother and Big Sisters. This is the most ambitious youth outing we've developed since I've been in the Club. (On the last one, Bob Morrison and I, with the help of Vicki Lockner, took four kids from Steele Lane School to Lake Ralphine.)

This year Dan is planning on having 50 to 75 kids with their Big Brother and Sisters, plus some volunteers from the 20-30 Club show up at Spring Lake on Saturday, March 28 for a day of trout fishing and fun. We need RRFF volunteers to show up that day to assist with the fishing, dispense fishing equipment, serve refreshments and help clean up. Then there will be some preparation work such as publicity, obtaining fishing gear, and providing food.

We need to get involved with this project folks! Call Dan Fischer at 838-2871, or me at 527-4234.

STEELHEAD FEVER

After not hooking a steelie for the last couple of years, I hoped (and my wife prayed) that I was recovering from this addiction. I even took up golf again to fill in some of those winter afternoons I used to spend at Dry Creek. But the disease still permeates my mind and body. The symptoms include: obsessive concern with weather predictions and the need for winter storms; always having rigged rods, vest, and waders in the car; involuntary "double haul" motions at my desk or while driving; visions of "Fish On!" and delusions of landing and releasing them.

Last weekend after a brief unannounced storm on Friday morning, I told my wife I wouldn't be home that night, cancelled a golf date and headed for the Gualala River. I fished that evening and from dawn to dusk on Saturday amongst a tightly packed group of

30-plus *wild-eyed fly fishing fiends* flailing away at a ten foot "bucket" where a steelhead occasionally rolled. I was hooked five times (once in the hand), but thanks to a move towards barblessness I only wore three of them home.

About 18 fish were hooked Saturday afternoon, however most were foul hooked, because guys were using leadcore line attached to shortened "slow sink" shooting tapers to get the fly down to the bottom quickly, which also drags it across the backs of the fish. Most guys knew when they hooked a fish in the dorsal and immediately broke it off.

A couple of the fair hooked fish were contributed to the Gualala River Steelhead Project, which according to a flyer from president Arch Richardson, "has released approximately 130,000 Native Strain steelhead smolt into the Gualala" over the last nine years. You can contribute to this important work by sending a \$10 donation to the Gualala River Steelhead Project, Box 266, Gualala, CA, or call Arch at 707-785-2660 for more information.

I suppose that this Gualala line-up is found on most steelhead rivers when the water is low and the runs of fish are down. The whole scene had such a maniacal feeling to it that I kept thinking that I should get a photo, but I didn't want to give up my place. My nerves were so frazzled when I left that I was actually looking forward to a restful ride down Highway 1 on a foggy night.

See you guys next week,

Ken Mageon

General Meeting

NEIL LIGHT
*Atlantic Salmon Fishing
on the Kola Peninsula
(Russia)*
Wednesday
February 19
7:30 P.M.
Steele Lane School
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
February 17
6:30 P.M.
1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909
*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, February 16

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 February clinic will provide Beginning and Intermediate casting instruction for both members and non-members. Distance casting practice and coaching, course qualification, and ring casting practice will also be available.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. If you need help in determining the "right" weight shooting heads for your rod, assistance will be there to resolve the problem. Coach Brian Wong has basic outfits for 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.)

If the rains have finally begun and a storm is in progress the clinic will be postponed until March.

Bob Sisson

The next event will be held on March 15

COMING ATTRACTIONS

PROGRAM NOTES

February 19, 1992

Neil Light will be showing slides and talking about his recent trip on the Umba River in Russia. He will also share with us his experiences in Moscow and the current "state of the art" of fly fishing in Russia.

March 18, 1992

Royce Gunter, who manages the Warm Spring Hatchery, will discuss the present status and future prospects for salmon and steelhead runs in the Russian River.

Bob Neill, Program Chairman

OUTINGS

ARCULARIUS RANCH

We have about five people verbally committed to the trip to Arcularius Ranch to fish the Owens River from June 8 to June 12. There's room for up to ten people in the cabin, so if you're interested call me at 527-8376.

PYRAMID LAKE

It's time to think about a Pyramid Lake trip. I've made reservations for six people at Crosby's Lodge for March 13 and 14. If you haven't fished Pyramid you can call me and I'll send you our information sheet. A \$25 deposit will be required by March 1.

Ken Magoon

RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
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California
95405



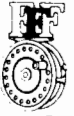
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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

The RFF



Volume 17
Number 3
March 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SPRING FISHING IS JUST AROUND THE BENCH, SOMEWHERE

It's probably the weird weather, but for some reason I'm having difficulty focusing my fishing fantasies these days, and my tying bench is a hodgepodge of materials for fashioning a variety of patterns. On the one hand, the rains have brought increased runs of steelhead, which means that we'll have the "blue back" and "down-streamer" action through April. I caught my first steelhead on a fly on the Gualala River in mid April and have had good success at Casini's Ranch on the Russian in March. (Of course, all fish should be released.) Also, this is the season for small buggy steelhead flies like Dave Dempsey's Nasty Nymph or the Chihuahua.

On the other hand, I had a fairly successful trip to Pyramid Lake over the Presidents Holiday weekend. During those stormy days I hooked ten cutthroats, a couple of which were close to ten pounds. The combination of rain, sleet, and snow was a welcome break in the drought and so relatively mild at Pyramid that I fished it from dawn to dusk. The fishing can only get better on that mysterious and challenging water as the big spawners come in to the "Nets" to fulfill their genetic destiny in March and early April. Some of us are going to be there on the 13th and 14th of this month. It might also be fun to join the Federation of Fly Fishers' Annual Pyramid Lake BBQ and

Fishout over the April 11 weekend. This trip can be justified as a socially responsible political/consevation/fishery related activity.

In anticipation of these trips I should be tying big woolly buggers. (Black, brown, and olive patterns tied on 3x and 4x hooks worked best last month.) But what patterns adorn my little fly holding cloth at the tying table? Size 16 to 20 emergers and spinners to match the *Ephemerella infrequens* (Pale Morning Dun)

hatch on Fall River this coming May! This admittedly fanciful planning was brought on by the unseasonably warm days we had the last week in February. The image of casting to gently sipping 18 inch rainbows on that glassy spring creek has been flowing through my mind. It's probably my favorite fishing activity.

A more realistic fantasy would be tying and fishing La Fontaine emergers and Quiggley Cripples to match the caddis hatch which is apparently already underway on the Lower Sacramento. In fact, I should be driving up there right now instead of writing this stuff! If it also weren't for a lawn that hasn't been mowed for a month and a wife and a job to attend to, I would be on my way—and, if El Nino doesn't materialize in March to flood that river out—I soon will be.

continued on page 2

General Meeting

ROYCE GUNTER
*Warm Springs Hatchery
Report & The Status of
Steelhead & Salmon in the
Russian River*

Wednesday
March 18
7:30 P.M.
Steele Lane School
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
March 16
6:30 P.M.
1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909

*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*

WEST COAST SPORTING COLLECTORS SHOW

Did granddad leave a fortune in that old sack of duck decoys or in his old tackle box?

Could be, and now's the time to check it out. The Sixth Annual West Coast Sporting Collectibles Show will be held April 4 and 5 at the El Rancho Tropicana Resort Hotel in Santa Rosa. The general public is invited to attend and bring old decoys, fishing tackle, knives, or duck calls for identification, appraisal, or sale.

There will be 150 tables with displays of vintage fishing tackle, antique waterfowl decoys, and wild-life art at the show. Show hours will be from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Saturday, April 4, and from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. on Sunday, April 5.

The Santa Rosa show has grown to become the largest collectibles show in the West. Dealers and collectors from throughout the United States, Canada, and England will have their antique sporting items on display and will offer advice and appraisals for those interested.

The collection of antique sporting items has grown tremendously in the past few years and is now big business. A minnow lure was auctioned off for \$22,000 recently. Duck decoys worth \$50,000 and fishing reels worth more than \$20,000 are also indicative of the growing interest in this hobby.

For additional information call Jim Keegan at (707) 542-0235.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, from page 1

Although late spring storms can wreck havoc on trout fishing trips, they can be a stimulus for the shad runs on the Russian, Sac, and American Rivers in April, May, and June. If you haven't hooked up with this scrappy little anadromous fish, you've missed a great angling experience. Shad are plentiful, relatively easy to catch, and are an exciting introduction to fly fishing for your spouse and kids. (Dave Simmons will be speaking on Sacramento River shad fishing at an upcoming meeting.) Shad flies are fairly easy to tie and create. I've had great luck with my own mylar versions of the California Shad Fly.

So, the weather notwithstanding, there are numerous and diverse fly fishing opportunities in Northern CA in the spring. Instead of sitting at the bench fantasizing about them, I should mow the lawn, weed, clean the garage, read those essays, and take my wife to the movies, so I can be ready when the "bite" or hatches are hot. But then I hear that the Gualala is clearing and might be fly fishable by Saturday, so...

See you on the water, somewhere.

K. E. Magoon



OUTINGS

Arcularius Ranch

The response to the Arcularius Ranch trip has been enthusiastic. All the spots have been reserved and we have a short waiting list. The trip is from June 8 to 12. For a modest group fee we are arranging for a local guide to orient us to the best flies and techniques to use on the Owens River and possibly at nearby Crowley Lake.

Other...

Other outings are still open to discussion. We have had good spring trips to Yellow Creek for trout and to the Sacramento River for shad. Hat Creek, Fall River, and Baum Lake are all easily accessible on a weekend outing.

I would like to try to establish a "Fishmaster" program where club members take on the responsibility of coordinating trips to various waters. So, if you have a favorite fishing destination which you wouldn't mind sharing with your *brothers and sisters of the angle*, give me a call at 527-4234 or 527-8376 and we'll get the word out.

I'm definitely planning to go to the FFF Pyramid Lake BBQ on April 11 and you are all welcome. If there is no room at Crosby's Lodge we can inexpensively car camp right on the lake.

Ken Magoon

NOMINATIONS

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At its February meeting the Directors nominated incumbents Ken Magoon and Bob Neill as candidates for President and Vice President, respectively. Also nominated to run as Directors at Large were John Thomas, Harry Schoonbaert, Charlie Schelter, Patrick Plumley, Bob Wobser, and Tim Grogan.

Nominations for President, Vice President, and Directors will be taken from the floor at our March 18 Club meeting. We invite you to get involved and help make the *Russian River Fly Fishers* an even more enjoyable organization. The ballot will be mailed out in the April *Cast*.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Club will be sponsoring a youth fishing day on Saturday, March 28 at Spring Lake. The Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sonoma County will be bringing some children out for a day of fishing and fun. We will have lessons, awards, and most importantly, an opportunity to share fishing with a child who otherwise wouldn't have the chance. We need volunteers and help with the BBQ lunch.

FISHING DERBY

April 14 - Spring Lake

\$1000 in prize fish - Tickets are \$10 each



This first annual event is a fund raiser for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sonoma County and is being underwritten by the Exchange Bank. There will be specially tagged fish planted in Spring Lake. You must have a ticket to participate and any tagged fish can be redeemed for a cash prize. (Tagged fish will have values from \$300 - \$25.)

We want to sell as many tickets as we can and the event is open to anyone with a valid fishing license.

We need help with the following:

- Publicity
- Ticket Sales
- Monitors
- Someone with CPR training

Call Dan Fisher at 838-6841 or Ken Magoon at 527-4234 for information.

ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Enclosed in the *Cast* is a survey which is your forum to let the club know your wishes, wants, etc. Please take the time to complete it, fold, and mail back to us. (Remember to add postage.)

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, March 22**

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.

** Please note a change of date from March 15. New date will avoid conflict with the Pyramid Lake trip.

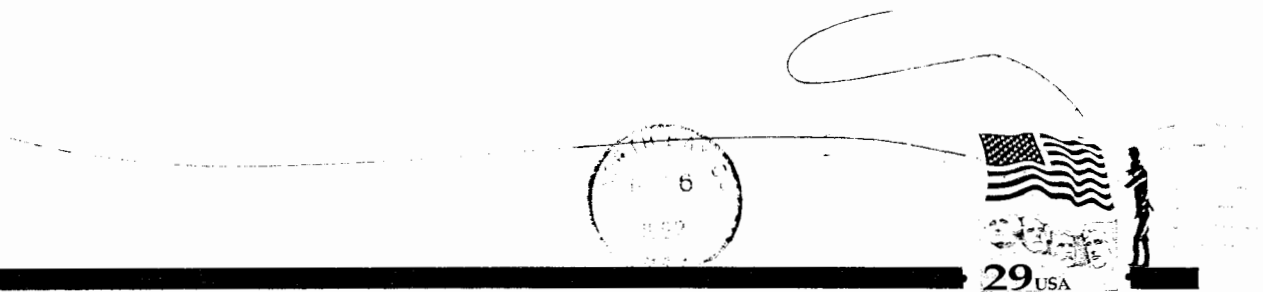
The March clinic will feature beginning and intermediate casting instruction for both members and non-members. Distance casting course qualification, casting practice, and coaching will be there for the asking. Ring casting practice will also be available.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Assistance in determining balanced shooting head systems will be available for those of you that are interested. Coach Brian Wong has basic full line equipment for 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).

If another storm like the one that washed out the February clinic is in progress, the clinic will be postponed until April.

Bob Sisson

The next event will be held on April 19

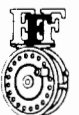


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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



Volume 17
Number 4
April 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AND YET ANOTHER EFFORT, FLY FISHERS

If this *Cast* is out in time I want to remind you all that we are sponsoring a *Fishing Derby Benefit for Big Brothers and Sisters of Sonoma County* on **Saturday, April 4** at Spring Lake Park. Hopefully, you have been contacted through our "phone tree" and encouraged to help us sell tickets for this good cause. (Thanks to all you callers.) Even if you just make it a point to buy some tickets and give them to a family with kids or to someone on a fixed income—you would be making a real contribution. But please try to sell tickets to friends, neighbors, co-workers, and to the person in the car stuck next to yours in the Steel Lane grid lock! Remind folks, that *only valid ticket holders who bring officially tagged trout to the RRFF booth at the Spring Lake boat ramp between 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. on April 4 can share in the total \$1000 in prize money.* Tickets are available at local fly shops or call Dan Fischer (838-6841), Warren Herlihy (539-0828), or Ken Magoon (527-8376) for packets to sell.

"THEY'RE BAACK"

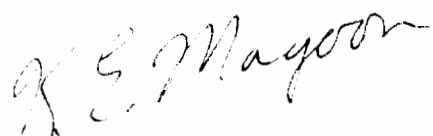
On other topics, Royce Gunter's presentation on the status of this season's steelhead returns to the Hatchery was very encouraging. The 1700 plus run is the second highest since the program has been in operation. Too bad the rains, which helped bring in the fish, made it difficult to catch

them. But the good news outweighs the bad for our local winter fishery. Also, the fact that the Coyote Dam facility is "ready" for operation and will soon bring more fish up through Anderson Valley is very good news for fisher folk in that area. Thanks for the enlightening talk, Royce.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Fly fishing, especially for steelhead, is a very contemplative activity. When drought or high water discourages me from getting out, it's very rewarding to reflect on or plan fishing trips. None of my other recreational pursuits, such as golf, tennis, or photography have provided the degree of mental involvement I've enjoyed since becoming a fly fishing fanatic. In addition to planning outings, there's tying flies, reading magazines and books, perusing catalogs, talking about fishing and calling up memories of those heart stopping steelhead hook ups. (Which, in my case, are so few that they're easy to remember.) With the continued rains it seems that the rest of this steelhead season will be in my head.

Whoa, fish on!



General Meeting

DAVE SIMMONS
*Shad Fishing
on the Sacramento
& Feather Rivers*
Wednesday
April 15
7:30 P.M.
Steele Lane School
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
April 13
6:30 P.M.
1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

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573-8909
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COMING EVENTS



APRIL Dave Simmons

Dave comes to us from Chico where he is affiliated with the Powell Fly Shop. Dave has over 15 years experience as a guide in Northern California on Hat Creek, Fall River, McCloud River, Feather River, and the Sacramento River. He is an acknowledged teacher, fly tyer, nymph fisherman, and a life-long outdoorsman. He resides right on the banks of the Sacramento River where he teaches casting and gives seminars on fly fishing. Dave's presentation will be on fly fishing for shad on the Sacramento and Feather Rivers with special attention to drive-in accesses. His charismatic personality makes him a speaker in great demand and we are indeed fortunate to have him.

MAY Reminiscing with Ben Cummings followed by Fly Tying demonstrations

Our own Ben Cummings will be sharing some of his world wide travel experiences and fly fishing adventures with us. Ben is famous for his paintings depicting special fishing locations. Ben is one of a few special members of our club to have been honored with a life membership. After Ben's presentation, some of our more talented members will be sharing their fly tying

expertise. Join us in reminiscing with Ben and afterwards refine your fly tying skills with some of our expert tyers on Wednesday May 20.

JUNE Dinner meeting at the Washoe House with a special presentation by Duane Milleman on the Future of Fly Fishing

A school teacher for 24 years, Duane left the education profession to pursue a career in the fly fishing industry. He has tied flies professionally; guided in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and California; taught fly fishing at a community college; and directed fly fishing schools at the Fly Shop for several years. Presently he is developing a fishing program around private ranches and fee fishing. His topic for our Friday, June 19 dinner meeting will be the direction of fly fishing for California, public waters, club programs, and private waters.

The dinner meeting will be held at the Washoe House. Details and price to be announced at a later date. We will also be recognizing our new and returning officers and board members for the coming year.

OUTINGS

Pyramid Lake

The Federation of Fly Fishers Pyramid Lake Fishout is scheduled for Saturday, April 11. The day will begin at 8 A.M. with coffee and an orientation to fishing Pyramid and conclude with a BBQ and raffle (\$7.50). According to Doug Ouellette (702 677-7746), who's coordinating the event, the big fish will be returning to the hatchery at Sutcliff in early April and catchable from the shore. He said that 17 and 19 pounders were recently landed on flies there.

I'm definitely planning to attend this year. I made a reservation for 5 people at Crosby's Lodge (702 476-0400) for Friday and Saturday nights. Rates are \$60 per night for the cabin, so we're looking at a very reasonable weekend. Call me at 527-8376.

Shad

Bob Neill and I want to put together a shad fishing trip to the Sacramento River. It will probably be in May. Dave Simmons' April 15 presentation on shad fishing will no

doubt provide additional information to help us set the dates and location. These fish are very exciting on a fly rod and relatively easy to catch when the run is in.

Opening day of Trout Season is Saturday, April 25.

An interesting place to celebrate is the *fly fishing only* section of the Trinity River near Lewiston. It's an ideal spot for beginning fly fishers because of the easy access and plentiful supply of hatchery fish up to 14" in the river. There are a number of more elusive larger resident fish too, which offer a challenge to experienced anglers. There are also daily *callibaetis* and midge hatches on Lewiston Lake. I reserved a cabin that sleeps 5 (\$62 per night) for April 24 and 25 at Lakeview Terrace, which has a very convenient launch area on the lake. This outing should provide a relaxing and diverse weekend of fishing. I need to hear from interested parties by April 15.

Ken Magoon (527-8376)

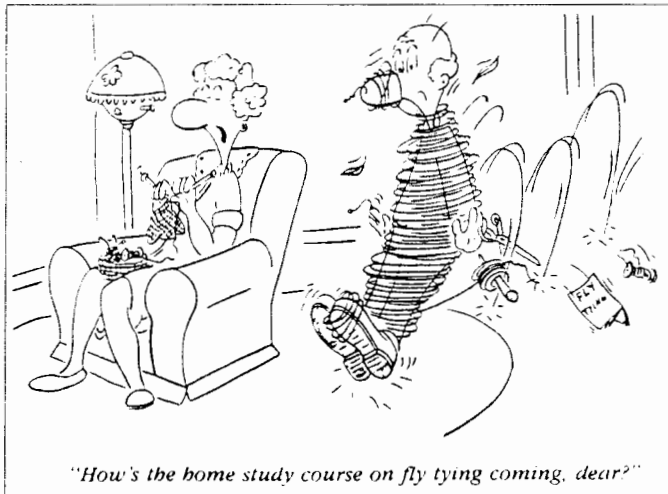


A "NASTY" RETRACTION

As with all responsible publication, the *Cast* has to own up to errors. The March PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE referred to Dave Dempsey's "Nasty Nymph." It came to my attention the Bill Schaadt is credited as the originator of that pattern. Dave thinks so highly of the fly that he developed a variation he calls the "Double Nasty."

Perhaps we might get these guys and other "nasty" tiers to describe their variations in a future issue.

Ken M.



A MESSAGE FOR DELINQUENT DUES PAYERS

As a valued member of the endangered species known as *Russian River Extinctus Possibilitis*, I would like to encourage your survival for one more year. In contrast to the bleak outlook for many species of anadromous fish facing termination on this planet, your future is in a relatively secure situation that can be enhanced by merely sending in the '91 - '92 dues. This is certain to stop imminent extinction.

Single - \$35 Family - \$40

Our club has many activities and trips planned this spring and summer and we're looking forward to your participation.

I hope to be seeing you as an alive and healthy specimen of the RRFF on the rivers and at our forthcoming events. Thank you.

Harry Schoonbaert
Membership Chairman and Species Preservationist



PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO VOTE!



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

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐
(New members add \$10 Initiation Fee)

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

**Mail this application with the initiation fee and dues to the
RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!**

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, April 19

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 April clinic will feature beginning and intermediate casting instruction for both members and non-members. Distance casting course qualification, casting practice, and coaching will be available. Ring casting practice will also be available.

Bring the equipment you wish to work with. Assistance in putting together balanced shooting head

systems will be offered. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line equipment for 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).

The rainy season will hopefully have drawn to a close by the scheduled date. If we have another storm in, the event will be postponed until May.

Bob Sisson

The next scheduled event will be held on May 17



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa
California
95405

BOB SISSON
3607 GREEN HILL DR
SANTA ROSA CA 95404-6206

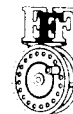
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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

the RRF



Volume 17
Number 5
May 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"CONGRATS" ALL AROUND!

Traditionally, this month's "message" is about the opening of trout season. If everything goes right, I'll be chasing the *Callibaetis* hatch on Lewiston Lake and casting to big browns in the Trinity River that weekend. But the really big news is that the RRF, with a lot of help from the local community, successfully pulled off the **Big Brothers and Sisters Fishout and Derby**. We raised approximately \$1000 in donations to this worthwhile youth organization. I will use this space to thank those who contributed their time and energy.

Through Youth Director **Dan Fisher's** patient and visionary leadership, a committee consisting of **Russ Lockner**, **Ron Tuor**, **Warren Herlihy** and myself forged ahead despite various obstacles to complete this project. We are especially indebted to Dan for his timely communication with the Department of Fish and Game's **Sid Poe**, to obtain the critical planting of tagged trout for the Derby. We are most appreciative of Mr. Poe's personal effort to insure that the fish were tagged and put in Spring Lake the night before the event.

Past President **Russ Lockner** obtained a \$500 donation from the **Exchange Bank** for prize money. He also topped the club in derby ticket sales. We also thank **Galen Robertson** for his personal contribution to the prize fund for the Derby. We express appreciation to **Jim Keegan**, **Dr. Ronald E. Cox**, and **Dr. Jim Woolley**—among others—for generous ticket purchases. Thanks also to all the fisher folk who came out on April 4.

A terrific barbecue was donated and prepared for the Fishout by **Ron Tuor** and **Bob and Gail Wobser**. Ron also designed the posters, tickets, and banners we needed.

Warren Herlihy obtained equipment from **Berkley Sporting Goods** for the kids to use at the fishout. Club member **Paul Dix** and **Carlo Bongio** of **Marin Outdoors** made significant contributions of prizes for the "Littles."

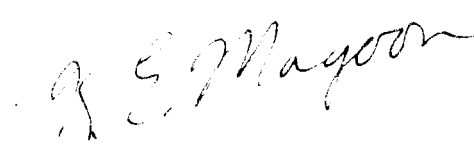
Lucida Stone, Director of Big Brothers of Sonoma County, was a pleasure to work with and we look forward to future

collaboration on behalf of her organization. We also very much appreciate the participation of volunteers from **Big Brothers and Sisters** and **The 20-30 Club of Santa Rosa** at the Fishout.

The local tackle shops are commended for their efforts to sell tickets to the Derby. **Brian Wong** of **Lyle's Tackle and Travel** was able to coax \$90 worth of sales from his customers.

Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank all the RRF members who came out to assist with the Fishout and the Derby. These events would not have gone so smoothly or have even been possible without your contribution!

The RRF Board of Directors is committed to conducting more activities on behalf of Big Brothers and Sisters and we welcome all of you to participate in the future.



General Meeting

BEN CUMMINGS
Fly Fishing
Past & Present with
"Presence & Paints"

Wednesday
May 20
7:30 P.M.

Steele Lane School
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
May 18
6:30 P.M.

1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909

*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*



COMING EVENTS



MAY Reminiscing with Ben Cummings followed by Fly Tying demonstrations

Our own Ben Cummings will be sharing some of his worldwide travel experiences and fly fishing adventures with us. Ben is famous for his paintings depicting special fishing locations. Ben is one of a few special members of our club to have been honored with a life membership. After Ben's presentation, some of our more talented members will be sharing their fly tying expertise. Join us in reminiscing with Ben and afterwards refine your fly tying skills with some of our expert tyers on Wednesday, May 20.

JUNE Dinner meeting at the Washoe House with a special presentation by Duane Milleman on the Future of Fly Fishing

A school teacher for 24 years, Duane left the education profession to pursue a career in the fly fishing industry. He has tied flies professionally; guided in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and California; taught fly fishing at a community college; and directed fly fishing schools at the Redding Fly Shop for several years. Presently, he is developing a fishing program around private ranches and fee fishing. His topic will be the direction of fly fishing for California, public waters, club programs, and private waters. Duane is the director of the Fly Shop Outfitters of the Redding Fly Shop.

We will also be recognizing our new and returning Board of Director members at the dinner.

See the enclosed insert for time and place. *We need your dinner reservations as soon as possible so that we can make our final arrangements.* The sign-up also includes a place for your membership renewal for the 92-93 Club year. **Please take this opportunity to renew your membership by including your dues along with your dinner reservations.**

JULY Ken Hanley on Fly Fishing California's Surf Zone

The Golden State's surf zone is a wild frontier for fur-n-feathers. With over 800 miles of coastline to explore, this is the richest and most diverse fishery for flyrodders on foot. Ken's slide show will introduce you to these unique habitats throughout state, water reading techniques, fly patterns, and much more. Ken teaches at two colleges in the Bay Area. Fly fishing accounts for 65 percent of all his instructions in a year. Other classes include outdoor photography, climbing, wildlife tracking, and more. He is also the outreach instructor for REL. His new book, *California Fly Fishing and Fishing Guide*, is now available from Frank Amoto Publications. This presentation will be on July 15.

AUGUST No meeting. Due to vacations, this has been a dark month for the Club.

SEPTEMBER We will have our annual Swap Meet on our regular meeting night on September 16.



OUTINGS

Shad Fishing

After receiving all that valuable information from Dave Simmons on shad fishing access to the Lower Sacramento River, we have to give it a try. Bob Neill and I have tentatively set the weekend of May 23 - 24 for this outing. The exact location will be determined by the latest update on fish movement. Call me at 527-8376, or Bob at 542-6723 for more information.

Arcularius Ranch

There will be an organizational meeting in the first week in May for the group going to the Owens River in June. You will probably have heard from me by now. If not, call me at 527-8376 for date and time.

Ken Magoon

June Dinner Reservations

Please send in the reservation form for the June meeting as soon as possible. See the insert for details on the speaker. **1992-93 membership dues can also be paid along with your dinner reservations. Thanks**



Our own Tim Grogan rests after helping Ian land the biggest fish of the day.

Big Brothers & Sisters Fishout & Derby

*Edwin holds a mini-bass that he caught with a fly.
He was assisted by "Little" Dennis and
"Big" Charlie Brodford*



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

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐
(New members add \$10 Initiation Fee)

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

**Mail this application with the initiation fee and dues to the
RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!**

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, May 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.

The May clinic will feature intermediate and beginning casting instruction for both members and non-members. Distance casting practice, coaching, and course qualification will be there for the taking. Ring casting practice will also be available.

Bring the equipment you wish to use. Assistance in putting together balanced shooting head systems

will be offered. Coach Brian Wong has some basic full line outfits for 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).

This will be the last scheduled clinic until next fall.

Bob Sisson

Watch the *Cast* for the next scheduled event

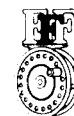
RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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Santa Rosa
California
95405

BOB SISSON
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SANTA ROSA CA 95404-6206



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Russian River Fly Fishers Dinner Meeting

The Future of Fly Fishing

BY DUANE MILLEMAN



When: Friday, June 19, 1992

Where: Washoe House, corner of Stony Point and Roblar Roads, Cotati
(see back for map)

No Host Cocktails 6:30 P.M.

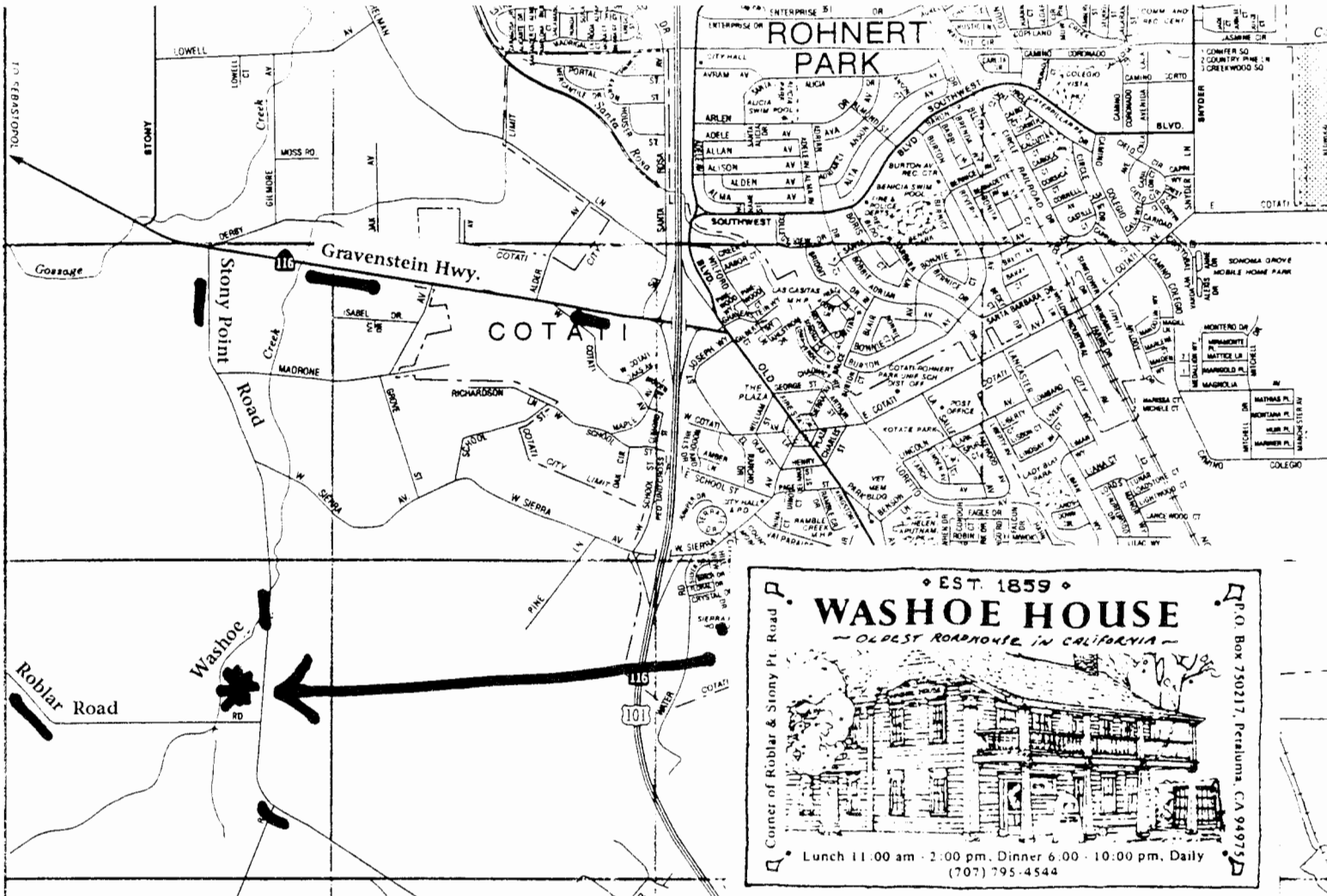
Dinner 7:30 P.M.

Menu Choices: Prime Rib · Chicken in a Basket · Deep Fried Prawns
(Dinner includes: Salad, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Bread, and Coffee)

Reservations are \$20 per person, which includes dinner, tax, gratuity



A school teacher for 24 years, Duane left the education profession to pursue a career in the fly fishing industry. He has tied flies professionally: guided in



EST. 1859

WASHOE HOUSE

— OLDEST ROADHOUSE IN CALIFORNIA —

Corner of Roblar & Stony Pt. Road

• Lunch 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Dinner 6:00 - 10:00 pm. Daily
(707) 795-4544

P.O. Box 750217, Petaluma, CA 94975



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

the RRF



Volume 17
Number 6
June 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SUMMER TIME AND SHAD ARE EASY

Okay, so the fish haven't been jumpin' on my shad flies, but as the weather heats up we can expect more action on the River. There's supposed to be a good run of shad on the Sacramento, where I'm bound as soon as this "Message" is finished.

We certainly are fortunate to have members like Ben Cummings in the Club. His presentation of slides and delightful stories on fishing across our continent, and around the world, will be a treasured memory. I was particularly moved by his images of lake and stream landscapes, so obviously influenced by a true artist's perspective. And his tales of far flung angling adventures were delightful. Thanks for a very special evening, Ben.

Thanks also to tyers Bob Sisson, John Thomas, Bill Archuleta, Dave Dempsey, and Dwight Longuenan for demonstrating their favorite fly patterns and techniques.

Speaking of on-stream adventures, this summer will be my personal best for traveling and fishing experience. If everything goes right, I will be fishing *blue ribbon/gold medal* trout water for five weeks. After the RRFF outing to the Owens River and our June meeting, I'll be joining Frank Rodriguez from Portland for, as he put it, "A week of chasing the Green Drake Hatch" around the west Yellowstone area. Then I will drive on to meet my very understanding wife for a nice vacation in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Of course, I should not pass up the opportunity to drop a line into the catch

and release sections of a few of the famous Rocky Mountain trout streams such as the Green, Frying Pan, Roaring Fork, White, San Juan, and Delores on the trip down and back. If anyone has any insights about fishing or touring this area, I'd appreciate hearing from you before June 30.

Inspired by Ben's wonderful slides, I plan to keep a photographic record of my travels. No doubt some of you will have some too. Perhaps we can put together a collective presentation on the highlights of the 1992 Far Flung Angling Adventures of the RRFF, such as they are, to pass a cold winter night's Club meeting.

Congratulations to recently elected returning Board Directors: Vice President, Bob Neill (who, I think, mainly passed on being president this year to make me have to continue to write "The Message"); Harry Schoonbaert; and John Thomas. And welcome to new Directors: Tim Grogan, Patrick Plumley, Charlie Schelter, and Bob Wobser. I hope that participating in and contributing to the Fly Fishers is as rewarding for you as it is for me.

I'll close with a reminder to send in your 1992-93 membership dues now, and to reserve your place at our June dinner meeting at the Washoe House.

See you on the River,

General Meeting

DUANE MILLEMAN
The Future of Fly Fishing
Dinner Meeting
Friday
June 19
6:30 P.M. - COCKTAILS
7:30 P.M. - DINNER
Washoe House
Cotati

Board of Directors

Monday
June 15
6:30 P.M.
1140 Sonoma Avenue, 1B
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909
*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*



COMING EVENTS



JUNE Dinner meeting at the Washoe House with a special presentation by Duane Milleman on the Future of Fly Fishing

A school teacher for 24 years, Duane left the education profession to pursue a career in the fly fishing industry. He has tied flies professionally; guided in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and California; taught fly fishing at a community college; and directed fly fishing schools at the Redding Fly Shop for several years. Presently, he is developing a fishing program around private ranches and fee fishing. His topic will be the direction of fly fishing for California, public waters, club programs, and private waters. Duane is the director of the Fly Shop Outfitters of the Redding Fly Shop.

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See the enclosed insert for time and place. *We need your dinner reservations as soon as possible so that we can make our final arrangements.* The sign-up also includes a place for your membership renewal for the 92-93 Club year. **Please take this opportunity to renew your membership by including your dues along with your dinner reservations.**

JULY Ken Hanley on Fly Fishing California's Surf Zone

The Golden State's surf zone is a wild frontier for fur-n-feathers. With over 800 miles of coastline to explore, this is the richest and most diverse fishery for flyrodders on foot. Ken's slide show will introduce you to these unique habitats throughout state, water reading techniques, fly patterns, and much more. Ken teaches at two colleges in the Bay Area. Fly fishing accounts for 65 percent of all his instructions in a year. Other classes include outdoor photography, climbing, wildlife tracking, and more. He is also the outreach instructor for REI. His new book, *California Fly Fishing and Fishing Guide*, is now available from Frank Amoto Publications. This presentation will be on July 15.

AUGUST No meeting. Due to vacations, this has been a dark month for the Club.

SEPTEMBER We will have our annual Swap Meet on our regular meeting night on September 16.

CONSERVATION NOTES

The future of our salmon fishing needs your help. Only you can write a letter to your Congressman, Senator, Assembly Person, and the Fish and Game Department. Only you can tell them about gil netting in the ocean, over-netting of salmon by the Indians on the Klamath, water diversion for the huge agri-business, and any other ideas you may have.

Please don't wait—DO IT NOW!

Henry Von der Mehden



Congressman Frank Riggs
777 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404

State Senator Barry Keene
50 "D" Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Assemblywoman Bev Hansen
50 "D" Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599

Russian River Fly Fishers Dinner Meeting

The Future of Fly Fishing

BY DUANE MILLEMAN

When: Friday, June 19, 1992

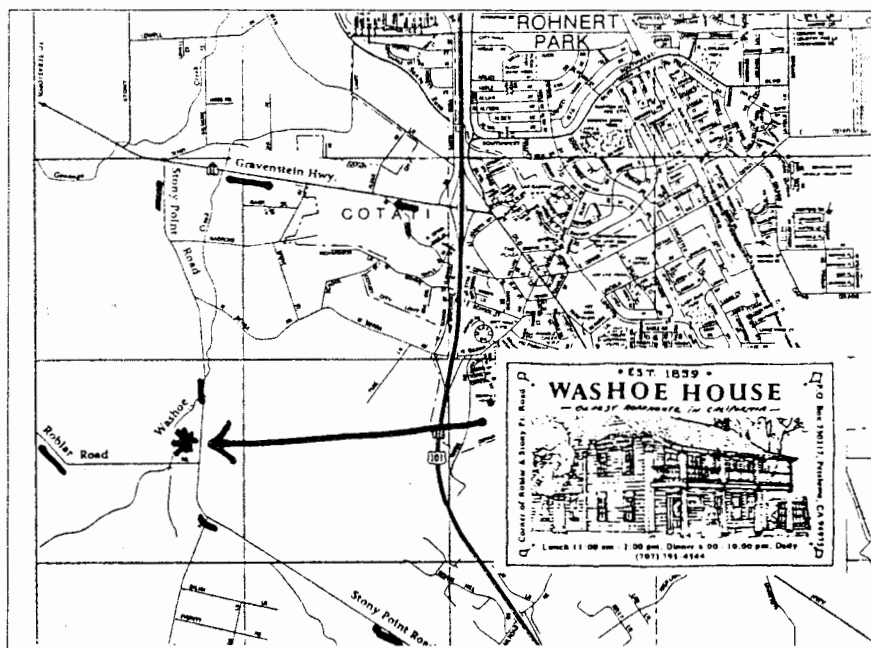
Where: Washoe House, corner of Stony Point and Roblar Roads, Cotati
(see map)

No Host Cocktails 6:30 P.M.

Dinner 7:30 P.M.

Menu Choices: Prime Rib · Chicken in a Basket · Deep Fried Prawns
(Dinner includes: Salad, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Bread, and Coffee)

Reservations are \$20 per person, which includes dinner, tax, gratuity



Dinner Reservations

Please Reserve: _____ Prime Rib _____ Chicken in a Basket _____ Deep Fried Prawns
for a total of _____ Dinners @ \$20 each = \$_____ Total Amount

Name _____ Phone _____

SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO: Russian River Fly Fishers · P.O.Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

1992-93 Membership Renewal

Myself (\$35) ☐ **For My family (\$40)** ☐ **As a Junior Member (\$20)** ☐

(New members please use full application in the Cast)

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER



Watch the *Cast* for the next
scheduled event,
which will be in the fall



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa
California
95405

BOB SISSON
3607 GREEN HILL DR
SANTA ROSA CA 95404-6206



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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS



Volume 17
Number 7
July 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LAST MESSAGE OF THE 1991-1992 "FISHCAL" YEAR

By the time people are reading this I expect to be presenting a green drake emerger to a sipping rainbow on Henry's Fork or splashing a salmon fly against the bank on the Madison. In either case, wish me a tight line.

As the summer hiatus of the Russian River Fly Fishers begins, I'd like to thank all the folks who have worked so hard to make this Club work. Vice President Bob Neill has done an outstanding job in providing interesting programs for our meetings and has been central to keeping the RRFF on track through a transition period. The combined efforts of Treasurer Mike Lisignoli and Secretary Warren Herlihy have kept our records straight. Using his considerable computer skills, Harry Schoonbaert created a list of our 163 paid up members, which is finally purged of *non dues-paying folks, who won't be receiving the Cast anymore*. Each member will receive an updated list in October. (Of course, we all need to pay our 1992-1993 membership dues.)

An expression of appreciation goes to John Thomas who pulled together all those great items for our raffles. Also, thanks to Ben Cummings and Mrs. Wells who donated art work. King's Western Angler has continued its annual contribution to our raffle program, as did the new shop in the area, Fly Fishing Etc.

Henry Von der Mehden has rekindled the Club's awareness of the need to be involved in preserving the habitat and runs of the game fish in our area. Bob Sisson's efforts at the Casting Pond, along with coaches Brian Wong and Emil Lewis, can help us make a good presentation to those wary fish. Next year we'll have better access to the Pond and more events are being planned.

Through Dan Fischer's determined effort on the Fishing Derby, we contributed \$1,322.73 to Big Brothers and Sisters of Sonoma County. Director Richard Bicknel is leaving the area for Modesto. We thank him for the use of his office for board meetings and wish him a good life and "Tight Lines."

Finally, thanks to Russ Lockner for editing the *Cast* and getting it out in a timely manner.

COMING EVENTS

JULY MEETING: Ken Hanley on Fly Fishing California's Surf Zone

The Golden State's surf zone is a wild frontier for fur-n-feathers. With over 800 miles of coastline to explore, this is the richest and most diverse fishery for flyrodders on foot. Ken's slide show will introduce you to these unique habitats throughout the state, water reading techniques, fly patterns, and much more. Ken teaches at two colleges in the Bay Area. Fly fishing accounts for 65 percent of all his instructions in a year. Other classes include outdoor photography, climbing, wildlife tracking, and more. He is also the outreach instructor for REI. His new book, *California Fly Fishing and Fishing Guide*, is now available from Frank Amoto Publications.

AUGUST: No meeting

SEPTEMBER: We will have our annual Swap Meet on our regular meeting night, September 16.

General Meeting

KEN HANLEY
*Fly Fishing California's
Surf Zone*
Wednesday
July 15
7:30 P.M.
Steele Lane School
301 Steele Lane
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
July 13
7 P.M.
Warrack Hospital
Board Room
2449 Summerfield Road
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909
*For information on meetings,
upcoming events and
fishing conditions*



POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER – Closed for the summer

The next event will be in the fall. Watch the *Cast* for details

CONSERVATION CORNER

Writing to your government reps about the salmon problem is not difficult. I wrote to Congressman Frank Riggs and to the Department of Fish and Game, and have received a response from both. Their answers are interesting and somewhat argumentative. At least they wrote back and know that I am very concerned. If more of you would write it may just build a fire. Here is another good address to write to:

Pacific Fishery Management Council
Metro Center, Suite 420
2000 S.W. First Avenue, Portland, OR 97201

Trout Unlimited is tentatively planning a "Squaw Fish Derby" at Lake Pillsbury in September. I'll keep you posted.

Henry Von der Mehden

POSTSCRIPT

Well, twice I've added sections on our plans for next year and on the Arcularius trip, but this #%*/=/*#! computer "bombed" before they were saved. I'm writing this without notes and I'm such a slow typist that I can't possibly do it all over—so here's the gist of the rest:

Next Year: Call Charlie Schelter at 539-0200 to join the Board on August 10 to *get involved* in setting goals.

Tournament Casting: A seminar on basic gear and techniques in September.

Arcularius Ranch Outing: Disappointing fishing due to wind and low water!

Ken Magoon



I apply for membership (or membership renewal) in the Russian River Fly Fishers for:

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐

New members add \$10 Initiation Fee & please use full application

Name	Date
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Occupation	
Home Phone	Work Phone
Signature	

Mail this application with the initiation fee (new members only) and dues/renewal to the
RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!

RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa
California
95405



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SANTA ROSA, CA 95404-6106





RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

The Cast



Volume 17
Number 8
September 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WELCOME BACK TO A NEW RRFF SEASON

All the folks on our mailing list will receive this first issue of *The Cast*. The next issue will only be sent to those who pay their 1992-1993 dues.

Your new Board is prepared to work hard to make this year a memorable one. We've set a major organizational goal which will increase involvement and set directions for the Club. We will establish a Committee System which will encourage greater participation and increased activities to enhance your enjoyment of fly fishing. Most committees will be chaired and coordinated by Board members.

We need a couple of members to help with each of the following activities: **The Cast** (to help Warren Herlihy coordinate Club news and provide more features); **Conservation** (to join Henry von der Mehdon's vigilance over threats to the local fishery); **Membership** (to aid Harry Schoonbaert and Patrick Plumley's recruitment and renewal efforts); **Programs and Raffles** (to help Bob Neill select speakers and John Thomas obtain goodies for our main fund raising activity); **Publicity** (to send off regular press releases about our meetings); **Casting Pond** (to assist Bob Sisson at casting clinics and tournaments); **Youth** (Dan Fischer needs help conducting more benefits for Big Brothers); **Outings** (Charlie Schelter and Patrick Plumley will welcome contributions to planning local and long range trips); and **Fly Tying** (Bill Archuleta needs help setting up a series of fly tying workshops).

You can make a significant contribution to the RRFF by joining one of these committees! Give the people mentioned above a call or look for sign-up sheets at our September meeting.

Tight Lines,

SEPTEMBER MEETING AND PROGRAM

We will have the traditional Swap Meet for our first meeting at Steele Lane School in Santa Rosa on Wednesday, September 16 starting at 7 P.M. So bring your unused, excess fishing gear and related equipment. Paid members will be able to sell without paying a use-fee. Non-members will be charged \$5 to sell their goods. Of course (as usual) general admission is free and it's open to the public. There will also be some fly tying, knots, and the show-and-tell program.

This is a chance for you fly casters to swap, buy, sell and get that missing gear you need. *Lets attend, lets participate, lets go!*

CAST EDITOR CHANGE

Past president Russ Lockner has done an outstanding job as Editor of *The Cast* for the last eight years. **Thank you Russ for a job well done!**

He is passing that responsibility on to Warren Herlihy, who will welcome your contributions to our newsletter.

General Meeting

Annual Swap Meet Fly Tying & Knots

Wednesday
September 16
7 P.M.

Steele Lane School
301 Steele Lane
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
September 14
7 P.M.

Warrack Hospital
Board Room
2449 Summerfield Road
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

573-8909

*For information on meetings,
upcoming events, and
fishing conditions*

COMING EVENTS



SEPTEMBER Casting Pond Event

Note the comments on this excellent event. Bob Sisson runs a casting clinic that can help the "duffer" turn into a real casting machine. Bring your friends, the guy next door, your fishing buddy, or whoever! Bob's there to help you. Lets turn out!!

TOURNAMENT STYLE CASTING CLINIC

Several members have expressed interest in improving their casting skills by practicing with rings and distance exercises at the Pond. We might try to invite a couple of other local clubs for a friendly competition in the spring. Emil Lewis, our resident tournament caster, will be tutoring us at the September Casting Clinic. (See Bob Sisson's announcement for date and time). Bring a balanced 4 to 7 wt. rod with a double taper line for the rings and/or a shooting taper system up to 10wt. (300 grain line). Casters at all skill levels are welcome.

OCTOBER Bill Archuleta, club member

Bill Archuleta's topic will be a bit different than we normally have, in that while there was some fly fishing, the main subject will concentrate on his white water rafting trip down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in central Idaho.

The talk will cover the "whereas" and "hows" and show that just about anyone can participate in this type of endeavor. Bring your friends, neighbors, and anyone you think might be interested in doing something like this. You may wish to start planning a trip or merely live vicariously. Whatever your pleasure, I'm sure you will enjoy the show.

Think about an October Lake Sonoma Bass outing. Call Charlie Schelter at 539-0200 for details.

Northern Calif. Fly Fishing Federation Conclave: A Festival of Fly Fishing '92. September 25 to 27

This informative and entertaining gathering of regional clubs and guests will be held again at the North Tahoe Community Center in Kings Beach at Lake Tahoe. There is a RRFF group going. Call Bob Neill (542-6723) for more information.

THE BOARD

Most outfits have 'em—GM, IBM, HP, even my home (my wife and dog are the board.)

RRFF has a board. With a cadre of dedicated lads who are going to make this term really "hum." New approach, new direction, fired-up, gung-ho spirit has pervaded the group, and you can "make book" the coming term will have programs and events *for you* that will be educational, interesting and fun!

We need to back these dedicated lads by meeting attendance, participation in club activities, outings, and committees.

Remember, any organization is only as successful as membership participation. Without that participation, it's down the drain.

Warren Herlihy

RRFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1992-1993

Ken Magoon	President/ Publicity	527-8376
Bob Neill	Vice President/ Programs	542-6723
Mike Lisignoli	Treasurer	542-7725
Warren Herlihy	Secretary/ Cast Editor	539-0828
Bob Sisson	Pond Captain	545-3721
Henry Schoonbaert	Membership	838-4517
Dan Fischer	Youth	838-2871
Henry von der Mehden	Conservation	525-0363
John Thomas	Raffles	778-1312
Charlie Schelter	Local Outings/ Membership	539-0200
Patrick Plumley	Distant Outings/ Membership	526-2762
Bob Wobser	At Large	763-4007
Tim Grogan	At Large	527-0360



"Edwin lives for salmon fishing."

RENEW Now!

As mentioned, it's time to renew your membership. (See the form below.) Those people who have renewed by the October meeting will be on our 1992-1993 Membership List. Please indicate whether you want the Cast sent to your business or home address.

Discounts for 92-93 RRFF Members

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

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐
(New members add \$10 Initiation Fee)

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

**Mail this application with the initiation fee and dues to the
RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!**

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, September 20

Time: 12 P.M. to 2 P.M.

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

The September clinic will feature intermediate and distance casting practice and coaching for members. Ring casting coaching will be featured by coach Emil Lewis in preparation for the inter-club event to be announced later.

Beginning casting instruction for both members and non-members will be offered starting at 10 A.M. Coach Brian Wong has some full line outfits for 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).

This is your opportunity to sharpen up for the upcoming steelhead and river salmon fishing soon to begin. Everyone can be more proficient and better casters than they are. It only takes practice and technique improvement.

The pond is in great shape and the grounds look terrific. If things continue to develop as planned with the Park Department, we will have road access and parking at the gate during all club events. We will be improving the parking area with an all-weather shale surface that should make the area usable for the entire winter season, as well as during the dry time of the year. A new latrine facility is about completed. This is located at the entrance to the softball field and is only a short walk from the pond. A new path is also under construction from the paved parking area to the north gate of the pond area. Things are looking up.

Bob Sisson

DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

- 60'
#39. Marshall Lockman (9 wt-SH)
80'
#34. Marshall Lockman (9wt-SH)

The next scheduled event will be October 11

RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa
California
95405

BOB SISSON
3607 GREEN HILL DR
SANTA ROSA CA 95404-6206



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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

the RRF



Volume 17
Number 9
October 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

YET ANOTHER SUMMER FISHING TRIP SHARED

As a few of you know, I had the fishing opportunity of a lifetime this summer. It consisted of a five week trip through the Rockies, fishing such famous waters as Silver Creek and the Henry's Fork in Idaho; the Madison and Beaverhead in Montana; the Green River below Flaming Gorge Reservoir in Utah; the San Juan in New Mexico; and the (not so famous) Dolores River in Colorado. This was a solo trip, except for 10 wonderfully educational days in Idaho and Montana with my friend Frank Rodrigues from Portland, Oregon, and his fishing partner Richard Franklin, a professional photographer from New York city.

These guys approach the sport from the classical school, which dictates that if large trout are not rising to a hatch, you just sit and wait until they do. Then you stalk and cast to the rise forms which "push the most water." The logic is that since you know big (18-inch plus) fish are there, you avoid casting to smaller fish which could result in putting down the larger ones. Makes sense, if you have the patience and the stream knowledge to locate the big guys' holding water. As a life-long student, I made every effort to closely follow my teachers' lessons with moderate success and they made a convert of me.

By the time I reached the San Juan these techniques were fairly well honed. Committed to only using dry flies and casting up and across to rising fish, I was able to hook 41 fish in three days fishing, only one of which was under

14 inches. Of the 28 fish I landed and released, at least six were over 20 inches, and a couple of those were hooked on a #20 parachute Adams and a #22 midge. A number of nice fish just straightened out some light #18 hooks on which I had tied Griffiths Gnats to imitate clusters of midges *gettin' it on*.

This trip marked a personal milestone. In addition to becoming more skilled at casting either dries or nymphs upstream and resisting the old reliable "nymph-under-a-strike-indicator-fished-dead-drift-down-stream" technique, I gained considerable confidence in reading holding water, identifying hatches and

see Summer Fishing, page 3

General Meeting White Water Rafting

BILL ARCHULETA
Wednesday
October 14
7 P.M.

Steele Lane School
301 Steele Lane
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
October 12
7 P.M.
Warrack Hospital
Board Room
2449 Summerfield Road
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

The phone number is being changed. (See page 3)



Ken Magoon releasing an "average" San Juan River rainbow

COMING EVENTS



Let us pray for a lot of rain and good healthy runs of steelheads. With that in mind, let's consider:

FISH OUTING / CAMP OUTING

OCTOBER 9 – 11, FRIDAY – SUNDAY

Lake Sonoma, Rustler Campground

Come Friday or Saturday. Return Sunday, October 11

Blackbass, Redear perch, catfish!

Some of us will go in early on Friday to secure adequate camp space. Rustler, (like all Lake Sonoma camps) is boat-in only. It is a short distance from the beach and parking area at the end of Hot Springs Road. Left turn entering Cloverdale from the south, about five miles to the Lake.

Anything that floats is okay on these placid waters. Shore fishing is fine too. If you don't have a boat we will ferry you from the parking area. If you use a trailer boat you must enter at public ramp on the marina and run about one-half mile up-lake to Rustler.

Mild weather camping gear should be adequate. The campfire ban has been lifted. I'm looking forward to a FUN weekend. See you there!

Charlie Schelter, 539-0200

OCTOBER 25 CASTING POND CLINIC

Bob Sisson and his associates are there to help YOU sharpen up your skills and get you going. Remember, "the pond" ain't all that far away and the better your chances of success if you are prepared.

NOVEMBER 18 MIKE FOSTER

Regular meeting. Guest speaker Mike Foster will present "Steel Heading the North Coast" with special emphasis on fishing the Eel River.

CONSERVATION

WILLOW CREEK UPDATE

(A tributary of the Russian River)

Trout Unlimited is still continuing their monitoring program on Willow Creek this year. One thing of top priority is determining the genetic background of the Silvers in the creek.

In May of this year and next we will be typing the active channel. This is a basin level habitat inventory designed to produce a description of the physical fish habitat. The habitat classification is on the scale of a stream's naturally occurring pool-riffle-run units. This information will provide baseline data in which to determine if critical habitat needs of our target species (Silver Salmon) are lacking, and if there are areas where improvements can be made.

Four levels of classification exist when describing fish habitat from a physical viewpoint. We'll be using level II that separates the riffles into riffle or flatwater habitat types, thus creating three categories. Level II was chosen because we just need simple baseline data and description to facilitate restoration planning.

This project needs volunteers to help in applying for grant money and monies for the State Park system to facilitate restoration projects on Willow Creek.

*Michael A. Swaney, guest writer, (707) 829-3580
Trout Unlimited Willow Creek Project Coordinator
(Submitted by Henry von der Mehden)*

INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR CASTING SKILLS?

At the September casting clinic a small group of us gave Trout Fly Accuracy casting a try. It was exacting but fun. We will be setting up the rings again at the October 25 clinic. Emil Lewis and I have been working on a condensation of the American Casting Associations' rules and gear restrictions, which will be available at the next club meeting. (See last month's *Cast* for info on the latter.) With coaching from Emil and Bob Sisson, we will gradually incorporate other casting events: Distance Casting; Dry Fly Accuracy; Bass Bug Accuracy; and Plug Casting. And since this is an activity which requires practice I would like to get together with anyone who wants to come out to the Casting Pond some evening. Call me at 527-8376 and we'll cast for "beverages."

Ken Magoon

THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

IN PRESENTING ITS FOURTH ANNUAL
NATIONAL CONSERVATION BANQUET

ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF SPECIAL GUEST

MICHAEL FONG

MICHAEL FONG IS AN AVID FISHERMAN, A NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKER,
AND EDITOR OF THE INSIDE ANGLER. HE WILL MAKE A SPECIALLY
PREPARED SLIDE PRESENTATION FOR US. HE IS NOT TO BE MISSED!!

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY--ENJOY AN EVENING WITH FELLOW
FISHERMEN AND WOMEN, A DELICIOUS DINNER AT THE FLAMINGO HOTEL,
OPPORTUNITIES TO WIN DOOR PRIZES, SPECIAL RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION
AND LIVE AUCTION, AND A GOLD TABLE DRAWING FOR AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID
FISHING TRIP TO THREE RIVERS RANCH IN IDAHO, ~~AND~~ THE PRESENTATION
BY MICHAEL FONG!!! FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 1992!!!

TICKET INFORMATION:

Adults: \$30.00

Tickets for Children 12 and Younger: \$12.50

PURCHASE EIGHT OR MORE TICKETS AND BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR THE
GOLD TABLE DRAWING!!!

TIME'S A-WASTING!!! USE THE COUPON BELOW TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW!

=====

REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER TROUT UNLIMITED NATIONAL CONSERVATION BANQUET 1992

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____CITY_____ZIP_____

PHONE_____# ADULT TICKETS:_____# CHILD'S TICKETS_____

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO TROUT UNLIMITED, REDWOOD EMPIRE
CHAPTER. MAIL TO: RETU, C/O WARREN BRAY, 175 AIRPORT BOULEVARD
SANTA ROSA CA 95403. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!!!

IT WAS QUITE A TRIP

Among diehard fly fishing junkies, there are two categories: those of use working stiffs who get our regular angling fix on day trips to the river or weekend trips, sleeping in the back of the pickup; the other group doesn't get their fix quite as often but they go in a little more style and comfort. They travel to exotic places and/or stay in plush lodges with attentive guides and excellent food. I need that weekly fix but recently I had an opportunity to experience one of those plush lodges.

The lodge I'm referring to is Elk Trout in Colorado. This is the first trip of this kind for me but I've got to tell you, I could get used to it easily! Elk Trout has a wide variety of great fishing opportunities. They lease water rights from several ranches in the Krenling area. The Colorado River, the Blue River, and Troublesome Creek make up approximately 12 miles of exclusive blue-ribbon water. They also maintain at least seven wonderful spring fed ponds. There are Rainbows, Browns, Brooks, and Cutthroats in the ponds that range from 12 to 27 inches. In two-and-a-half days we used several techniques, nymphing with indicators, dries and streamers. All methods were effective at times, but my most enjoyable

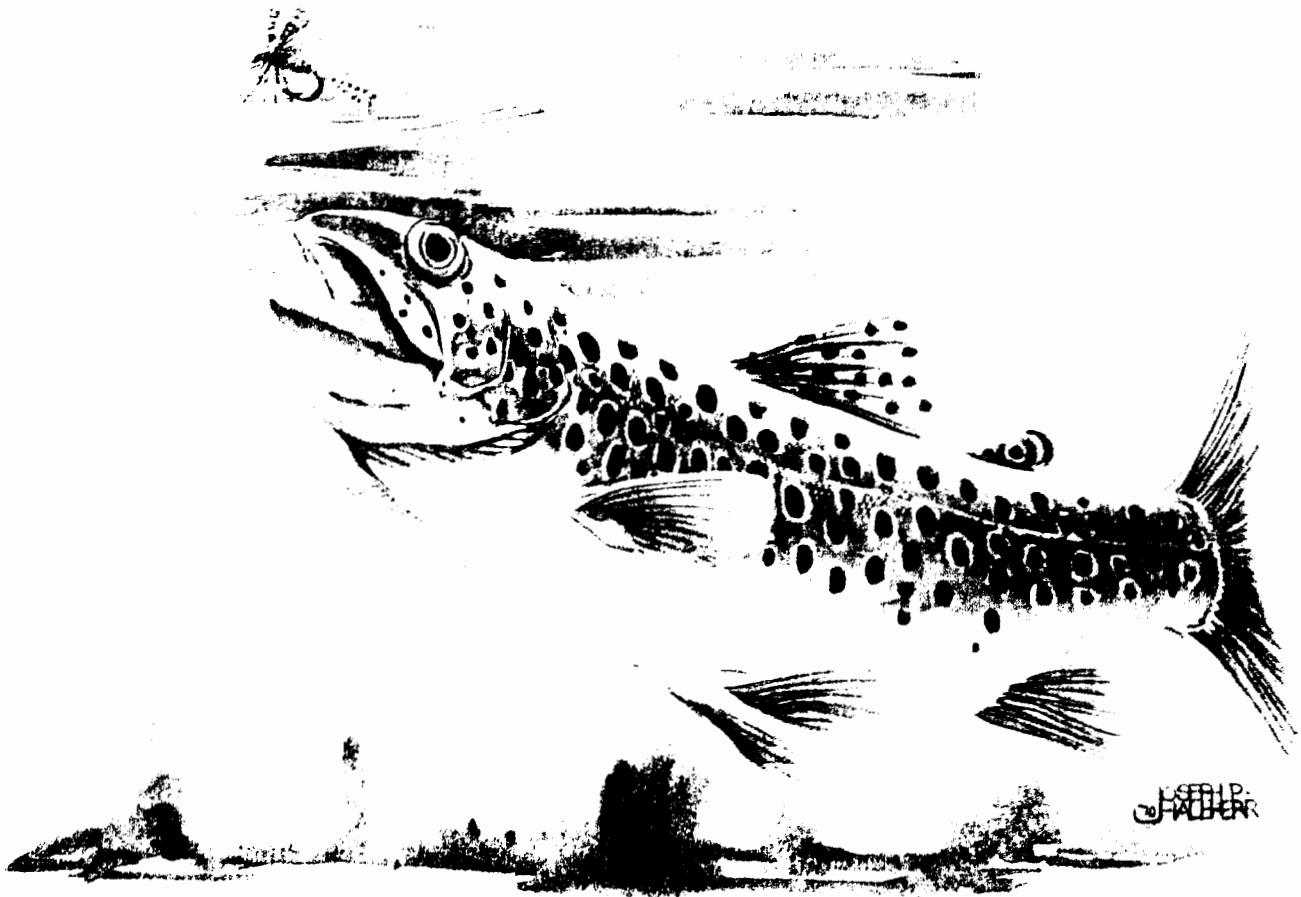
fishing was using a #16 olive scud on a pond called Star Gulch. Huge tails were waving everywhere as the Rainbows rooted for crustaceans in the weed beds. A long cast and quick two-inch strips drew a fish to follow the fly fifteen-feet before attacking it and peeling off into the backing.





All of this sounds great, but it is at least rivaled by the comfort and service you receive at the lodge. The building itself is very tastefully rustic with a central living area, including fireplace and bar. Double rooms have private baths. The nostalgic dining tent even has crystal chandeliers. The food was excellent from the prime rib dinners and tasty streamside lunches to the fresh baked cookies in the numerous lodge cookie jars.

There is a complete fly shop with all the necessities including rental rods, reels, and waders.

This kind of civilized fishing isn't cheap—\$945 for three nights and three days guided fishing—but once in awhile you owe it to yourself to walk into a "fishing barn" and find your name on a locker for your fishing gear.

Tim Grogan



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
  OCTOBER 				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Club Outing – Lake Sonoma	10
11 Lake Sonoma	12 Board Meeting	13	14 General Meeting	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Casting Pond	26	27	28	29	30	31 

RENEW Now!

As mentioned, it's time to renew your membership. (See the form below.) Those people who have renewed by the October meeting will be on our 1992–1993 Membership List. Please indicate whether you want the Cast sent to your business or home address.

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Myself (\$35) ☐ **For My family (\$40)** ☐ **As a Junior Member (\$20)** ☐
(New members add \$10 Initiation Fee)

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

**Mail this application with the Initiation fee and dues to the
RRFF, P.O. Box 2673, Santa Rosa, CA 95405—NOW!!!**

FLOAT TUBE SAFETY

For all you "belly boaters" the following article from the *Golden Gate Angling & Casting Bulletin* does make sense.

Here is what Robert Baert, proprietor of The Fly Fisherman Ltd., a South African tackle dealership, had to say about the death of Keith Miller, one of South Africa's best fishing guides.

Miller drowned in under seven feet of water when his float tube bladder developed at 18-inch split, causing instant and total deflation. Significantly, the float tube bladder was the 8.50x20 inner tube specified by the manufacturer; the small inner tube normally found in the back rest was missing; and Miller was wearing paddle pushers, which Baert says lack a quick release mechanism. You apparently cannot swim with paddle pushers.

Baert claims that the 8.50x20 tube is too small. It must be inflated too much to fill the chamber, thereby making its walls thinner and more susceptible to tear. Also the pressure of the seams and float tube zipper on the inner tube wall cut into the rubber itself. The cuts can go to half the thickness of the bladder in some cases.

Baert emphasizes the importance of using a tube which most nearly matches the size of the outer shell. He uses 10.00 and 11.00 inner tubes made of Butyl, not rubber. You should always carry an inflated reserve tube in the back rest, and check your tubes regularly for wear.

Baert doesn't say so, but I would think twice about using paddle pushers. With fins you can at least use them to swim, if necessary, once you are out of the tube. Also, I always wear neoprene waders with the top cinched shut, ever since a fellow fisherman at Martis Reservoir told me they actually helped him float following a sudden float tube collapse.

George Berns, Editor
Golden Gate Casting & Angling Bulletin

BOARD NOTES

Please note that Bob Wobser will be handling Membership and Hospitality (763-4007). Tim Grogan will be assisting with the Youth Program.

SAD TIDINGS

Lani Waller, known to many club members, was seriously injured in a plane crash while guiding a fishing party in British Columbia. Not only is Lani a well recognized fly fishing guide, but also author of many fishing articles as appeared in *Fly Fisherman*, *Fly Fishing*, *Trout*, etc.

We wish Lani a speedy and wonderful recovery.

RRFF HOT LINE NUMBER TO CHANGE

The RRFF Hot Line number is changing. See next month's *Cast* for our new number.

Warren Herlihy

Summer Fishing, continued from front page

catching bigger fish. Another side benefit of this summer sojourn was that by traveling and fishing alone, I met and learned much from "local" fly fishers who, like my friend Frank, after practically making me take a blood oath of secrecy about some locations (and swearing to provide him with a lifetime supply of garlic stuffed olives), shared their favorite water and tactics for catching big trout. I found that experienced anglers on even the most heavily fished blue-ribbon streams are willing to exchange knowledge for some appreciative companionship.

Tight Lines



POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

CASTING POND CLINIC REMINDER

Date: Sunday, October 25

Time: 12 P.M. to 2 P.M.

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

The October clinic will feature ring casting for accuracy led by coaches Emil Lewis and Ken Magoon. Casting practice and coaching for intermediate and distance casting for members will also be featured. The distance casting course will be in place for those interested in distance casting proficiency and qualification.

An introduction to fly casting and basic beginners instruction will continue to be offered to people who would like to experience the feel of fly casting. This activity will be held from 10 A.M. until 12 noon. This will continue to be a joint offering by the Russian River Fly Fishers and Brian Wong of Lyle's Tackle and Travel. Brian has a limited amount of equipment to loan beginners on a reservation

basis. He may be contacted at 527-9887. If you know of someone who thinks they might like to learn fly casting, invite them to participate.

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Bob Sisson

DISTANCE CASTING ACHIEVEMENT QUALIFIERS

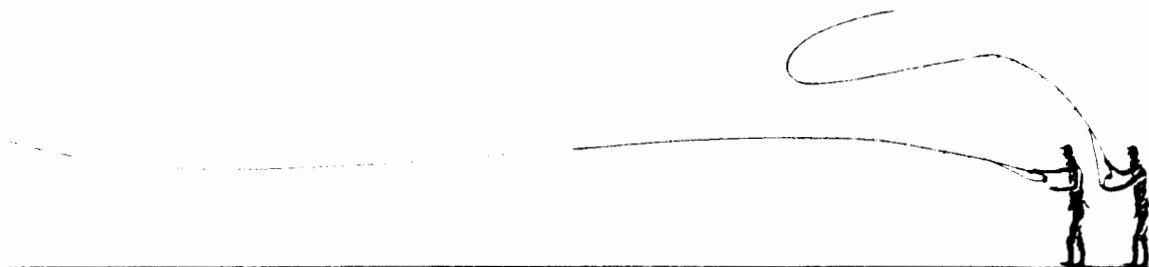
September Clinic:

60'

#38. Dan Fisher (8 wt-SH)

#40. Joe McCarty (5wt-FL)

The next scheduled event will be November 15



RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS, INC.

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RUSSIAN RIVER FLY FISHERS

The RFR



Volume 17
Number 10
November 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

LETS HAVE A STRESS-FREE STEELHEAD SEASON

In recent years we've all noticed increased fishing pressure and resulting tension on coastal steelhead streams. Wading and boat line-ups are getting more crowded and holes that were only "local knowledge" are being fished by people from the cities. Before we get too deep into regionalism, keep in mind that while we may get agitated about groups from San Francisco or Berkeley crowding the Russian, remember that we're all from "The City" to the "locals" on the Gualala and Garcia.

There are obvious ways that we can reduce the stress in heavily fished pools. First, there's the traditional etiquette of fishing through a hole or run by taking a step downstream with every cast. While still a common practice on the Deschutes and North Umpqua, it's probably going the way of the fiberglass rod here in California. Small groups may agree to it on uncrowded water, but most of us are just happy to get within casting range of holding fish and try to crowd even closer to the "bucket." The shoulder-rubbing packs of fly fishers on the Gualala is a good example of this. Okay, we aren't likely to see a return to "rotating through the pool," but maybe in a "kinder, gentler nation."

Then there's the courtesy of joining the line up at the ends rather than squeezing in "just one more guy." This also applies to saving a place for your fishing buddy. Some guys move into lines by starting to false cast as they approach from behind and interpret the bobbing and ducking of heads as a sign of acceptance. Bait casters also use a rear attack

by simply hurling their weights over our heads and then stand up on the bank talking loudly about what they'd do if hooked by a backcast.

A more subtle problem for close quarter fly fishing line-ups, such as the Switchville Hole on the Gualala, is when different line systems are being used—particularly the use of sinktip floating lines amid guys throwing shooting tapers with nylon running lines. The former systems drift more rapidly than the latter due to differences in water speed between the surface and bottom. And while

it's true that one can slow a floating line by mending, the closeness of rods and lines precludes this technique. Also, the fact that a line is floating in front of other casters results in excessive crossing of lines at both the top and bottom of the cast, with crosser fishermen untangling the mess. Observing and using the successful technique for the day will save you time and frustration by avoiding unnecessary entanglements. And if you don't want to go along with the crowd, there's always plenty of open water to fish.

With increased fishing pressure over dwindling runs of fish, it seems to me that we all need to keep our patience up and tempers down. Fishing for steelhead is an exciting, demanding sport and it should also be a way to leave the stress of urban life behind.

See you on the River,

Ken Magoon

General Meeting *Steelhead & Salmon Fly Fishing on the Eel River*

MIKE FOSTER
Wednesday
November 18
7 P.M.
Steele Lane School
301 Steele Lane
Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday
November 16
7 P.M.
Warrack Hospital
Board Room
2449 Summerfield Road
Santa Rosa

RRFF Hot Line

538-1733*
*To be up and running
mid-November

COMING EVENTS AND OUTINGS



NOVEMBER 15 Casting Pond Event

November 15 clinic. With steelheading upon us, now is the time to sharpen up your casting techniques. Time 12 noon to 2 P.M. at the Galvin Park Casting Pond.

NOVEMBER 21 Fish Outing

Saturday, November 21 we will have a *laid back* outing to Lake Hennessey (Conn Dam) up Hwy. 128 from the Silverado Trail, about 40 miles from Santa Rosa. We'll meet at the launch ramp about noon. There is easy access for small boats, float tubes, or shore casting. Bring picnic supplies and we'll share. (Rain cancels) Call me for further information.

Attendees of the Lake Sonoma outing all had a great time. High rods were Ben Cummings and Harold White. Harold generously shared his elegant flies with the group.

Charlie Schelter, 539-0200

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Well, the October meeting saw new member Dick Apalatequi and his wife, and Cynthia Baird in attendance. Good to have you with us and we look forward to your participating in the club's activities.

I had the opportunity last week of seeing a terrific casting demonstration at the Oakland casting pond. The charming lady was using a Spey type two-handed rod and was casting right out of the pond. Beautiful to watch her form and precision! (Wished I could do it.)

As we talked, I did mention our club did indeed welcome all species of "personkind" to its bosom who had an interest in fishing.

—Warren Herlihy

NOVEMBER 18 Mike Foster

Before Mike makes his presentations, he will be demonstrating fly tying techniques. Sounds very interesting!

DECEMBER 16 Holiday Party & Bob Nauheim

For a little change of pace, the Board has decided to postpone our next Dinner Meeting until after the first of the year. For our December 16 meeting we'll have the ever-popular Bob Nauheim from Fishing International as a guest speaker. For all you with a nostalgic feel about the good old days, come and hear Bob Nauheim's *Fly Fishing the North Coast – The Way it Was!*

To make the evening more festive we'll have an array of desserts and other foods donated by club members which you can purchase to consume or take home. Proceeds from these donations will be used for a club outing with kids from Big Brothers and Sisters next spring.

If you would like to contribute a *goodie* to the party, call the new RRFF Hot Line Number, 538-1733 (this new number will be ready to go by mid-November) and we'll get back to you. HO! HO! HO!




OOPS!

The deal for a ten percent discount to RRFF members at King's Western Angler is off. I announced it before certain conditions could be agreed upon that were never resolved.

—Ken Magoon

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Casting Pond	16 Board Meeting	17	18 General Meeting	19	20	21 Fishing Trip
22	23	24	25		27	28
29	30					

MEMBERSHIP

Possible Species Extinction! Membership renewals for '92 - '93 were due July 1 of this year.

To avoid joining the ranks of RRFF *Extinctus Possibilitis*, please remit your dues before November 15. This will be the last issue of the *Cast* for those who received bills in

October and have not made payment. Since the new membership roster will be compiled and printed in November, only those paid up by the fifteenth of this month will be included as active members.

Act Now! Preserve a species.

—Harry Schoonbaert



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

Myself (\$35) ☐ For My family (\$40) ☐ As a Junior Member (\$20) ☐
(New members add \$10 Initiation Fee)

Name

Date

Address

City/State/Zip

Occupation

Home Phone

Work Phone

Signature

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POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

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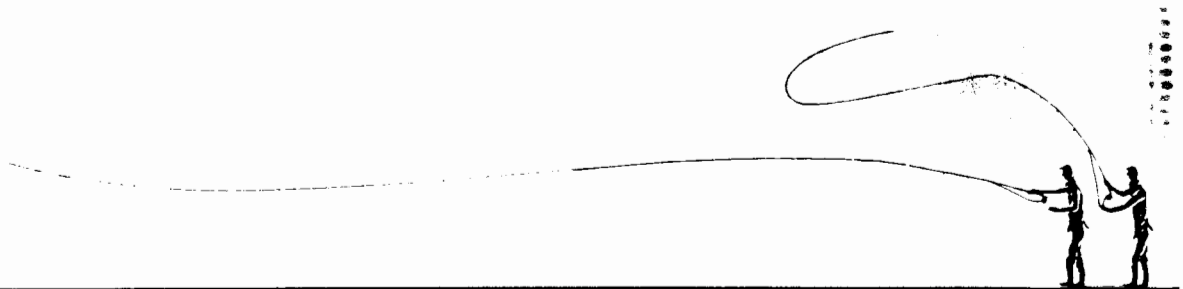
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Bob Sisson

Please note:

There will be no casting clinic during December.

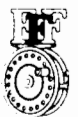


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A FLY FISHER'S CHRISTMAS DREAM

Hopefully, many of you will have had the opportunity to put into practice some of the steelheading tactics described by Mike Foster at our November meeting. In addition to enjoying his excellent slides and entertaining informative narrative, I was intrigued by Mike's detailed description of how to use a variety of line systems to cover all types of water. During a few slack moments over Thanksgiving, I decided to check out what it would cost to add more lines to my steelheading gear.

Using The Fly Shop of Redding and Dan Bailey's 1992 catalogs, I estimated that the purchase of Mastery Steelhead Floating and Teeny Steelhead Sink-Tip lines plus backing for two spools would run about \$120. Of course, (now this is where the dream sequence starts), I would need the extra spools for my new Hardy Perfect reel, with the cool looking circular agate line guide (\$371 total), which would be mounted on a new Loomis IMX 9'6" 8 weight rod (\$350). Then there's the complete set of Cortland Shooting Tapers (\$18 each), backing and Amnesia on the reel (\$100 total). So there I am, in my dream, with \$941 in gear, standing buck naked in the Eel River without any flies.

Now the dream gets nightmarish with dollar signs swarming about like caddis in search of mates. I end up on the Gualala River wearing Streamline Bootfoot Waders; Patagonia SST Wading Jacket, Vertical Pocket Vest and underwear; carrying three dozen steelhead flies and all the essential fishing accessories. But an out-of-work fly fisher hijacks my \$1711 worth of gear and accoutrements, leaving me stranded streamside in my Capilenes.

Fortunately, the gear and clothes don't catch steelies. What really matters is the knowledge of how to locate them and the skill to effectively present the fly. Thanks to Mike Foster we're all better informed on these essentials.



Tight Lines,

Ken Magoon

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER MEETING: BOB NAUHEIM AND HOLIDAY PARTY

Come hear the ever-popular Bob Nauheim from Fishing International. His topic will be *Fly Fishing the North Coast, The Way it Was!*

To add to the festivities,  we'll have an array of  desserts and coffee donated by club members. Be sure to attend.

January Meeting: CARLO BONJIO

Carlo's topic will be *California Coastal Steelhead Fishing, Today and Tomorrow.*

General Meeting

HOLIDAY PARTY

&

BOB NAUHEIM

*Fly Fishing the North Coast,
The Way it Was!*

Wednesday

December 16

7 P.M.

Steele Lane School

301 Steele Lane

Santa Rosa

Board of Directors

Monday

December 14

7 P.M.

Warrack Hospital

Board Room

2449 Summerfield Road

Santa Rosa

POOL CAPTAIN'S CORNER

There will be no casting clinic during December

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Carlo Bonjio (a right knowledgeable fisher bloke) will be the guest speaker on January 20. His topic will be *California Coastal Steelhead Fishing, Today & Tomorrow*. Carlo's topic will tie in directly with Bob Nauheim's presentation this month.

Here is a dual opportunity for you steelheaders to get a handle on what's going on. Bob Nauheim's presentation tells you how it was in the "good old days," and Carlo's will outline how *you* can help monitor and preserve our steelhead resources for today and tomorrow.

Carlo will tie flies and discuss equipment from 6:30 to 7 P.M. prior to the general meeting.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the steelheaders to get a terrific education. ***Lets all show up for both presentations!***

Bob Neill

OUTING REPORT

For an overcast day, our outing at Lake Hennessey had a good turnout of about ten rods. In my boat, Harold White was high rod with a trout landed before I got a fly in the water. No December outing (Happy Holidays). Hopefully January will see us on the beautiful Sonoma Coast with a shot at perch in the surf.

Charlie Schelter, 539-0200

"A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT" QUIZ

Did you see this fascinating adaptation of Norman McClean's book? Did you pay close attention to the fishing sequences? Here's a little quiz:

- ? What fly and knot were included in the opening credits?
- ? How many and what species of trout were caught during the film?
- ? What live insect and matching pattern were shown?
- ? What type of rods and brands of reels were used?
- ? What types of waders were worn?
- ? On what river were the fishing sequences filmed and why was it chosen?

Answers to be discussed at the December meeting.



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