

The CAST

Russian River Fly Fishers

Volume 28 Number 1 January 2003

For January 2003

Time to get your new licenses!

Tis' the Season - Rick Baker

Again, Happy Holidays everyone! As I'm writing this, the Baker household is being plummeted by the season's second significant storm; as I'm sure many of yours are as well. I get kind of nervous about this time of year. I keep looking at the ceilings praying that I don't see any sign of water inside...so far so good. *Knock on wood!* I took a couple hours off and drove down to the river for a quick snoop. Whoowee! When the river wants to rear it's fierce head it sure doesn't hold back any! It boggles my mind to look down at the once peaceful hole where I spent the summer catching smallies in clear shallow water and throwing rocks at the carp with my son; turn into a brown, churning torrent. As my

grandpa used to say, "To thick to drink, to thin to plow."

It was good to see such a great turnout at our December General Meeting! Rodger, Tom, and Scott did a great job pointing out and discussing some of the great opportunities that we have available locally to scratch our piscatorial itch. I've been reading "Bluegill: Fly Fishing & Flies" by Terry & Roxanne Wilson. In it, they go to great lengths at describing the life cycle of ponds and lakes. They further describe the prime water and habitat that is needed to foster the growth of monster bluegill and bass. As I read this, the authors seemed to be describing Lytton Springs to a "T". The readings were further reinforced by Tom's talk of the lake. I hope you can get a chance to get out there and give it a shot

next spring. I think I'm going to make a more concerted effort to get out there and play around more myself.

I hope the holidays have treated you all well, and the new year finds your lines taut, and your creels full (if your so inclined.) Let's hope the river shapes up quickly so we can all get out and sample some of the chromers that should be showing up in large numbers pretty soon!

Till next month, Tight Lines!



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Director of CAST Archives: Bob Sisson 525-1976
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)

Coming Events

January

Membership Meeting - 1/8
Board Meeting - 1/15
Casting Clinic - Sundays by Appointment
Fly Tying Meeting - 1/22

February

Membership Dinner Meeting - 2/8
Board Meeting - 2/19
Casting Clinic - Sundays by Appointment
Fly Tying Meeting - 2/26

January General Meeting

RRFF Presents:

Fred Ortmann

“Discussion of the Lower Deschutes River in Central Oregon”

Fred Ortmann will be talking about the stretch of river from the Pelton Dam down to the mouth. There will be special emphasis on the middle portion of the river in the Maupin area. This area has the best fishing access with over 47 miles of road adjacent to the river. Fred will discuss the area, the fishing, some of the wildlife, how to get there and some of the many resources for planning and having a wonderful trip.

Fred lives in Santa Rosa and makes a trip each year to the Deschutes River, as well as fishing the waters of California from Hat Creek to Bishop Valley. Fred grew up in the South Bay and works in the high tech industry.

Wednesday, January 8th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm General Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave. Santa Rosa, CA

Joe Banovich - Program Director

Announcing the RRF Annual Dinner Meeting Saturday, February 8, 2003 - Druids Hall in Santa Rosa Broome's Cioppino Feed Plus - Great Raffle - Speaker Hal Jansan

Time: 5:30 pm No Host Cocktails ... 7 pm Dinner

Hal Jansan is a nationally known writer, artist, lecturer and video personality. He has practiced the art of fly fishing for over 45 years. He has fished extensively throughout North and South America for nearly every species of fresh and saltwater fish. Hal has designed many unique fresh and saltwater fly patterns with over seventy Jansan fly patterns now manufactured and distributed worldwide.

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Hal has gained broad recognition as an instructor for his fly fishing seminars and fly clubs nationally. His seminars and demonstrations have entertained and enlightened thousands of fly fishers as a member of the Coors Outdoor Team and Ed Rice's International Sportsman's Exposition Pro Staff.

The program for our Dinner Meeting will be 'Stillwater Flyfishing'. Hal will be tying flies beginning at 5:30 pm.

This will be a "don't miss" evening and seating will be limited. Get your reservation in early. To make your reservation, send your check with name and number in party (\$35/person ... checks made out to Russian River Fly Fishers) to:

Marji Major
1029 Jack London Ct.
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Druids Hall is on College Avenue at King just across from the Santa Rosa Jr High.



Any questions? Call 579-0990 weekdays / 539-5437 evenings - **Marji Major**

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

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Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom tashton@sbcglobal.net. Go west on Gurneville Road out of Santa Rosa and one block past Willowside Meats, turn right at Lupine Dr.



Now does this look like fun or what! New and experienced tiers will have a great time. Come on out to one of the tying meetings!

CAST by e-mail (Now also available in PDF format!)

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. Savings to the Club are significant as more and more members receive their CAST by e-mail. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me a message at jfinet@vom.com and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive a compressed ZIP file with the CAST in Word format or it can also be made available in the PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online). You can always try it ... and if you don't like it ... we'll put you back on the mail version.

RRFF Website

www.members.tripod.com/~RRFlyFisher/index.html

Name Tags

The RRFF membership has expanded beyond our supply of plastic name tags that I bring in the big old case to club meetings. Please check to see if you have duplicate tags at home and bring them to the next meeting , so we can reissue them to new members. The name tags are very difficult to duplicate so we want to try to keep the original tags if possible. If you are a member in a far flung location , and loyally renew your membership but never attend meetings, rest assured that we have your tag preserved for you. So please send along any extra tags to me, Ken Magoon, 5294 Arnica Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. And if anyone has some wheels to attach to the heavy case, or other brilliant ideas about how to transport it without getting hurt, please drop us an e-mail.

Ken Magoon Membership Coordinator (email: MAGOON5294@aol.com)



Fox Pupa

Materials Needed:

- **HOOK:** Tiemco 2302 size 14 (or 200 size 14)
- **THREAD:** Black 6/0, gray or brown
- **UNDER BELLY:** Strand of Flashabou or Crystal Flash
- **BODY:** Ultra chenille or Vernille in brown, olive or tan (I like tan because I can color it with markers)
- **RIB:** Fine gold or copper wire
- **HEAD:** Brown ostrich is preferred but can use peacock herl
- **ANTENNA:** Two wood duck flank feather barbels (or mallard or spring or gadwall will all work fine)

Recipe:

Tie in thread at half way point of hook.

Wrap in strand of wire and flashabou or crystal flash to beginning of bend.

Wrap Flashabou forward to just behind the eye.

Tie in Vernille and then overwrap with wire as a rib. Tie down and clip off wire.

Cut Vernille to length and singe with lighter.

Wrap two flank fibers on facing forward.

Tie in one Ostrich herl and make 4-6 wraps to form head.

Pull back flank feathers and tie down so they curl over top back of fly.

Finish head.

This month's fly is compliments of Charlie Schillinsky ... thanks Charlie

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

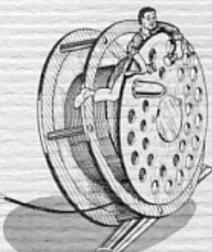
Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group ... save the message and use it to 'reply to all' ... when you have an announcement for membership.

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<p>12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King) Aluminum Boat \$350 Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366</p>	<p>Interphase Echo 200 LCD Fishfinder & Depthfinder \$50 Contact Fred Pedersen @542-5296</p>

Club Waters

The time has come to renew the placards that allow us to go onto the private accesses. We have 2003 stickers available for these placards and you will need the stickers for the placards to be valid. Please see Tom Lynn at the next membership meeting if you haven't already renewed your placard. There is a shortage of placards, so please return yours if you are not planning to renew it.

Tom Lynn



voting at the February Dinner Meeting!

Photo Contest last minute entries Remember ...

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



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

Please mail this application and your check payable to:

Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

The CAST

Russian River Fly Fishers

Volume 28 Number 2 February 2003

For February 2003

Don't Miss the Club Dinner!

Meanderings - Rick Baker

Happy Valentine's Day everyone! It's been awhile since I've last jotted down my most recent thoughts to amuse you all. Since then not much has happened on this end. As you all probably know the local fishing has been practically non-existent with the rains and all. If you've been lucky enough to get the time, I hear the waters a few hours in either direction have been rather productive for the troutoid and bass species. Tis' the time of year for the bulk of the chromer runs to be in full swing...so go get-um guys-n-gals!

Our main club news for the month is the Annual Dinner Meeting to be held on February 8th. I hope a lot of you can make it for some good eats, socializing, entertaining speaker, and a stellar raffle. I overheard a discussion of some of the prizes this year...lets just say I'm bringing all the lucky

charms I've got in my arsenal for this one. As always though, we're soliciting any donations that anyone would like to make for the raffle, or any of our raffles for that matter. But anyway, check inside for further info on the Dinner Meeting. Please RSVP with Marji Major so that we can be sure we've got plenty of food to go around. Oh, and before I forget; we will not be having our regular monthly meeting on the second Wednesday this month. The Dinner Meeting will be our monthly meeting.

I'd like to change the subject now a bit and discuss a little about conservation. As I'm writing this, the New Year is barely three weeks old. Already, our fisheries and watersheds are being attacked by new threats and regulations. Some of you may have heard about these so it may be no big news:

- It appears that Ric Davidge of Alaska Water Imports (actually he's now changed the name of his company to Aqueous Corporation) has realigned his sites from the Gualala and Albion Rivers to the cash strapped Humbolt County. He is now proposing to "bag" the Mad River and ship the water to our thirsty neighbors in Southern California.
- It has been revealed that plans have been in the making for the last four years to convert 5000-10,000 acres of woodland in the Gualala and Garcia River watersheds into vineyards. But, out of the 80,000 acres available that could be converted, what could it hurt huh? Yeah right!
- The Department of Fish and Game, effective Jan.

1, 2003, has closed all beaches, rock piles, and jetties to recreational shore fisherman to pursue the meager 10 fish bag limit of groundfish until July 1st. But never fear, you can still head out to the coast and watch the commercial guys haul in their take of 500 metric tons/boat of groundfish. Now, someone explain to me who is diminishing the groundfish stocks?

These are just three recent examples of the threats that our fisheries and fish have against them. Lets not forget the threat to your right/privilege to fish. I'm sure that some of you are more informed on these matters than I am, and are aware of some greater threats that abound both locally and statewide.

I would like to encourage everyone's involvement to take action on the conservation battles that we have at hand. I know that

"involvement" is easier said than done. We all have very busy lives just trying to provide for our families and pursuing the few precious moments we have to actually get out and fish. But being involved can take on many roles and forms. It can be researching and supporting local, state, and federal organizations who are out there fighting the good fight. This support can come in the form of donating some of your time on various projects they may offer or as simple as handing them a check to further their efforts. But most importantly, I think that it is very important that you grab as much literature as you can; either from the biologists in the trenches, newspaper articles, or web research, and just inform yourselves. From that point, you can make the determination on which issues you feel are the most important to you and which battles you want to support or fight. We need to work together as a fishing community to keep

the check and balance systems in place to ensure that we, and more importantly our children, still have something to fish for in the years to come. Well...then again, I imagine we could all invest heavily in hatcheries and water purification systems to ensure the same things ... ok ... I'm coming down off my little soapbox now. I'm just very concerned about what I've seen going on here in this state. I think you should be as well.

Have a great Valentine's Day everyone! Hug those that you love, and hopefully we'll see you on the 8th for a bit of RRFF whoop-it-up fun!

Tight Lines



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March

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New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Larry Farmer, Glyn Jones, and Bob Terry

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard. **The Editor**

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RRFF Website

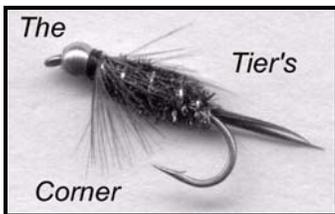
www.members.tripod.com/~RRFlyFisher/index.html

Outing to Pyramid Lake

The RRFF Board has encouraged me to set up a fishing outing to Pyramid Lake in Nevada. It's scheduled on the weekend of March 28, 29 and 30. Pyramid is famous for large Lahontan cutthroat trout. The fishing is from shore or float tubes using #4 to #8 Woolly Buggers. The preferred gear is 6 to 8 weight rods and fast sinking shooting heads. Some people stand on small 6 foot ladders, but I've found that wading allows me to cover more water.

Lodging is available at Crosby's Lodge in Sutcliff, which is right at the Lake, or you can stay in Reno/Sparks, about 35 miles away. The "cabins" at Crosby's sleep 4 to 5 people and cost \$90 to \$110 a night. We have to bring our own food. Rooms in Reno run \$60 on the weekends. Reservations are needed in both locations. I'll put out a sign-up sheet at the next two meetings, but give me a call soon at 527-8376, so I'll know whether to reserve space at Crosby's.

Ken Magoon



Skykomish Sunrise

Materials Needed:

- **HOOK:** Alec Jackson #5 or #7, Mustad 36890 #4 to #2/0
- **THREAD:** Red 6/0 or nylon
- **TAIL:** Hackle fibers
- **FLASH:** Round or oval flash in a spool
- **BODY:** Ostrich herl
- **WING:** Polar bear imitation
- **HEAD:** Hackle

Recipe:

STEP 1:

At the center of the hook, tie-in alternating bunches of red and yellow hackle fibers on top of the shank: about seven each of RED and about four each of YELLOW, on top of one another, four times. The YELLOW wants to dominate the RED. Make the ends of the hackle fibers even with the bend of the hook and not sticking out behind. After tying in the hackle fibers in the middle of the hook, wrap your thread over the shank and ends of fibers, toward the bend of the hook, stopping just before the hook point, making sure to keep the fibers on top of the hook. Then lay another color of red or yellow on top, alternating between the two. Do the same until you have all four bundles locked down. Don't put a lot of pressure on the ends as it will crush them and they will want to flare up. Make one turn of the thread behind the bundle of fibers, bring one wrap of thread on over in front of the fibers, on over and around, to the stopped point in front of the hook point. That will make the fibers stand up or flare a little. Then take the thread back toward the eye of the hook wrapping around until you reach the middle starting point of the hook. Do not cut the thread yet.

STEP 2:

Turn the hook point up. Take four red ostrich herl and one yellow one plus a length of round or oval flash as long as the ostrich

herl, Try to have a four to one ratio of the hurl or 6 red to two yellow and so forth. The yellow wants to dominate the red, so less of it is better. Tie-in the weak end of the bunch on the bottom of the hook mid-point, wrapping the thread over the bundled ostrich and flash back toward the bend of the hook, stopping just in front of the tail. Wrap the thread back toward the front of the hook to the eye, let the bobbin hang. Turn the hook, point down. Now go back to the tied in bunch of four red and one yellow ostrich herl and length of flash, take a hackle pliers and attach it to the ends of the bunch and spin them around themselves right in front of you (not around the hook) till you see the ostrich starting to stick out. When it does, take the bunch on around in front of the tail and continue wrapping the bunch on up toward the eye of the hook. When you make a wrap, pull the fibers back with your left hand grasping the sides of the hook and fibers at the same time and stroke the bundle toward the bend of the hook. Make a wrap, stroke, make a wrap, stroke and continue till you get to the RETURN end of the hook eye. Take the bobbin and unwrap the thread back to that point. I put some half hitches or a whip finish there and a little Hard As Nails cement. let the bobbin hang.

STEP 3:

Take one red hackle and one yellow hackle and hold the tip of the RED in your right hand. Take your left hand and stroke the fibers back and make them stand out. About 1-1/2 inches down from where you are holding the tip of the feather, pull out all the fibers, to the base. Now lay them tip to tip (curved the same) on top of one another. Take hold the feathers, curved side down, back from the tips, in your left hand, and lay them on top of the hook shank, right at the place where the hook eye shank ends (where I say the ditch is). Tie them there and make four wraps of thread to lock them down. Cut the tips off and make two more wraps (let the bobbin hang). Take the two feathers together, one on top of the each other, tied in so when you make the first wrap, the flat side will be toward you as you come around the bottom and start back up to the top. Then the shiny side of the feather will be toward you. Hold them with your right hand while holding them stright up and take your left hand and lightly pull the fibers of both feathers toward the bend of the hook. What you are trying to do is fold the fibers straight behind the barb or middle of the feather and only have the barb or middle of the feather wrap around the hook shank. The fibers will stick out behind the barb of the feather, make the wrap on over, bringing the feathers on around, stopping again at the top of the shank and do as you did before, lightly pulling the fibers away from the barb and make another wrap in close turns till you get to the bare barb or center of the feather. Take the bobbin and unwrap the threat to the stop point of the barb and make two wraps with the center barbs and tie off with the bobbin thread. Cut the barb ends. Make two or three wraps around the bards. Put some Hard As Nails cement there.

STEP 4:

Take about a pencil size bunch of the synthetic Polar Bear and tie in to reach the tip of the tail. I pull the center of it out a little so it will look tapered and not just cut off. Then I gauge it from the eye to the tip of the tail, cutting the base, so it won't be out over tips of the tail. Whip finish and put a little more cement on the wraps. Go catch a steelhead. This fly was originally tied by Ken McCloud. It can be tied with lead wrapped around the hook under where the bundled ostrich and flash are tied in, to get deeper. Fish as you would the traditional steelhead patterns.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

Raffle Donations

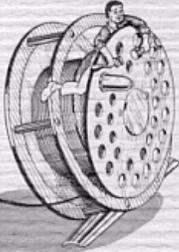
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<p>Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9' new \$400 St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9' \$100</p> <p>Call Duncan @ 431-1007</p>	<p>8' pram or dingy \$350 Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678 or 'segmead@aol.com'</p>
<p>12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King) Aluminum Boat \$300 Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366</p>	<p>Interphase Echo 200 LCD Fishfinder & Depthfinder \$50 Contact Fred Pedersen @542-5296</p>
<p>Free: 4 carpet remnants for wader changing mats (about 2'x3') Contact Rick @545-8860</p>	

Club Waters

Car placards are required to fish the Club's private access waters. We have 2003 stickers available for these placards and you will need the stickers for the placards to be valid. Please see Tom Lynn at the next membership meeting if you haven't already renewed your placard. There is a shortage of placards, so please return yours if you are not planning to renew it.

Tom Lynn

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



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

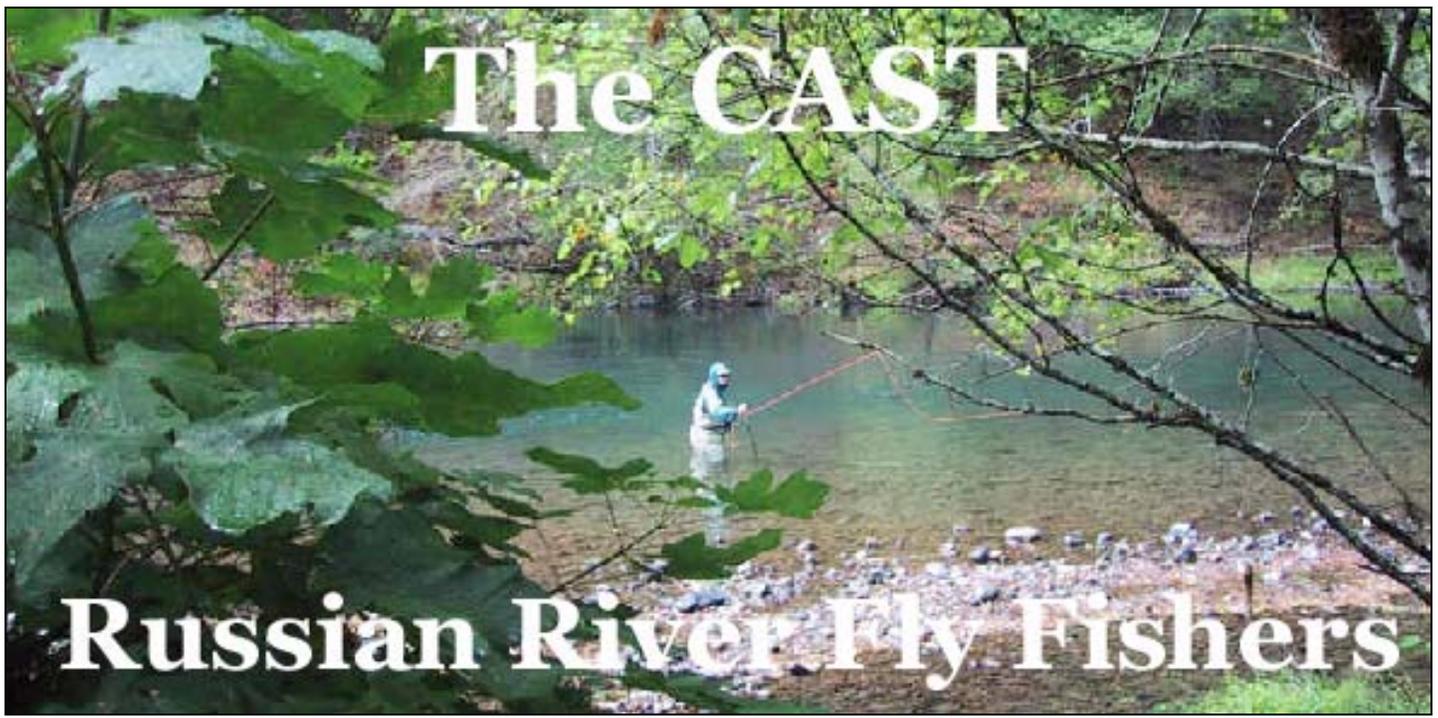
- ___(Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- ___(Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- ___(Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

Please mail this application and your check payable to:

Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409



Volume 28 Number 3 March 2003

For March 2003

Coastal Steelhead Watch!

Meanderings - Rick Baker

Well, lets see...Happy St. Paddy's day everyone! Don't forget to wear something green on the 17th. Myself, I am always wearing green these days it seems. Green in envy of all the steelies I hear being caught as I sit here at the proverbial idiot box; paying my dues to the workforce. I did manage to work my tail off to secure a day off on President's Day. The fish gods were not smiling upon me though. The rain prior to the holiday blew everything out making most local fishing conditions absurd. Even the surf was "angry" making it nearly impossible to chase perch. I did find some rather clean water a bit up the coast. Only hook-ups for me on that day was a lonely little smolt on it's way to the ocean. So it goes I guess. Someday I'll get back out there...I hope.

If you missed the February dinner meeting, you missed out on a great time! The libations and

food flowed freely; as well as the great fellowship and slide show and accompanying discussion by our speaker Hal Jannsen. I'd like to throw a big round of thank you's out to all that helped out to make it a great evening! I would also like to say a special thanks to Fernando & Liz Tabor of Fly Fishing Etc. in Petaluma. They generously donated some great raffle prizes and have been great supporters of the club for a number of years now. Their presence & dedication to the club are greatly appreciated. Thanks Fernando and Liz!

I would like to let you all know that the club is now offering the "Official RRFF Outdoor Collection" for purchase by club members. Just kidding....it does sound cool though. Member Kim Orloff with Stinger Sportswear in Petaluma has been working hard at putting together a great line of items which include: hats, T-shirts, long sleeve mock-T's, sweatshirts, and jackets. Each item will feature an embroidered

RRFF logo. As of this writing we are still hammering out the details. We should have all the pertinence worked out and will have samples and order forms available at the March 12th general meeting if you're interested. If you're not able to attend, and are interested in seeing a photo of a sample, let me know; I'll see what I can do for you.

It's also that time of year again. Time again to mark your calendars for the clubs annual trek to the larger metropolitan area of Cassel, California. The General Trout Season begins promptly at civil sunrise on April 26th. That means we need to start planning for the Season Opener (to Hat Creek) the same weekend. So dust off those rods, oil up the reels, start tying your bugs and get your game faces on. I'm sure it's bound to be a great time as always! Check inside for more details.

That's all I have for this month.
Tight lines and be safe out there
everyone! Tight Lines



Attention

The deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc., is **5 days** after the date of the Board Meeting. Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

2002/2003 Russian River Fly Fishers Board of Directors

President: Rick Baker (545-8860)
Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)
Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)
Casting Pond: Scott Broome (575-5993)
Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116 jfinet@vom.com)
Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)
Youth Activities: Open
Outings: Scott Broome (575-5993)
Conservation: Rodger Magill (876-3308)
Raffle Chairperson: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Director at Large: Paul Major (539-5437)
Video Library Custodian: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)

Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)
Vice President: Marji Major (539-5437)
Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)
Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)
Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)
Webmaster: John Iding (938-4116)
Membership Coordinator: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Fly Tying: Terry Faris (539-4354)
Director of CAST Archives: Bob Sisson 525-1976
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)

March General Meeting

RRFF Presents:

CalTrout

Morgan Read and Bryon Stranke will be presenting the following program for the March meeting:

1. Angling in California: A depiction of the "wild experience"
2. Why do wild trout matter?
3. The key issues facing our wild trout & steelhead today
4. The future for these fish
5. CalTrout's role: past, present, and our vision for the future

During the discussion of CalTrout's current projects they will devote time to discussing their involvement in the new DFG Trout Plan and the coho listing on the Endangered Species Act.

Wednesday, March 12th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm General Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave. Santa Rosa, CA

Coming Events

March

Membership Meeting - 3/12
Board Meeting - 3/19
Casting Clinic - Sundays by Appointment

4:30/6:30

Fly Tying Meeting - 3/26
Pyramid Lake Event - 3/28-30

April

Membership Meeting - 4/9
Board Meeting - 4/16
Casting Clinic - Spring Schedule - Thurs

Fly Tying Meeting - 4/23
Opener at Hat Creek - 4/25-27

Outing to Pyramid Lake

Have you signed up yet for the fishing outing to Pyramid Lake in Nevada? It's scheduled on the weekend of March 28, 29 and 30. Pyramid is famous for large Lahontan cutthroat trout. The fishing is from shore or float tubes using #4 to #8 Woolly Buggers. The preferred gear is 6 to 8 weight rods and fast sinking shooting heads. Some people stand on small 6 foot ladders, but I've found that wading allows me to cover more water.

In anticipation of a small group going to Pyramid Lake, I've reserved two cabins at Crosby's Lodge. They each sleep five people and have kitchens. The rent is \$90 per day each, so even with three people its just \$60 per person for the weekend. Crosby's is located within walking distance of the Lake. They have a store, a bar and short order cafe. We should bring our own food and maybe have a potluck dinner on Saturday night. You can also stay in Reno as an option.

According to the latest Fish First Report, fishing at Pyramid is fair to good. There's beach access everywhere, so we can pick our own RRFF area and have a great fishing experience. Fishing together helps less experienced members gain confidence at casting shooting heads and landing those big cutthroats. I have a friend, who has lived there forever and can provide the latest information on "hot spots." Pyramid is a spectacular desert lake with gorgeous sunsets. Occasionally, the wind blows up which makes casting a challenge, but the fish don't mind and become more active and cruise closer to shore. A little rough weather means better fishing. I'll have a sign-up sheet at the March meeting. My e-mail is **Error! Bookmark not defined.** or call me at 527-8376.

Ken Magoon

Club Dinner

The Russian River Fly Fishers had a party! From everything I saw and everyone I talked to, a good time was had by all. If you missed it, we will do it again next year. Even though Scott was not in the kitchen this year as he was last year, Lee Smith and his crew did a great job. Dave Franzman, Terry Faris, Nick Morello and Steve Tubbs spent several hours chopping, peeling, stirring and tasting to get the feast ready. Nick Tubbs helped me set up the tables and he and Dad Steve got the raffle prizes put together (and it was a really big raffle - just ask the winners!). And special thank yous to Tim for procuring and delivering all the seafood and Becky for saving me the trip across town to the rental place. I did not get to see everyone who helped out at the raffle table, but thank you all too. Our speaker, Hal Janssen, was terrific and really held everyŽ Àà <U öB ,,in spite of the late hour and good food. Thank you Joe for bringing him to us. I had a good time too! Watch out for next year's announcement and get your reservation in early. We filled up fast this year. **Marji Major**

I would like to just add that Marji did a grand job of organizing this event and we thank her for all the hard work; and always with a smile and good spirits! **The Editor**

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Hector Bedolla and Greg Gordon

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard. **The Editor**

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month at Tom Campbell's home: 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Bring your tying gear, a directional lamp, and a desire for sharing, learning and general camaraderie. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). There are vises and other equipment available for those who are just starting, but do call first to make sure equipment will be available for you and also call to cancel if you can't make it so someone else can fill that spot.

Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom tashton@sbcglobal.net. Go west on Gurneville Road out of Santa Rosa and one block past Willowside Meats, turn right at Lupine Dr.

CAST by e-mail (Now also available in PDF format!)

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. Savings to the Club are significant as more and more members receive their CAST by e-mail. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me a message at jfinet@vom.com and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive a compressed ZIP file with the CAST in Word format or it can also be made available in the PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online). Please specify which format you would prefer. You can always try it ... and if you don't like it ... we'll put you back on the mail version.

RRFF Website

www.members.tripod.com/~RRFlyFisher/index.html

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month ... so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version ... have a look!

Year 2002 Photo Contest!

Thanks to all the contributors to the Year 2002 Photo Contest! We had 39 entries and there were sure some great pictures! At the Club Dinner in February, everyone attending had a chance to view the pictures and vote for the best picture in each of three categories. **And the winners are:**

Best Overall Picture: "Umpqua Run" submitted by Charlie Schillinsky (guess who is in the picture)
Runner up ... "Umpqua Steelhead" submitted by Rick Jorgensen (featured on the cover of last month's CAST)

Best Fish Picture: "Troutzilla @ 26" and 8 lbs" submitted by Bob Rennard (serious fish!)
Runner up ... "Fly Reel in 33 lb Mouth" submitted by Ted Capellos

Best Humorous Picture: "Fly Reel in 33 lb Mouth" submitted by Ted Capellos
Runner up ... "Jim is stiff after a day on Viagra!" submitted by Michael Spurlock

There will be prizes given out at the March Club meeting for the three winners. All the pictures will be available for viewing at the next couple of Club meetings. They are also posted at the Club web page.

Congratulations winners! **The Editor**



“Umpqua Run” (Charlie Schillinsky)



“Umpqua Steelhead” (Rick Jorgensen)



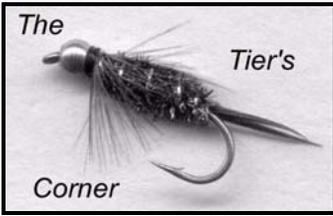
“Troutzilla @ 26” and 8 lbs” (Bob Rennard)



“Fly Reel in 33 lb Mouth” (Ted Capellos)



“Jim is stiff after a day on Viagra!” (Michael Spurlock)



Green Butt Skunk

Materials Needed:

- HOOK: Mustad 36890 #4 ,6,8
- THREAD: Black or clear nylon
- TAIL: Red hackle fibers
- FLASH: Silver
- BODY: Black chenille
- WING: White piping or calf tail
- BUTT: Fluorescent green chenille
- WEIGHT: Can be tied with lead or not

Recipe:

STEP 1:

Start the thread about mid shank, wrapping a little forward then back to forward of the hook point about 1/4 inch. Tie in about 1/16 inch bundle of red hackle fibers, wrapping back to just above hook point

STEP 2:

Tie in silver flash (let it hang off the back for now) and tie in the fluorescent green chenille (strip some of the fibers off the end, so when you tie it in it won't have a hump). Wrap chenille forward about 1/4 inch, tie off and cut the chenille. Wrap your thread forward 1/8 of an inch.

STEP 3:

Take the black chenille (strip off some of the fibers off) and tie in and wrap back so the black chenille is right up against the fluorescent chenille. Wrap your thread forward to get it out of the way. Then wrap your black chenille around hook, forward, about 4 eye lengths from the eye of the hook. Tie off.

STEP 4:

Now take the flash and wrap forward (leaving space so the chenille will show through) to the tie off point in back of the hook eye.

STEP 5:

Tie in the black hackle with the dull side facing forward and make two wraps. Tie off and cut hackle.

STEP 6:

Take about 1/8th inch bundle of piping or white calf hair and tie in for the wing. Bind down the butts and wrap a nice head. You are done ... go fishing!

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

Raffle Donations

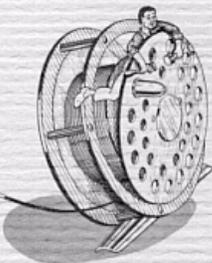
This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group ... save the message and use it to 'reply to all' ... when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

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<p>12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King) Aluminum Boat \$300 Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366</p>	<p>Interphase Echo 200 LCD Fishfinder & Depthfinder \$50 Contact Fred Pedersen @542-5296</p>

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



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
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the balance of the current fiscal year and also the following fiscal year's dues.

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

Please mail this application and your check payable to:

Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409



Since 1976
For April 2003

Santa Rosa Area
The Season Opener is April 24-27th!

Volume 28 Number 4 April 2003
rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Rick Baker

A word from our President

I'm sitting here looking over some black-n-white photos I took a few weeks ago that sure are bringing back some memories. It's amazing how the mind of a child really works and how much our kids really pay attention.

Being brief (I've re-written this several times in the effort to save room for club news), Ricky, my 4year old son, and I had gotten a day on the river where the water was finally looking "fishy". We were both ready to get into some fish after several weekly trips had yielded dirty water but great rock tossing opportunities. Well let me tell ya, the water was definitely "fishy" that day. I first snagged a big carp on a fly, which I let Ricky land. Upon netting the fish we noticed that the carp (a hen...if that's what you call female carp) was aborting some eggs. I pulled out my egg box and we proceeded to choose an egg that was similar in size and

color to the ones being aborted. I tied one onto Ricky's rod, tossed it out for him and handed it to him. Of course he wanted to retrieve line right away but I was able to get him to wait just a bit so that the egg had just enough time to drift into the "sweet" spot. Whamo...I thought that kid was going to go flying into the water. Sure enough there was another carp just waiting for an egg to float by. The look on his face was priceless. A cross between excitement and "What the heck do I do now dad!?" To make a long story short we caught nearly 20 carp that day. It's hard to imagine that the lowly carp could be such a trophy, but to a 4 year old whose largest fish he had caught to date was a 10" bluegill, it might as well have been the mother of all fish. We had a ball!

The interesting part of the story is that during our previous trips we've talked a lot about fish, why fish migrate, what andromodus fish do, catch-n-release, and even that fish are good to eat (so it's ok to keep a fish now and again). As

we were catching these carp, I kept tossing them onto the shore. After awhile Ricky says to me, "Daddy, we need to put the fishies back so they can go back to their homes and have babies." Bong! I was dumbfounded...did I hear him right? He totally understood everything we had talked about, and was I ever in a predicament. He was pretty insistent that we throw them back. Not trying to be too much of a hypocrite we did. But then he asked if we could keep just one, because "I'd sure like to eat it." So we brought his trophy home to show off to mom and his new sister. We didn't actually eat it, instead burying it in the garden. I for one sure thought that was pretty cool. At 4 years of age he is starting to understand a portion of the delicate balance that we as anglers play in our sport. Ahh kids...their great aren't they?

On the Club front, I'd like to remind members that the Cast is now available to receive via the Internet. We currently have 52 members who receive the Cast via

e-mail. By doing so, these members are saving the Club almost \$600/yr in coping and postage costs. This is a great thing being that we can funnel the money back into other programs such as our speakers' fund, monthly raffle, outings, etc. Beyond just saving the club money, it's a great way to be able to check out all the great pictures John puts together in color. It comes in *.PDF format which can be read by Adobe Acrobat Reader and downloaded for free. I promise you that if you divulge your e-mail address that you will not receive any unwanted spam originated in anyway by us. If you're interested in receiving the Cast via e-mail please let John know.

The Season Opener is coming up. I won't say much about it here because I know there is going to be more info inside. If you're interested in coming up April 25th, 26th, & 27th and not sure where it is; I'll have my map at the April meeting and can give you directions. It should be a great time as always so I hope you can make it.

If you attended last months meeting you may have noticed that we had a table set up with samples of the clothing items we are currently taking orders for. I have been working with Kim Orloff from Stinger Sportswear to put together some apparel items with the Club's logo embroidered on them. The items include: Polar Fleece jacket in ¼ zip & full zip, sweatshirt, long sleeve mock-t, short sleeve t-shirt and hat. I must say that the items look great! If you're interested in seeing the samples and/or ordering an item

or two, they will once again be available at the meeting on April 9th. I will also be bringing them to the Opener and will be able to take orders there as well. Right now I'm planning on turning in the orders upon my return from the Opener. I'm doing this in the hopes that we can get the ordered items out to folks as quick as we can, hopefully by May 31st at the Club's Annual Picnic. If you don't think you'll be able to make it to the meeting or the Opener, feel free to give me a call and we can make arrangements for you to see the samples and place an order if you'd like.

Last but not least, we have our annual elections coming up here pretty soon. Marji Major, our esteemed Vice President is slated on the ballot to be President with Lee Smith running as Vice President. This is a great time to speak now and take part. We have a couple of other positions that remain to be filled. We are also looking for anyone interested who would like to be on the Board of Directors. Even if your slightly interested but not sure if you can commit to anything specific, I urge you to come to one of the Board meetings which are held the third Wednesday of every month. Come and check us out, we're not all business as you'll find out. The meetings always seem to break down into some sort of good natured ribbing at some point.

That's all I have for this month ladies and gents. Until next month...Tight Lines!



Board of Directors

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Vice President: Marji Major (539-5437)
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Appointed Chairs:
CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library Custodian: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)

Coming Events

APRIL

9th Membership Meeting
 11th Bass Clinic
 16th Board Meeting
 23rd Fly Tying Meeting
 24-27th Hat Creek Opener
 10/17/24th Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

MAY

14th Membership Meeting
 21st Board Meeting
 28th Fly Tying Meeting
 31st Annual Picnic
 Thursdays Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

JUNE

14th No Membership Meeting
 18th Board Meeting
 25th Fly Tying Meeting
 Thursdays Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

OCT

11th Season Closer

April Meeting Program

The RRF presents

Ken Hanley

Ken is a well know fly fishing personality in California and he always puts on a good show. Ken's program on Bass will cover shoreline tactics ("The magic ring of twenty feet" is indeed the key to much of our fly fishing success!), bass behavior, food chain, water-reading skills, seasons, equipment selection and field techniques.

Weds April 9th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

The **CAST** is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the **CAST** are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

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Any opinion offered in the **CAST** is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Annual Picnic Time Again

The RRF free annual picnic will be held at the Fly Casting Pond in Galvin Park. The Board has moved the date up to May 31st in hopes that we will not interfere with graduation or summer vacation plans. This is a family affair and all are welcome to the BBQ. Come on out and hopefully enjoy a beautiful afternoon. BBQ will be served from 12:30 to 2:00 but you are encouraged to come early and stay later. We are always looking for help especially if you can organize entertainment for the kids. Food and beverages will be provided; please bring your own chairs or other seating arrangements. If you have any questions or would like to help, please call me ... Marji Major at 539-5437 after 4 pm. Reservations are not necessary but would be helpful. Thanks.

Marji Major

A Call to ALL RRF Members

Now is the time to think about the Club and plans for the future. It is that time of year to nominate and vote for the Executive Board and officers for next year. The Executive Board is the best place to be in the Club. The requirements are minimal and the rewards are great. If you are at all interested in being part of the steering process, please contact me or any member of the Board (their names and phone numbers are in every issue of the **CAST**). There will be a place for you.

Marji Major

Season Opener Outing

April 24th-27th



Come one come all to the Russian River Fly Fishers Opener to be held at the Cassel PG&E Campground. Take hwy 101 to Redding California and then east on Hwy 299 about 50 miles through the town of Burney. Cassel is about 4 miles past Burney and there is a sign on 299. The campground entrance is across the street from the town Post Office. Look for the RRF Banner to find the group campsite. Bring your prams, boats, float tubes, fishing gear, camping gear, chairs and join us for a great time. This is a must for new and old members alike. Food and camping is provide by the Club for a fee of just \$25. This is a great chance to learn one of the best trout fishing areas in the states. The trout opener is the 26 of April, but Baum Lake is open all year long and in April it fishes fantastic. Bring some small flies! So come and join us around the camp fire while we eat, drink and make merry. Please rsvp Scotty Broome at (707) 575-5993 as I need a head count for food..

Scotty Broome

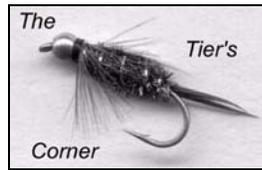
Monthly Fly Tying Meeting



Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month (7 pm) at Tom Campbell's home: 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Bring your tying gear, a directional lamp, and a desire for sharing, learning and general camaraderie. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). There are vises and other equipment available for those who are just starting, but do call first to make sure equipment will be available for you and also call to cancel if you can't make it so someone else can fill that spot.

Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'. Go west on Gurneville Road out of Santa Rosa and one block past Willowside Meats, turn right at Lupine Dr.

Terry Faris



Tap Tappy's Cooper Bug

Materials Needed:

HOOK: T100 sizes 4-14

THREAD: Olive

BODY: Peacock herl

WING: Deer hair in natural

TAIL: Deer hair

Recipe:

STEP 1:

Put a dry fly hook in your vise and attach thread at each end of the shank. Start the thread mid shank, lock in and wrap back to above hook point (leave about twelve inches of thread hanging off the back of the hook). That is the piece you will use later need to tie down the tail.



STEP 2:

Tie in the herl above hook point and wrap herl forward to two hook eye lengths back from the eye of the hook. Tie off and don't cut your thread as yet.

STEP 3:

When you cut a length of deer hair from the hide, hold it between your right thumb and first finger. Cut and clean a clump of deer hair, stack the hair if you want, Tap Tappy doesn't. Hold the hair on top of the hook to size the body and the portion that is going to become the tail, leave about a shank length of deer hair out over the bend of the hook. Now change hands, grasping the deer hair in your left hand, it should be two eye lengths back from the eye of the hook. Pinch the hair and hook behind the

forward tie down spot, make two light wraps of thread and tighten them. Make another four or five wraps. Use your index finger to keep the hair from rolling to the far side of the hook. Grasp the deer hair butts and pull a little up and back, wrap the thread in front of the deer hair to make the butts stand up. I usually go ahead and tie off the thread and clip it, just to get it out of the way for the next step.

STEP 4:

Slide your fingers to the rear of the hook maintaining your grip on the hair. Grab the thread you left

dangling at the rear of the hook and bind down the hair with at least six snug wraps of thread, tighten, and tie off with a whip finish. Now go back to the eye of the hook. You have all the butts of the deer hair sticking up in the air, grasp them down near the eye of the hook and cut them off at the same angle as the hook eye. Apply head cement to all the exposed thread. Use a sewing needle to apply the cement, so you won't get cement on the herl body or have it wick into the fly's tail or back.

These little guys imitate caddisflies, nymphs, midges, scuds, shiners and the odd terrestrials. It's easy to tie and losing one to the bankside bushes or on an underwater snag won't bother us. You can pinch on some split shot on to the tippet and make it sink. Dead drifted on the surface, it's a dry fly. Underwater, it's a nymph. They are really easy to tie. Go fish!!!!

**Questions or requests? Contact
Terry Faris**

The Casting Pond



Daylight Saving Time comes in early April and along with it comes the return of the Thursday Casting Clinics! The first event will be on Thursday April 10th beginning around 4:30 pm. Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. After a long winter, some practice is usually called for. We will usually be out there until around 6:30 pm.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Rick Jorgensen

Coastal Waters

by

John Iding

I was standing there, looking a little surprised and bewildered at the same time. My eyes focused on both the center of the pool and on the large bush on the other side of the small coastal river. It seems the bush was now decorated with my shooting head, while my now 3 piece rod's former 4th piece was sinking rapidly in the middle of the pool. Wow! That sure happened fast.

But then I am ahead of myself. It started as a fine morning with a long drive up the coast to a fine

piece of water that had been fishing well on and off. My fishing companion arrived a few minutes before me and was rigging up. We hiked in and started fishing the nice runs and pools with only a few other folks around. The sun was reflecting off the water and would catch the spray from another flyfisherman's line upstream. It was going to be a grand day.

We started in a nice pool with lots of smolts splashing around adding some excitement to the still morning. You always wonder what is under there making those little guys jump clear out of the water like that! We both worked the pool for awhile and then headed downstream and eventually split up, with Charlie moving farther downstream and I holding up in a nice long run with a pool in the center of it. Is it just me, or is casting a shooting head a lot less fun than casting a floating line? Then there are the big weighted flies singing as they pass all too close to your ear. But you get into the rhythm of it and the long casts were not necessary, so it was fine. I made a cast that was a little overshot, and snagged a large bush on the other side of the river and up against a cliff. Darn, I think to myself, as I realize that I'm going to lose one of Charlie's fine flies. So I point the rod at the bush and give the line a tug. Another tug. That fly must have really wrapped around those branches because the 10 lb tippet is not parting. Another tug, and I'm watching in slow motion as the scene unfolds. The amnesia to head connection had parted, sending the head over to the bush, and the force of the departure of the head had separated the rod tip

and it was floating in the middle of the pool. It's times like this that you realize that a spare steelhead rod would be a good idea! I took a few minutes to fully acknowledge what I had done and to watch the rod tip sink out of reach and sight.

I've learned a few things about steelhead fishing in my limited experience, and one thing I've learned is that you should always fish with someone who has lots of spare equipment with them. It's especially helpful if that person carries two rods with them on the river! I hiked downstream and provided Charlie with some amusement as I told my sad tale. "Take my other rod" he said and continued fishing. I hiked back to the scene of the incident, waded out deep and made a couple casts to the bush decorated with my shooting head. I was pleasantly surprised when I snagged the head and it came undone without snagging and I was actually able to reach the end of it. I continued the tug, but at least I was now holding the head. After a good pull, the head to leader nail knot parted and I had the head back. Now that was a pretty seriously snagged fly!

I scanned the pool and decided that my tip was history and I had to be satisfied with at least getting the shooting head back. The rest of the day was spent fishing with Charlie's rod, and although the catching was slow, it was a fine day.

The next day we returned to the same river to try again at the catching part of the experience, and eventually I ended up at the same run where my tip had disappeared. I couldn't help

myself as I fished the run, I had to at least look for the rod tip. I must admit I was more than surprised when I saw a rod tip near the edge of the pool. I could just reach it with my rod and I wrapped the fly line around the tip and up it came! Man, was I a happy camper. What luck. Now, I'm sure you're thinking that it ended up being a Loomis rod tip instead of the St Croix I was looking for, but no, it was the right one. With that kind of luck, I was sure that the catching would pick up for the rest of the day, but then one shouldn't push their luck. It's bad karma.

As for that spare steelhead rod, I am ordering the parts and building it soon. In the meanwhile, I still think it's a great idea to fish with a well equipped fishing buddy.

Classified

Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9'
new \$400

St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9'
\$100

Call Duncan @ 431-1007

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678
or 'segmead@aol.com'

12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King)
Aluminum Boat \$300

Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366

Interphase Echo 200 LCD
Fishfinder & Depthfinder \$50
Contact Fred Pedersen @542-
5296

CAST by e-mail

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me a message at 'jfinet@vom.com' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the CAST in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online ... most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version. You can also visit the Club website and view the current CAST there ... so you will see what you are missing!

The Editor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Cameron Marsh Cardoza, James Hummell, Gary & Michael Lampson, Bob Mattei, Adrian "Dutch" Van Herwynen and Ken Vorrieter.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

The Editor

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com' or
'www.members.tripod.com/~RRF
lyFisher/index.html'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version, have a look!

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

Attention Mark Twains!

You may have noticed that the CAST has taken on a new look which has been done for several reasons not the least of which is more room for member participation. Members who would like to author and submit articles for the CAST about fishing experiences or Club events are encouraged to do so. Members who would like to sponsor outings to a particular fishing venue (like the Pyramid Lake trip sponsored by Ken Magoon) are also encouraged to speak up and use the CAST to communicate with other members. It's your resource ... use it!

The Editor

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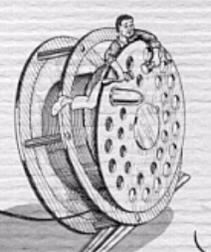
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P.O. Box 2673
Santa Rosa, CA 95405



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

Please mail this application and your check payable to:

Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409



Since 1976
For May 2003

Santa Rosa Area
Annual Picnic ... June 21st!

Volume 28 Number 5 May 2003
rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Rick Baker

A word from our President

Let's scratch that Itch!

Hello everyone! Being that I'm writing this "pre-opener" I don't have any Hat Creek fish stories to regal you all with. But I'm sure it will be a fun time. I am a bit disappointed though. I read last night in the regulations that it is legal to fish at night up there...except for trout or salmonoids. What's up with that? 8 Hours of perfectly good fishing time will be completely wasted. When you get a 72-hour window to go off and play, one needs to monopolize on every hour available to fish. I imagine I could stand down at Carbon Bridge at midnight and say I'm fishing for any squawfish that have gotten over the barrier. Does anyone know if Baum Lake has bass? Well, at least I know there will be a large campfire, free flowing libations, and great

company to share the evening with!

The Bass Clinic was a lot of fun. I'd first like to put a big thank you out to Tom and Donna Campbell for being such wonderful hosts. With about 17 tiers they provided plenty of snacks and coffee for all! Thanks Tom and Donna! Lee and Terry showed us their secret flies, with Lee passing on some great knowledge on where to look and pursue the bass. I believe that just about all of the 8 anglers who braved the weather were able to get into fish. Someone (was that you Mike?) got into a nice one...at least 4 lbs from what I could see from across the lake.

I actually made an unplanned stop by the club lake the other day. A beautiful day, no wind, flat water; I counted 15 fish all in about 75-100 yard stretch. They were mainly in pairs sitting on their redds. We ran into Tom Lynn while there. We watched him

cast to one fish and watched it suck in his fly. He didn't get the fish but it was still a lot of fun to watch. My son and I learned a valuable lesson again that day...never leave home without a fishing pole. This is actually pretty uncommon for me. At the least, I usually have my 6' 3wt. with me if I know I'm going to be near water. Heck, I'd fish mud puddles if I could. On the drive home my mind was spinning trying to think of some time I could get to sneak back up there. The piscatorial pursuit of the *Micropterus* is in need of a serious itch.... What a wonderful resource we have up there!

Please note the date change for the Annual Picnic ... it will be on June 21st. Mark your calendars!

That's about all I have for now fellow long roders. Here's to another great trout season!

Tight Lines!



Board of Directors

President: Rick Baker (545-8860)
Vice President: Marji Major (539-5437)
Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)
Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)
Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)
Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)
Casting Pond: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)
Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)
Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116 jfinet@vom.com)
Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)
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Youth Activities: Open
Membership Coordinator: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Outings: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Fly Tying: Terry Faris (539-4354)
Conservation: Rodger Magill (876-3308)
Raffle Coordinator: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Director at Large: Paul Major (539-5437)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)
Appointed Chairs:
CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library Custodian: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)

Coming Events

MAY

14th Membership Meeting
 21st Board Meeting
 28th Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs's Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

JUNE

11th No Membership Meeting
 21st June Picnic!
 25th Board Meeting
 25th Fly Tying Meeting (subject to change)
 Thurs's Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

JULY

9th Membership Meeting
 16th Board Meeting
 23rd Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs's Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

OCT

10-12th Season Closer

May Meeting Program

The RRFF Presents

Bud Frasca

The program will be 'Fly Fishing Opportunities in Western Montana and Southern Idaho'. Rivers such as the Big Hole and Beaverhead Rivers in Montana and Silver Creek in Idaho will be covered. Bud guides up there and knows the waters well. Joe Banovich has fished with Bud many times and promises this will be a very good program.

Weds May 14th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

The **CAST** is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the **CAST** are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc. is **5 days after the date of the Board Meeting** each month.

Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

Any opinion offered in the **CAST** is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: Beckie Simmie at Pyramid Lake (Alan Campbell photo)

Annual Picnic Time Again

DATE CHANGE!

June 21st

The RRFF free annual picnic will be held at the Fly Casting Pond in Galvin Park.. This is a family affair and all are welcome to the BBQ. Come on out and hopefully enjoy a beautiful afternoon. BBQ will be served from 12:30 to 2:00 but you are encouraged to come early and stay later. We are always looking for help especially if you can organize entertainment for the kids. Food and beverages will be provided; please bring your own chairs or other seating arrangements. If you have any questions or would like to help, please call me ... Marji Major at 539-5437 after 4 pm. Reservations are not necessary but would be helpful. Thanks.

Marji Major

Bass Clinic

K.I.S.S. reporting to equal our K.I.S.S. fishing. We had a Grand time. Learned a few "bullet proofing" methods for tying to go along with the application of K.I.S.S. pond fishing....."life starts where it is warm and cuddly..... mostly" pond fishing. Seems like someone told us this recently at our general meeting? Thanks Ken Hanley!

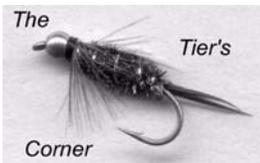
The look on Jim's face was priceless as we cut the hook off the surf-candy we tied on our string.....matched only by the look that must have crossed our face as we contemplated tying on a dropper and actually looked for the hook shank! Grand bit of enthusiasm displayed by all.

Lee Soares

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month (7 pm) at Tom Campbell's home: 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). There are vises and other equipment available for those who are just starting, but do call first to make sure equipment will be available for you. Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'. Go west on Gurneville Road out of Santa Rosa and one block past Willowside Meats, turn right at Lupine Dr.

Terry Faris



Deer Hair Bass Bug

Materials Needed:

Hook: M3406, 37187 size 10

Thread: 6/0 yellow & clear nylon sewing thread .005

Body: Deer hair yellow, black, olive, green

Weed Guard: Mono 20#

Tail: Rubber hackle chartreuse, yellow (medium)

Recipe:

Step 1:

Tie-in thread 1/4 inch in front of bend of the hook and wrap back to the bend and forward to tie in point. Singe the end of a three inch piece of 20# mono and tie-in in front of bend, wrap back over the mono until it is facing down (keeping the mono on top of the hook).

Step 2:

Take five each of chartreuse and yellow rubber



hackle and mix them up. Hold the ends in each hand (thumb and first finger) and place the rubber hackle around the thread. Put the right hand bunch in your left hand between thumb and first finger, making sure the ends are aligned. Now you are holding ten strings of rubber hackle in your left hand fingers. Pinch the bunch with your right hand fingers and move your left hand fingers close to your right hand fingers. Let go of the bunch in your right hand fingers. You are now holding the bunch of rubber hackle closer to the thread. Keeping the thread tight, lift the thread and bunch of rubber hackle to the top of the hook shank and slide the rubber hackle down on to the top of the hook shank, making several wraps of thread around rubber hackle and hook shank. Try to keep the rubber hackle on top of the hook shank, tying back to the start of the bend and forward to the tie-in point. Tie a couple whip finishes. Move the thread in front of the start of the rubberhackle to the bare hook shank.

Step 3:

Cut a pencil size bunch of yellow deer body hair and holding back from the base of hair about 1/2 inch in your left hand. Pull fluff out, even up the hair ends and

place the bunch on the side of the hook shank. Make two loose wraps around hair and hook shank, remembering the pinch technique, and pull the bobbin straight down and as the deer hair starts to flare slowly let the bunch go and it will spin around the hook. Wrap thread through the hair three or four times. Take another pencil size bunch of deer hair and spin that around the hook shank as

you did with the first

bunch. After making the four turns around the hair, place your right hands first finger on top of the hair and mash down the hair with your right hands. Mash down the hair and lay another half of a pencil bunch of black deer hair on top of the yellow and make two wraps (don't let the black deer hair spin), pull down on the bobbin to lock in the hair. Wrap the thread through the hair to in front of the yellow pulling back as you wrap. Continue doing that till you get about 1/8 inch from the eye of the hook. Tie off with two whip finishes, don't cut thread.

Step 4:

Thread the mono weed guard into the eye of the hook and out the top, leaving a little mono below the hook point. Tie off behind the eye of the hook. Cut excess mono. Trim deer hair to shape.

How to Fish

Preferred way is to fish with floating line with 15# six foot leader. Toss this bug into any brushy areas, close to fishy looking water or right on top of mats of weeds and hang on.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

The Casting Pond

Daylight Saving Time is here and along with it comes the return of the Thursday Casting Clinics! Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. After a long winter, some practice is usually called for. Someone will usually be out there between 4:30 and 6:30 pm.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Classified

Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9'
new \$400

St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9'
\$100

Call Duncan @ 431-1007

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678
or 'segmead@aol.com'

12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King)
Aluminum Boat \$300

Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366

Interphase Echo 200 LCD
Fishfinder & Depthfinder \$50

Contact Fred Pedersen @542-5296

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com' or
'www.members.tripod.com/~RRF
lyFisher/index.html'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version, have a look!

CAST by e-mail

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me a message at 'jfinet@vom.com' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the CAST in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online ... most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version. You can also visit the Club website and view the current CAST there ... so you will see what you are missing!

The Editor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Mike & Mary Borba, Jamie Meacham, Ron Rausch, Ted Scapeccia, Tim Schellenberger, Mike Spurlock and Quin Wilson.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

The Editor

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are

welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Pyramid Lake - Trip Notes

I want to thank the club members who took a chance on this outing. Only Jim Purcell and I had fished it very much, so the rest of you didn't know what to expect. Everyone made a good effort fishing under definitely rigorous conditions and you were good sports about the rustic accommodations (2 bedroom trailer home with heater! Rustic?? ... Editor). I'm especially grateful to Beckie Simmie for helping us find that stretch of shore, which she said, "Looked fishy." As John Iding was commenting on the difficulty of wading and the absence of a good drop-off in casting range, I was having an "if we don't get into fish here, I don't know where to try next" moment. When he and Gregg Wrisley almost immediately had a double hookup, "Beckie's Drop-off" became the best fishing spot on the lake. I suggest we go back to Pyramid Lake next year.

Ken Magoon

My husband Alan asked me “So what was it like to catch one?” (Lahontan cutthroat trout). I had to think back to find that moment when I knew I had a fish on the line.

It was on the 20th or 30th cast from that afternoon at Pyramid Lake. I was in that mode of – cast, wait, strip – when I felt a resistance on the line that made me think ‘Great ... snagged again on the bottom’. But this time as I worked to pull the line free I suddenly felt the slightest jerk against the line in



a rhythm of tug-tug-tug. I held the line tight in my left hand and remained motionless to feel if that was live movement or motionless resistance. It tugged again and this time the line that disappeared into the murky green water suddenly swung to my left. I yelled, “Fish on...I think!” and with that said I soon found 3 of my cohorts by my side yelling, “Keep the rod up”, ‘Pull the line tight”, “Don’t give him any slack”, “Put the line on the reel”, “Keep the rod up”. The moment was like a trance. I was totally focused on the line that disappeared into the green depths, waiting to see what was on the end of my line. With all the yelling and encouragement my attention suddenly came back to the surface, and I could only say “What do I do now?”

Soon my actions began doing what I was commanded but in was not with grace and perfection. I’m keeping the line tight by pinching it with my left hand as a

pile of it is lapping around my waist. My right hand is gripping the rod, which seemed a nuisance at a time I needed a free hand. Suddenly the coordination of ‘reeling one in’ begins to take hold, all those videos of watching Kelly Watt gracefully bring hers in – I knew then I could do it too.

Now the line is on the reel, I keep the tension on, my rod is pointed up, and the fish was coming into sight. It was larger than I had imagined.

Shimmering with color, jumping and splashing for all of us to see. I reeled it in closer and hear some yell “Grab it by the tail”. I did just that as I smiled for Alan as he shot the 10th picture of this very special event.

Beckie Simmie

Driving up on Friday morning I was really looking forward to the weekend at Pyramid Lake with a chance to try out some new equipment. However, as I drove through the Central Valley I almost got blown off my lane with the big winds, and I realized I was coming down with a cold. About 10 miles out from Pyramid, I noticed the fiberglass roadside markers were shaking so hard that I began to wonder if there was an earthquake. After arriving at the lake and finding the gang, Ken took the time to show me the rigging hints and where to fish in

the crowded Nets area. I got some great casting practice, but no fish that afternoon. Friday night was the late pot luck with a little Club business (that John is always talking about the CAST!).

Saturday was a beautiful day, but after a fishless morning we moved to a different location which Jim proclaimed a ‘good spot’. After lunch we moved around the corner and began fishing what looked like a good spot. Within a short time, John hooked up. While he was fighting his fish, I hooked my first Lahontan cutthroat (and my biggest fisher ever!). I was a little torn between wanting to savor the moment and wanting to set the fish free ... and the needs of the fish of course won out. A little later, Beckie caught her first fish of the trip (and also her largest fish ever!). For some reason, she got a lot more attention than I did!

Saturday night was a great potluck dinner with lots of good food and wonderful company. All in all, it was a really enjoyable weekend. Thanks to the great people on the trip.

Gregg Wisley

The wind was blowing, the air was brisk, and the view was like something out of a science fiction movie. A long row of people separated by no more than 50 feet and standing on ladders (and some with platforms with easy chairs), on the edge of a vast lake, in the



desert. What were they looking and waiting for ... surely a sighting of some creature from the depths of the lake. Rumors were spread about the Navy divers who had gone after a downed plane in the lake, and had come up and refused to go back down without armed Seals to protect them. Seems there were some very large fish down there, with big teeth!

Such are the things one thinks about while your toes are numb and you make cast number 235. Then the strangest thing happens. Up the line of fishermen, you hear the yells, as one after the other hooks up. The fish move in schools often and when the school goes by the gauntlet, you can see their progress by watching the hookups. All the way down the line, one after another, fighting fish of significant size. Except, where I happen to be standing of course. But with enough time spent in the water casting, sooner or later the fish would be there and you would feel that friendly tug on the line. These are very pretty fish even if they don't know how to jump.

This was my first trip to Pyramid and I really appreciated all the time and energy that Ken put into setting up the trip and making everyone feel welcome. There's a guy who really knows how to sponsor a trip! Good on you mate!

John Iding

A last minute trip to Pyramid lake proved to be fun and exciting. The best part of it turned out to be watching Becky catch her first big fish on a fly. There were enough people around her to coach her and take pictures. There

are probably more pictures of that fish than any else in history. I was standing right next to her watching and coaching, ok bring it in slowly, oh let it run, keep your tip up, keep your tip up, bring it in. Now raise your tip so it brings the fish in so you can grab it. Oh let it run. On and on. She did finally get a hold of it and got plenty of pictures. The problem is the poor fish got so wrapped up in the leader you couldn't get the hook out. Watching her fumble around with the fish in one hand and the rod in the other was too much. We tried to help her but she couldn't hold the fish. So we had to retrieve it again and with about four of us standing around this poor fish we operated on the poor thing and got both the hooks out and unwrapped from the leader. It may have been one of the longest releases I've seen. Becky, keep your tip up.

Ralph Smith

On A Special Note

Bob Sisson, Fly Fisher Extraordinaire: Bob has had two lifetime catch records accepted by the International Game Fishing Association. He has been entered into the Royal Slam Salmon club for catching 6 species and the Royal Slam Trout Club for catching 7 species listed by the IGFA. He also has been acknowledged as having caught several 10lb large mouth bass. Bob has issued a challenge to RRFF members to call-up our fishing past to see what species we would need to catch to join the IGFA Royal Slam Club. Congratulations Bob!

Ken Magoon

2003 Photo Contest

With the success of the two previous photo contests in 2000 and 2002, we've decided to do it again for 2003! This year Rick Baker will be taking over the sponsorship of this event from John Iding. For the next 9 months or so, keep those cameras (digital or SLR) rolling and get your pictures off to me. I will be accepting entries until our January General Membership meeting next year. Then at the February Dinner meeting, members will be able to cast their votes for best picture in the following categories: Most Humorous, Best Fish, and Best Overall. You can e-mail your digital photos to me at 'bake_bo@yahoo.com' or mail prints to:

Rick Baker
3102 Lucero Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

I'll scan any prints that are sent and get them back to you as soon as I can. Size limit of prints are only limited to the size of my scanner, so I can scan 8x10's if needed.

Best of luck to everyone!

Rick Baker

OFFICIAL BALLOT

2003 Russian River Fly Fishers Club Officers and Board of Directors

Please choose to accept the entire ballot as presented,
or circle your individual selections below:

President

- 1. Marji Major
- 2. _____

Vice-President

- 1. Lee Smith
- 2. _____

New Board Members & Expiring 2-Term Members

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Rick Baker | 2. Steve Tubbs |
| 3. Paul Major | 4. Rick Jorgensen |
| 5. Marji Major | 6. Joe Banovich |
| 7. Tom Lynn | 8. Tim Reuling |
| 9. Hector Bedolla | 10. Brian Kohlman |
| 11. Filmore Turner | 12. _____ |

_____ I accept this ballot as presented and choose to elect all nominees.
You may either mail in the ballot or bring it to our next monthly meeting

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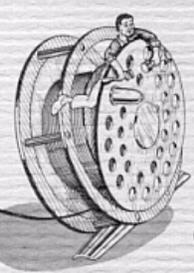


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Archuleta's Reel Works

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



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

**Please mail this application and your check payable to:
Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409**



Since 1976
For June 2003

Santa Rosa Area
Annual Picnic ... June 21st!

Volume 28 Number 6 June 2003
rfflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Rick Baker

A word from our President

Happy Memorial Day!

I hope you all have been able to get out and enjoy the tug of some kind of fish over the holiday weekend. I managed a couple of tugs from some bass and bluegill with the kids. I even went out and hunted around for some Halibut on the Bay with no luck. It was worth a shot though. We ended up at the Berkeley fishing pier by the end of the tides. I've never done any pier fishing. It looks like it would be a great way to catch up on some sleep while your waiting for something to come along and give you a tussle.

It has just dawned upon me that this will be my last article as president for a while. I'd like to send out a round of kudos' and

thanks to the Board of Directors for all their work and efforts over the past year, and welcome Marji Major and Lee Smith in the changing of the guard. I would also like to single out (not a bad thing) and give a big slap on the back of thanks to a couple of Club members who have done a lot of work for the club in the background; Dave Franzman and Beckie Simmie. Dave brings the much appreciated refreshments and cookies to each general meeting, and Beckie has taken over as librarian and organized the video library that is available to the Club members. While not as visible as many of the other board positions, Dave and Beckie continue to provide a great service for the club and ask for very little in return. Thanks Dave and Beckie!

Let's see...Oh yeah; hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, etc. have been ordered. (Ehem...Cowboy

are you listening) Right now we are hoping that all apparel items will be done and available at our June 21st picnic at the casting pond. I apologize for the delay but it takes time to get the items ordered and then put in cue to get stitched up. I think those of you who ordered items will be pleased with the wait though.

Don't forget, this month we will not be having a Wednesday evening general meeting. The Picnic on the 21st will be our general meeting. It should be fun as usual with lost of good eats! I'm hoping Ricky can help out with the raffle again this year. Last year he pulled out his own ticket to win a nice Sage, 2pc. 3wt. He really like to use it on the smallies as well...heh, heh, heh...he can have it back as he's moving his stuff out to go to college!

I think that's all I have for now folks. It has been an honor serving the Club as President. This is a great Club! What really makes it great is the quality of it's members! We'll see ya at the meetings or out on the water! I'm going fishing!



Tight Lines

Board of Directors

President: Rick Baker (545-8860)
Vice President: Marji Major (539-5437)
Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)
Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)
Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)
Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)
Casting Pond: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)
Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)
Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116 jfinet@vom.com)
Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)
Webmaster: John Iding (938-4116)
Youth Activities: Open
Membership Coordinator: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Outings: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Fly Tying: Terry Faris (539-4354)
Conservation: Rodger Magill (876-3308)
Raffle Coordinator: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Director at Large: Paul Major (539-5437)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)
Appointed Chairs:
CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library Custodian: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)

June Membership Meeting

Please note ... there will be no regular membership meeting in June. The Picnic on June 21st serves as our June meeting

Coming Events

JUNE

11th No Membership Meeting
 18th Fly Tying Meeting
 21st **June Picnic!**
 25th Board Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

JULY

9th Fly Tying Membership Meeting
 16th Board Meeting
 23rd Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

AUGUST

13th No Membership Meeting
 20th Board Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

OCT

10-12th Season Closer

The **CAST** is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the **CAST** are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc. is **5 days after the date of the Board Meeting** each month.

Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

Any opinion offered in the **CAST** is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: Scotty Broome at Opener (Photo by Scott Lewis)

Annual Picnic Time Again June 21st LAST REMINDER!

The RRFF free annual picnic will be held at the Fly Casting Pond in Galvin Park.. This is a family affair and all are welcome to the BBQ. Come on out and hopefully enjoy a beautiful afternoon. BBQ will be served from 12:30 to 2:00 but you are encouraged to come early and stay later. We are always looking for help especially if you can organize entertainment for the kids. Food and beverages will be provided; please bring your own chairs or other seating arrangements. If you have any questions or would like to help, please call me ... Marji Major at 539-5437 after 4 pm. Reservations are not necessary but would be helpful. Thanks.

Marji Major

Moments Beyond Time

By **Steve Tubbs**

Take a moment to ask yourself, "Why do you fly fish?"

In fact, take more than a moment, for this is a question that may suggest an easy answer, but as you reflect on what it is about fly fishing that so captivates you it may become very apparent that there are multiple reasons, on multiple levels, of why you fish and why you choose to do so with a fly.

If you're an avid reader, as I am, you have probably followed the musings of other fly fishing junkies as they wrestle with their own philosophies of why they migrate to water in piscatorial pursuits. Why are so many anglers concerned with this? What is it about "fishing" that demands justification? What is that undeniably magical quality that hooks us, engages us completely and then releases us refreshed (and perhaps a little wiser) back into that other world we live

in where “quality” takes on entirely different meanings?

Why do we fish? Once asked, the answer is hidden, pushed aside as the question conjures images of sparkling waters, incredibly beautiful riverscapes, shimmering lakes, turquoise seas and pristine moments of sheer beauty with awed remembrances of things seen and experienced that we simply would not have stumbled upon without a fly rod in hand. We are flooded with a review of images so unique and personal, of times and places so magical and otherworldly, that we find ourselves returning to them



time and again in anticipation of our next opportunity.

You’ve heard the adage, “It ain’t the catchin’, it’s the fishin’!” *What’s the fishin’?* What is it that keeps drawing us back? A number of years ago, in the movie *City Slickers*, the old trail boss (Jack Palance) suggests to the “dude” (Billy Crystal) that the secret of life is “Just one thing”. “Just one thing” that, once defined (and you’re on your own for that part), provides meaning for everything else. Somehow, I don’t think that applies to fly fishing. A bit simplistic, perhaps? I can no sooner come up with “just one reason I fly fish” than concentrate on the question of why I fish...without getting swept into the wild rivers of my mind and ambushed by fly fishing memories, dreams and fantasies that draw me quickly into deep water and away from the original inquiry.

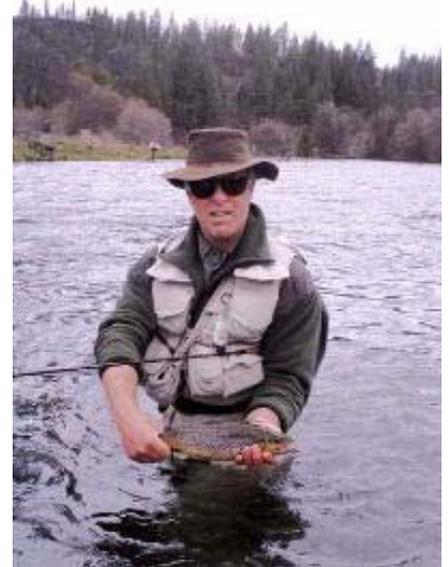
I believe that one thing is for certain. The reasons why we fish are as varied as the fly fishers, and perhaps as numerous as the swarms of caddis hatching over the Deschutes River...by light of a

beautiful full moon, on the third day of a five-day float trip that I was part of a number of summers ago. And with that statement, I’ve identified my own inability to focus on the question, even as my thoughts are besieged and quickly overcome, giving way to the cascade of my memories...vivid recollections of places and events that tease and fuel my desire to be out on the water again. I’ve risen to the fly and been solidly hooked! But by a hook made of what? Dreams? Thoughts? Fantasies? Memories? Are those memories real? (After all, we are fishermen and have been known to embellish the truth...which suggests yet another question...this one concerning truth). Once again the invisible, intangible hook has stuck me good and drags me back to Water for another release.

I haven’t identified (for myself) all of the reasons I fly fish. All I really do know is that it’s not really about catching fish, at least that’s not what I seem to remember, mostly...well, maybe...sometimes. I can certainly say that the surface game, during a prolific hatch, does not leave me unaffected. Somehow, my composure crumbles and excitement slips through to find me talking to myself, unable to tie a knot and so exclusively focused on fishing a specific rise area that the rest of my surroundings become secondary. It doesn’t matter how breath-takingly beautiful it all is. Who’s breathing? My breath is caught in my throat as I quietly coax, “C’mon...c’mon...” I guess there are times when it is about the catching.

But there are other times as well. I’ve enjoyed opportunities to fish some famous waters and a few exotic locations, and though fish sometimes play a part in those memories, there is so much more. What is it that finds me reliving the dry heat of Baja, the muggy

heat of the Florida Keys, the smells, the meadows of wild flowers rippling in waves from the gusts of an afternoon thunderstorm, the silence, the jagged peaks of distant mountains, the cool touch of raindrops on goose-bumped arms, the gentle swell of the Sea of Cortez, the shimmering flats of the Keys? Perhaps it is nothing more than a direct connection with the Now, with the moment, to the exclusion of all else.



Maybe that’s what it is...a sensory experience so exclusive of anything not associated with it that it burns an indelible image on my defenseless brain,



one that will sustain me and call me back when the man-made world that divides my attention brings me to a point where I must once again find focus. An experience of the moment! With the muck we wade through most of our days, the chance to “live the moment” could very well be that hook that brings us back to Water.

We fish for different reasons. Some of us prefer the solitude, to fish alone and immerse ourselves in the environment, to interact with nature and to become, for a while, part of the dynamic interchange that makes time stand still. Others choose to fish with a friend, the angling experience enriched by the sharing of it with another. Those experiences find definition on both an individual and shared level. These memories are wonderful nuggets of shared experience (always remembered differently by the participants) that strengthen bonds and ties of friendship and camaraderie. How many times, in a moment of solitude, have you seen a sight so absolutely, flabbergastingly remarkable...and wished that there was someone else there to share it with?

Whether for reasons of solitude or social interaction, the draw of fly fishing seems to lie in escape. Escape from illusion, from the mire of our jobs and day-to-day concerns, offering an opportunity to move beyond all of that for the moment. Every year, we get together as a group to welcome a new trout season. This is a social outing, an experience that gives full rant to those dreams, fantasies and



recollections of fly fishing that draw forth the promise and anticipation of a new year. Typically, the "catching" is never spectacular, it usually being a bit too early for many hatches, the temperatures usually a bit mild as expected with the unpredictability of Spring weather. But it is a chance to get together, to revel in the social aspect of our sport, to experience the finest aspects of why we belong to a fly fishing club. If you weren't interested in these social aspects, you would choose to fish

in solitude and there would be no reason to seek the accompaniment of others.

Recently, many of us enjoyed this social homage at our annual Trout Opener at the Cassel PG & E Campground on Hat Creek. We shivered, feasted, and shared each other's company - retelling stories, reliving experiences and fueling our anticipation for the summer months ahead and the magical mysteries that lie in wait. There were some pristine moments; the campground blanketed with 2 - 3 inches of fresh snow, the dazzling vistas of Baum Lake as viewed from the ridge top and at lake level (a winter scene unexpected at the end of April), fantastic meals, late-night campfires and, most memorably, the enjoyment of each other; in laughter, in jest and in anticipation. We fanned the flames for a new trout season, looking ahead despite winter's reluctance to move on, making plans and sharing our enthusiasm. Once again, moments inspired by the fly rod, moments where that "other stuff" that enslaves our days is pushed from awareness in deference for the Now and its treasured moments of escape.

We are lucky. Regarding the social aspect, we couldn't ask for better companions. Our friends and confidants represent some of the finest and most experienced of fly fishermen. Their devotion to the magic of waters has imparted in them a compassion for sharing and understanding, a willingness to extend their experience of the fly fishing world to those around them. We are all the beneficiaries of that experience. I wonder whether the contemplative immersion found in fly fishing doesn't figure prominently in that compassion. I don't think that it is possible to visit those beautiful environs we seek without coming back unchanged. The "soothing balm of water". Even now my thoughts turn to summer steelhead and the North

Umpqua, standing thigh deep in cold waters as my thoughts focus on the moment.

Our friends provide the social backbone of our club. They plan the events, coordinate the menus, prepare the feasts and organize the opportunities for our gathering as well as the ease of our interaction. There is a dedication of spirit and genuine goodwill that is strikingly apparent. Smiles, laughter,



hand shakes, pats on the back...greetings to that shared bond that finds us assembled in open spaces beneath ominous clouds, blazing sun and starlit skies. I thank all of you, my friends, for your contributions and am honored to share your campfires.

Fly fishing is a poignant participation in life. It is refreshing, contemplative, humbling, awe-inspiring...a multitude of experiences and insights that is unique to each of us. We share those experiences with each other, searching for common ground and finding insights into our own essential natures along the way. Whether experiencing the Now of the moment, escaping from the illusions of our daily lives, sharing our memories and dreams with friends of like mind or trying to understand the fascination and draw of this wonderful sport, we find ourselves hooked and constantly returning to the magic of the fly fisher's world.

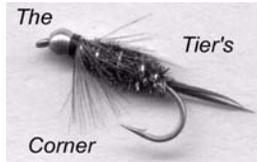
I guess it really doesn't matter why we fly fish. What is important, perhaps, is that we have been fortunate enough to stumble upon it and that it has transformed our lives with its simple pleasures. Or, maybe, it is an answer to something each of us was already

searching for, and now a link to a world that we all are thankfully happy to be a part of. A glimpse of reality? A window within? Why limit its intoxication with reason and words? Its essential nature lies in its experience.

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris



Murry's Hellgrammite

Materials Needed:

Hook: Tiemco 5262, Mustad 9672,36890,sizes,12-4
 Thread: Danville's black, clear mono.
 Weight: Medium non-lead wire.
 Tail: Black ostrich herl.
 Body: Medium or large black chenille.
 Hackle: Soft blue-dun saddle hackle feather.
 Pincers: Black rubber legs.



Recipe:

STEP 1:
 Put hook in vise, attach non lead wire 1/4 inch in front of hook point, wrap toward hook eye, stopping four hook eye lengths away.

STEP 2:
 Attach thread four eye lengths in back of hook and wrap over non lead wire a few times to lock it down, stopping the thread just before the hook point. Tie in 20 strands of ostrich herl, 1-1/2 half times the length of the hook shank.

STEP 3:
 Tie in a piece of black chenille and the tip of a dark blue-dun hackle (feather) at the base of the tail.

STEP 4:
 Wrap the chenille body. Tie off and cut the excess chenille.

STEP 5:

Palmer the blue-dun hackle feather over the body, cut excess feather hackle.

STEP 6:

Tie about 1-1/2 inch piece of black rubber leg material to one side of the hook shank (in back of the eye with about an inch sticking out over the eye of the hook) and fold the excess rubber leg material over to the other side of the hook and tie off the same way. The pinchers should have a splayed look. Cut the pinchers 1/2 inch long. Whip finish and cut thread.

Coat the thread with Hard as Nails cement.

Harry Murry's Hellgrammite is a modern classic smallmouth/largemouth and trout fly. It is the larva of the dobsonfly, highly desirable smallmouth bass food. Full grown hellgrammites are over three inches long. When dropped in the river, they swim with a pronounced undulating motion as they angle for the bottom. For fishing in lakes, a weed guard should be employed. It looks like a wooley bugger and should work in our streams and lakes. Fish with a two or three sink tip, with fifteen pound leader.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com'
 The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version, have a look!

The Casting Pond

Don't forget about our Thursday Casting Clinics! Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. As the weather warms, it's fun to meet with fellow members and have a cast of two. Casting instruction is free and instructors will usually be out there between 4:30 and 6:30 pm.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Classified

Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9'
new \$400

St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9'
\$100

Call Duncan @ 431-1007

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678
or 'segmead@aol.com'

12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King)
Aluminum Boat \$300

Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366

6 HP Evinrue Outboard in great
shape ... long shaft ... used for
Santana 22 ... \$350 OBO

Contact John @ 938-4116

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith

CAST by e-mail

The CAST is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the CAST online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. If you would like to receive the CAST by e-mail, send me a message at 'jfinet@vom.com' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the CAST in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online ... most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version. You can also visit the Club website and view the current CAST there ... so you will see what you are missing!

The Editor

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Jim, Tyler & Devin Clarke, Norman Dickenson, Greg Englar, Chris Heliotes, Greg Miller, Timothy Moratto, Gordon Perkins, Jim Powers and Bruce White

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

The Editor

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

2003 Photo Contest

With the success of the two previous photo contests in 2000 and 2002, we've decided to do it again for 2003! For the next 8 months or so, keep those cameras (digital or SLR) rolling and get your pictures off to me. I will be accepting entries until our January General Membership meeting next year. Then at the February Dinner meeting, members will be able to cast their votes for best picture in the following categories: Most Humorous, Best Fish, and Best Overall. You can e-mail your digital photos to me at 'bake_bo@yahoo.com' or mail prints to:

Rick Baker
3102 Lucero Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

I'll scan any prints that are sent and get them back to you as soon as I can. Size limit of prints are only limited to the size of my scanner, so I can scan 8x10's if needed.

Rick Baker

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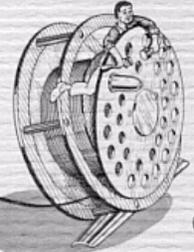


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Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

Dues paid by a new member joining the RRRF after March 30th will cover the balance of the current fiscal year and also the following fiscal year's dues.

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

**Please mail this application and your check payable to:
Russian River Fly Fishers, 1029 Jack London Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95409**



*Since 1976
For July 2003*

*Santa Rosa Area
Fly Tying Meeting in July!*

Volume 28 Number 7 July 2003
rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Marji Major

A word from our President

The time has come for a new Board to take over the Russian River Fly Fishers. I have been elected to be your president for the coming year and I want to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. I understand that I am not the first female president of our Club but there has not been one for several years. I am prepared to do my best to continue the advances our Club has made during the years I have been involved and I hope to have you all with me, 100% or whatever you can.

The first thing I thought when I was approached with the idea of becoming a Club officer (I have been vice president this past year) is that how could I be president if I do not fish? Well my answer to that is that I have fished the better part of my life. As early as I could hold a rod and bait my own hook, I got to tag along with my father. He was a deep sea fisherman and I went on many a boat out of Monterey and Morro Bay and

we always brought home fish for the freezer. He also liked to stream fish along some very beautiful pieces of water in the San Joaquin Valley area and into the Yosemite Valley. Sometimes he would settle me onto a large rock with just a hook at the end of a long line (fishing rods were expensive in those days) but I could spend hours watching the water in hopes that some naïve fish would impale itself on that hook I was dangling.

Once my brother came along, I did not go with my father as often and then I grew up, went to school, became a mother and got to fish only when we went on a camping trip with the kids. Then they grew up too. But I guess I never lost my love for fishing because years later I had the opportunity to salmon fish on a party boat out of San Francisco. I was hooked again, even to the point of getting my license and restoring a boat for six-person charters on San Francisco Bay. But as luck would have it, the year I was ready to fish the fish went elsewhere during the first El Nino in 1985.

But another turn of fate introduced me to a wonderful man who turned out to be the love of my life. One of the many things we have in common is the interest in outdoor life, and fishing fit the bill. When we moved to Santa Rosa, Paul was interested in Lake Sonoma and bass. Although he has been a fly fisher for many years, this sport was totally new to me. In the following years we not only fly fished locally but we made trips to several areas of Mexico, British Columbia and Alaska.

As much as I have enjoyed all the openers and closers and everything in between, my fishing has diminished since I have become a grandmother. There are only so many hours in a day and days in a week. Paul and I are both hoping that our grandchildren will enjoy sharing our experiences as they grow up. Our two granddaughters are already showing a great knack for casting and enjoy going camping and fishing. We have

four more at various stages of development so time only will tell if we will be able to share experiences.

So that is my background. I have some very good people to follow but with everyone's help we will have another successful year. I will always be attentive to suggestions and/or ideas. I will also be happy to share this column with anyone who has something to say but does not want to be president to say it. I will call it the "president's friend column". So let me know if you have the desire to put your thoughts on the front page of the CAST. If I don't hear from you, you will just have to put up with me for the rest of the year. I always have stories about my grandchildren.



Coming Events

JULY

- 9th Fly Tying Membership Meeting
 16th No Board Meeting in July
 23rd Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

AUGUST

- 13th No Membership Meeting
 20th Board Meeting (date & location subject to change)
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

SEPT

- 10th Membership Meeting
 17th Board Meeting
 24th Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

OCT

- 10-12th Season Closer .. Trinity River

Dues are Due

It's July again ... send in those checks ... thanks

Board of Directors

President: Marji Major (539-5437)
Vice President: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)
Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)
Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)
Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)
Casting Pond: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)
Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)
Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116 jfinet@vom.com)
Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)
Webmaster: John Iding (938-4116)
Youth Activities: Open
Membership Coordinator: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Outings: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Fly Tying: Terry Faris (539-4354)
Conservation: Open
Raffle Coordinator: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Director at Large: Paul Major (539-5437)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)
Director at Large: Rick Baker (545-8860)
Director at Large: Brian Kohlman (523-1903)
Director at Large: Filmore Turner (543-8128)
Director at Large: Hector Bedolla
Appointed Chairs:
CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library Custodian: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)
Refreshments: David Franzman (578-9317)

Future Programs

Joe Banovich has lined up Dan Blanton for the September Membership Meeting Program and Mel Krieger for the October Program. These are top notch speakers, so mark your calendars! Dan will be doing a program on Monterey Bay fishing which should be great fun. Mel will be chatting about casting most likely! Invite your friends ... they may want to join after these programs!

The CAST is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the CAST are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc. is **5 days after the date of the Board Meeting** each month.

Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

Any opinion offered in the CAST is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: Lee S. fighting big bass on Lytton Springs Pond (Photo by Greg Miller)

July Program

The July Membership Meeting will be devoted to fly tying ... everything you ever wanted to know about tying but were afraid to ask! We will have some of the experts tying and sharing secrets to making fly tying fun and effective. Some of us ... me included ... will be looking for first time tiers who want to get some hands on experience. Bring you kids and they will have a chance to tie up a couple flies. It'll be a great way to get them interested in the entomology part of the sport. The tying will begin around 7 pm although I know some of the serious folks will be set up and tying by 6 pm. Come on out and join the fun.

Weds July 9th

Bring a Friend
7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

The Editor

General Notice

There will be no CAST in August as we do not have a membership meeting that month. The July Board meeting has been cancelled. Also, the Board meeting in August will be held on August 23rd at Scotty Broome's home. Call Scotty for details.

Picnic 2003

June 21, 2003 was a beautiful day at the casting pond. I did not get a head count but judging from the amount of food consumed, I guess there were 60 to 70 of us. Everyone in attendance seemed to be enjoying the afternoon either sitting under the trees and visiting or practicing their casts at the pond. When I first became involved with the annual picnic, the willow tree on the far side of the pond was not much more than a twig. It was good to see several children enjoying themselves also. Thank you all for coming.

Also special thanks to all my helpers, those of you who came early to put up the canopy and those who stayed around to clean up. Extra special thanks to Steve and Jackie who handled the BBQ's in the heat. I promise longer tongs next year. I sincerely hope that a good time was had by all and that we can do this again and again. The raffle, although a little confusing in the beginning, was a good one thanks to Lee Smith. At least I saw some very big smiles on the winner's faces. As always, suggestions are encouraged for future picnics. **Marji Major**

(And extra extra special thanks Marji for organizing this great event each year!)

The Editor

Slurpin' the Worm

by

Steve Tubbs

I used to think that I knew how to fly cast.

Years ago I worked hard at it; spending many hours at the casting pond, reading numerous books and watching the occasional casting video. At fly fishing expositions, the casting demonstrations commanded my interest; I compared philosophies, studied styles and incorporated some of what I learned into my own developing technique. I got to where I could deliver the fly pretty much where I wanted it, to where I could control my loop size and put "some english" into my casting stroke to produce a variety of results. I no longer "flailed" the waters. I felt that I was getting somewhere with this graceful art of presentation that, when done right, exhibits a poetry of motion that is beautiful to observe and economical in its subtle use of power.

And then I put away the trout rods...the light and beautiful 3-weights, the slightly firmer 4's, the workhorse 5-weights and the extreme condition 6's. I moved up to the 7-weight and bigger fish, pursuing steelhead and large bass in conditions where wind was suddenly much more of a factor. From there, I turned to saltwater...and initially began to use 9 and 10-weight rods but quickly learned that the 11 and 12-weight sticks make all the difference on big fish – especially in determining how quickly one can affect a release once the thrill of the take has turned to matters of exerting force and bending wills.

I learned to cast the bigger rods, learned to throw a shooting head, learned the various techniques and casts that I needed to target my quarry. The differences in casting

from trout to bigger fish were subtle...I mean, a casting stroke is still a casting stroke and certain things have to happen in order to deliver the fly where you want it. The heavier equipment does require perhaps a little more conditioning, if simply to cast for many hours in succession. Timing changes somewhat. Techniques for shooting line become more important. Economy of power becomes more critical as its frivolous use will do nothing other than exhaust the caster before the day is done. It seems to me that the bigger the game fish, the more vital the execution of the basics in order to achieve success.

And then came tarpon...

I have found that my skills are lacking. I found that I've been lazy, that there are a few bad habits that I desperately need to break and that I need to return to my "casting roots", with the big sticks in hand, to fine-tune what has become no longer a poetry of motion. I cringe at the ineffective offerings that were tossed from my hand this Spring...only to die in the wind. I shudder at the multitude of missed chances that hinged on only my ability to get the fly to the fish. The lump in my throat when called to the casting deck was borne of the realization that I had forgotten how to fly cast and that my failure would be our boat's failure for the time that I struggled to make things right.

I completely enjoy the Florida Keys. Vacationing there, while pursuing tarpon, is becoming one of the high points of my year. From the moment I step off the plane in Miami, the air warm and muggy with the hint of afternoon thundershowers, billowing clouds in constant motion across the sky, I am reminded of another time and linked to another place. Just the climate brings me nostalgically back to coastal North Carolina and my

teenage years, where summers were often spent on the coastal waters



searching for a variety of pelagic species. Those memories are ignited further as we drive onto the Keys, making our way to Marathon for our week of “restful relaxation”.

Because, after all, it is fishing that has beckoned us. It is the prospect of beautifully sunny days on shallow flats, waters changing from turquoise to brown with hints of sienna as sand gives way to marl and turtle grass, deep blues marking the channels, the shades of blue between painting a reflection of the bottom that mirrors the sky above. It is the vastness of the skies, broken only by the ever-changing panorama of clouds that present an experience of unique visual beauty that is ultimately a combination of sea, sky and coral with the flavorings of mangroves and the spicing of sea life, bird life and our human relation to it all. These magical elements are part of what draws me gladly to the Keys.

And the tarpon...

What a game! Exciting, humiliating, challenging, extreme. Few fish can start knees quaking and heart pounding more quickly than a tarpon! To hear the words, “Big school, just on the other side of the channel, Get Ready” followed by “Happy fish...Wow...did you see that?” as the water explodes and fish “bust” the surface. Suddenly, each breath labors to get past the expectant lump in your throat...and as anticipation builds with the approaching wonder, translucent tails and fins slicing the water, noses and

backs porpoising through the waves in glinting splashes of silver and red, you suddenly realize just how massive some of these fish are. You can see them down there, in only five feet of water, moving toward you and, uncontrollably, it becomes difficult to stand on the casting deck as your knees begin to give way, losing their strength to anticipation. There are fish over 100 pounds (some of them well over) that await you...and you realize that everything hinges on your cast.

There are elements that seem to define tarpon fishing. In my limited experience, it has so far proven accurate that the worse the conditions, the more likely the fish will eat your fly. That is, of course, providing you can “serve it up” and deliver the morsel to the plate. The stronger the wind, the rougher the water and the more difficult the presentation...the greater the likelihood that, once delivered the fly, the fish will eat it. This translates crucially into casting. In order to deliver the fly in these conditions, the cast must be smooth, powerful and polished. It must be separate from the shaking knees and breathless anticipation that rules the rest of the body, unerringly accurate and performed with a precision and speed that will keep the fly on the tarpon’s table for the absolute maximum amount of time. Success is multiplied by a simple rule...the greater number of fish that see your fly, the more likely the chance that one of them will eat.

That is what we’re there for. The “eat”. Afterwards, as the hook penetrates, the fish explodes, the line jumps wildly from the deck and any multitude of things can go wrong...who knows? If one survives the initial “jumps” and getting the fish on the reel...there may be a significant chance of landing one of these magnificent silver kings. It could just as easily go the other way. Such is tarpon fishing.

But there are times when the tarpon game gets easier. This year, I was fortunate to taste a prelude to something I had only read about. An event that occurs annually, when tarpon seemingly throw caution to the winds and become frenzied feeding machines oblivious to boats, anglers and the potential errors of both. Binky and I had just completed nine hours on the water, a slow day with calm seas, clear skies and little wind. Fishing had been tough, the tarpon behaving true to the conditions and very skittish and selective about what they wished to eat. Over cocktails, we discussed the frustrations of the day and relived what we had learned. The phone call from our guide was brief, “Meet me at the marina in five minutes. The worms are coming off at Bahia Honda. We’re going fishing!” Our drinks were left on the counter as we headed for the door.

The evening was beautiful, the surface of the backcountry water like glass as we flew full-throttle over the ten miles to the Bahia Honda Bridge. Many boats had already preceded us, and as we slowly slipped between them, I marveled at the number of tarpon around us. Everywhere we looked there were tarpon tails, tarpon fins and exploding water as packs of these crazed fish crashed the surface as they dined on the *palolo* worms that swam just beneath the barrier of sea and sky. The worms we encountered were 2 – 4 inches in length, appearing pale red and chartreuse as they swam only inches from the heavy evening air. There were good numbers of them, but not the vast quantities that I had read accounts of as this was evidently only a preliminary “swarming” of the true worm hatch that would happen within the next week or so. Regardless, the tarpon were exhibiting the same abandon as any western trout during

a prolific emergence. We were witnessing fish on a mission.

The worm hatch is a temperature game. Every year, as the days begin to consistently hit the 90-degree mark and the water warms, there is a window when the water temperature briefly reaches a point that is conducive to the hatching (a reproductive dance) of the *palolo* worm from its home in some of the corals that grow throughout the Keys. At these times, the worms split from their embedded tubular casings and swim to the ocean's surface where they mate and where the tarpon eat them like candy, leading to the amazing numbers of feeding tarpon that we were witnessing at Bahia Honda. When the hatch is in full swing, the tarpon can exhibit the attributes of any fish that is keyed in on a specific food source. They can be very selective and attuned to only the actual worms themselves, and very difficult to fool with a fly or conventional tackle. So I was told as we watched. As tarpon were busting the surface nearly everywhere we looked, they obviously weren't concerned with us.

We anchored perhaps a hundred yards from the bridge and selected our rods, each sporting a worm fly that looked remarkably like the real thing swimming beneath us. We worked out the casting sequence, the three of us spreading out over the 16-foot flats boat and very aware of our fly lines as they snaked through the air above us. Ducking, casting and retrieving became our routine as we selected roving packs of tarpon that were heading our direction and tried to intercept them with our flies. Our host was the first to hook up.

"I don't want to play him," he stated as the line cleared and the reel sang. "Anybody want this?" He held out the rod.

I took it and handed him mine. "Keep him away from the bridge if you can," he instructed. "I don't want to pull the anchor to chase him. We'll break him off before we do that!"

The tarpon jumped a few times and I kept him away from the bridge,



adding to the dancing on the deck as I followed the fish around the boat, dodging the continued casting of my partners. Binky hooked two more tarpon while I worked our first, losing both of them. Finally, I managed to bring the tired fish alongside where we attempted to retrieve the fly but broke the leader in the process.

"Make some casts while I get another fly", our host instructed, returning my rod to me.

I ascended the casting deck and, in an effort to catch my breath, made a couple of blind casts (and very slow retrieves) before targeting a feeding pack of tarpon heading our way. The 70-foot cast that intercepted them was on target, and within a few short strips I felt the line tighten.

The strip-strike sent the loose coils of line jumping off the deck as the tarpon headed straight for the bridge. As the fish hit the reel it jumped, a fortunate development that allowed me to get my palm on the reel spool and apply enough additional pressure to turn the tarpon away from the bridge. Although at risk of breaking the leader, the strategy worked and I found myself once again dancing beneath the snaking lines of my partners as I struggled to keep the fish clear of the pilings and to eventually bring it alongside the

boat. After a half hour, we lifted the tarpon for a quick picture and release...our smallest fish of the trip at around 55 lbs. As for me, I was definitely through.

It didn't matter. The worms had disappeared with the setting sun and the waters around Bahia Honda Bridge were once again still. We reeled up the lines and stowed our rods in hopes of making the run back to Marathon before dark.

We raced through the dusk as sea and sky merged into one with the deepening blues of the fading light. As the flats slid beneath us, I couldn't help but reflect. What an experience! We had been lucky enough to taste a few moments of one of the most amazing events in tarpon fishing, resulting in a wild evening of memories that I'm sure will remain a highlight of my saltwater fishing experiences.

The next morning, shortly before 7:00 AM, we were staked out on the flat near Pigeon Key. In greeting, the wind whipped up a nice chop and, true to form, the less than perfect conditions found the tarpon active. I believe Binky landed three fish that morning, the largest close to 100 pounds, while I once again struggled with casts that fell short or were delivered off the mark. I managed to do it right now and then, skirting the edges of the moving fish just close enough to get an occasional eat or to perhaps even hook-up and "jump one off", but I wasn't in them like Binky was. The fish weren't seeing my fly. I was still having a hard time setting the table. "I'm going to learn this tarpon game," I vowed. "Next year I'm going to be in 'em!"

My preparations have already begun. In retrospect, we had a great trip and landed a lot of tarpon, Binky to be credited with most of those we brought to the boat. But I had my chances, managed to land a few fish...and I missed more than I can

count. We both wonder just how well our boat might have done if I had delivered some of those flies where they needed to be. If only my casting had been a bit more accurate, more polished...powerful. How many more fish might we have landed, or jumped off, or enticed to eat our flies?

We are home and I have returned (determined) to my roots, 12-weight fly rod in hand. Once again, the casting pond has become my training ground. With Binky as coach, a video camera as witness and a year to practice, some things are going to change! Wait till next year. Those tarpon won't even recognize me!

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

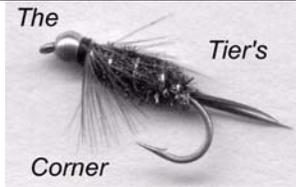
Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version, have a look!



Green Thingie

Materials Needed:

Hook: Tiemco 100 size 16 or equal
 Thread: Olive
 Body: Olive antron
 Rib: Pearl flashabout
 Wing: Medium coastal deer hair
 Hackle: Light dun

Recipe:

STEP 1:

Tie in the ribbing material and wrap the body with dubbing. Wrap the rib to the wing tie-in location.



STEP 2:

Tie-in a healthy amount of deer hair leaving room ahead of wing for the hackle.

STEP 3:

Wrap some thread round the stubs of the deer hair to make a smooth forward taper to eye. Tie-in hackle and wrap forward and tie-off.

I tend to make the wing a little longer than for an EHC and the hackle is also a little longer than for a dun. This fly is great for prospecting on riffle water any time during the day. If there are fish around, they will at least move to look it over. Then they are yours! **John Iding**

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

The Casting Pond

Don't forget about our Thursday Casting Clinics! Come on out for a

refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. As the weather warms, it's fun to meet with fellow members and have a cast of two. Casting instruction is free and instructors will usually be out there between 4:30 and 6:30 pm.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Classified

Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9'
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St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9'
 \$100

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8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678 or 'segmead@aol.com'

12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King)

Aluminum Boat \$200

Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366

6 HP Evinrue Outboard in great

shape ... long shaft ... used for

Santana 22 ... \$300 OBO ...

includes gas tank

Contact John @ 938-4116

Pontoon Boat ...Bucks Bag

"Bronco" w/ dual chamber ... used

once ...excellent condition ...\$650

Contact Leath @ 569-8559

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: David Katz and Andy & Sheila Tsarnas.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard. **The Editor**

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all'

when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

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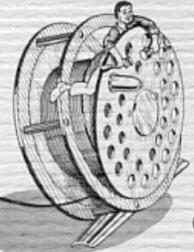


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City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

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

The CAST

Russian River Fly Fishers

Volume 28 Number 9 September 2003

Since 1976
For September 2003

Santa Rosa Area
Dan Blanton This Month!

rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Marji Major

A word from our President

Greetings everyone and welcome back from your summer. I have heard about trips all around the country and I hope you all got to go where you wanted to go and do what you wanted to do and had a good time doing it. I understand some of you even got to do some fishing!

I was not able to actually fish this summer but we did discover that our oldest granddaughter is a natural caster and we are anxious to get her some time on the water. The others learned that they need to get a little older/taller to get the right action but they did learn how Grandpa ties flies. We did manage a few days of looking at water where there might have been fish but we will have to wait for another summer to get the lines wet.

The club had a very nice picnic in June. Thank you all for coming and special thank you to all of you who helped make the day a success. This event gets larger every year and I hope more enjoyable. Your planning committee is always open for suggestions, it is never too early to start thinking about next year.

And speaking of suggestions, this club is your club. The board of directors is always open to new ideas. If you have an idea or would like to become more active in club projects, please feel free to contact any board member at any time. We have a very nice mix of old and new members this year and would like to see that continue.

September starts a new year for the Russian River Fly Fishers. We are starting off big. Joe Banovich has lined up two terrific speakers for the first two months. Dan Blanton will be our speaker on September 10th and then we have Mel Krieger coming on October 8th. The October meeting will be in the large auditorium at the Vet's Building to accommodate

Krieger's casting demonstrations. We are expecting a large turnout for these two meetings. This will be a great opportunity to bring your friends, neighbors and/or relatives and introduce them to the club and all the things we are doing now.

The new year also is the time to renew memberships. Most of you have renewed and some of you have received renewal notices. If you have not done so already, please send in your checks so we know how to plan for the coming year. And a good year I hope it will be.



Coming Events

SEPT

- 10th Membership Meeting
 17th Board Meeting
 24th Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

OCT

- 8th Membership Meeting
 10-12th Season Closer .. Trinity R
 15th Board Meeting
 22nd Fly Tying Meeting
 Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30 pm

NOV

- 12th Membership Meeting
 19th Board Meeting
 26th Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

Board of Directors

President: Marji Major (539-5437)
Vice President: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)
Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)
Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)
Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)
Casting Pond: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)
Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)
Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116 jfinet@vom.com)
Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)
Webmaster: John Iding (938-4116)
Youth Activities: Open
Membership Coordinator: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Outings: Scotty Broome (575-5993)
Fly Tying: Terry Faris (539-4354)
Conservation: Ken Magoon (527-8376)
Raffle Coordinator: Lee Smith (538-0706)
Director at Large: Paul Major (539-5437)
Director at Large: Tim Reuling (887-9734)
Director at Large: Rick Baker (545-8860)
Director at Large: Brian Kohlman (523-1903)
Director at Large: Filmore Turner (543-8128)
Director at Large: Hector Bedolla
Appointed Chairs:
CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library : Beckie Simmie (527-8844)
Refreshments: David Franzman (578-9317)

The **CAST** is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the **CAST** are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc. is **5 days after the date of the Board Meeting** each month. Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

Any opinion offered in the **CAST** is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: Beckie Simmie at Kodiak Island (Photo by Alan Campbell)

CAST by e-mail

The **CAST** is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the **CAST** online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. If you would like to receive the **CAST** by e-mail, send me a message at 'jfinet@vom.com' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the **CAST** in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online ... most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version. The Club is saving over \$500/yr with the 50+ members who currently receive the **CAST** by e-mail.

The Editor

September Meeting Program

The RFFF Presents

Dan Blanton

Dan Blanton has been fly fishing Monterey bay since the 1960s for all manner of fly-eating critters from Kelp bass to 150-pound-class blue sharks. His most recent article on this unique, marine fly fishing resource, appeared in Fly Fishing In Salt Waters Magazine, of which he is an Editor-at-Large. This beautifully photographed slide show will give you a keen insight into all of the bay's fly fishing possibilities: Kelp bass; White Sea bass; Blue sharks;



Thresher sharks; bonito, mackerel; Pacific halibut; striped bass; King salmon, and others. This area is not only perfect for resident California anglers, but only being a hour from San Francisco, 45 minutes from San Jose or Monterey, makes it a perfect fly fishing destination for visiting anglers on business trips or family vacations. Every nuance of this fishery will be uncovered, from fishing from private craft to rental boats - tackle, flies and techniques.

Weds September 10th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

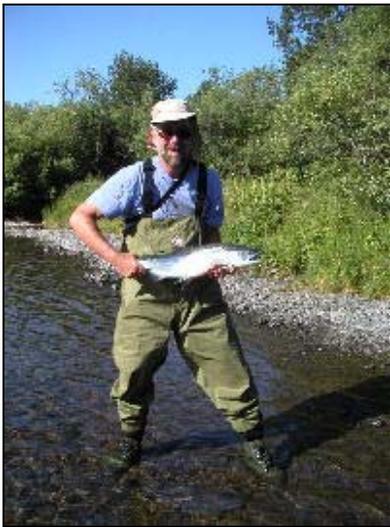
The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

Kodiak Adventure

by Alan Campbell

In July, Beckie and I spent a week on Kodiak Island fishing for Sockeye Salmon, Pink Salmon and Dolly Varden trout. We stayed at the Saltery Lake Lodge. After a day or two, I figured out the routine is sleep, eat breakfast, fish, eat lunch, take a nap, fish, eat dinner followed by fishing optional after dinner. If you have a problem with sleeping, eating



or fishing, you might want to think twice about going on such a trip. A typical day would get us on the Saltery River below the lodge at about 7:30 AM. The lodge is on the Saltery Lake at the start of the Saltery River, which runs two and a half miles to the ocean. The Sockeye are new and bright, just out of the ocean. Since the sockeye are vegetarians, we fished size 10 hooks with green comets from Bob Sisson and green yarn flies sold at the lodge with 8 wt rods. We used one split shot 6 to 18 inches from the hook. The yarn fly looked like a piece of lettuce tied to the eye of the hook. It was made from green died rabbit fur. The Saltery was about a foot deep. The fish would hold in big groups. When you found a good spot, you could stay in one place and let the fish move upstream and be replaced by a new set of fish in the holding spots. We would cast above the

groups and let the fly drift through the groups like a steelhead drift. Our lowest fish catch was three and my highest ten. What the Sockeye lack is willingness to take the fly, they make up, once they have a hold of it. My favorite was a large male that exploded out of the water, did a tail walk from one side of the river and back. When he figured out that did not work too well, he headed downstream and I got to see about 40 feet of backing.

We fished for Dolly Varden trout with 5 wt rods and Muddler Minnows in Rough Creek about 5 miles from the lodge. The creek was about 60 feet wide. The Dolly's would hold in riffles behind rocks looking for eggs and salmon fry. We would cast across the creek and then strip the line in fast. You would see a mini-hump on the surface, like the Jaws movie, following your fly for maybe 10 feet before they would hit. The Dolly's were great little fighters for their size. You could play them for a long time and as soon as you let them go, they would zip back out into the creek good to go. Almost all were over 12 inches with several over 18. The largest brought in was 20 inches. For a little added excitement, you never knew if you were going to get a Pink Salmon on



your 5 wt. that did not understand that you for fishing for Dollies. I plan to forward a copy of the Cast to Saltery Lodge. I would like to thank the managers Bill and Doyle, our guide Joe and the rest of the staff for making our first trip to Alaska such a great trip. I thank Rick Baker for lining up the trip and the discount. Thanks to Rick Jorgensen

for the Sockeye flies. A special thanks to Bob Sisson for all the help at the casting pond, for the comet flies and for the loan of the rod case. Our guide Joe, would keep making comments like "Let's tie another one of those comets on" and "Tell that guy who tied the comets that he did a good job"

The lodge was a great place to stay. Bill and Doyle have been running the lodge for the last 12 years. The lodge



is a 20-minute floatplane ride from the main Kodiak airport. No phones, no TV but electricity and running water from 6 AM to 10:30 PM (think twice about when to use that last flush). When we flew in, a heat wave was going on. By the time we left, visibility was so poor that all the small planes were grounded. Doyle took us into Kodiak on the roughest four-wheel-drive road that I have ever bounced along. We made our connection and our flight home while most of the other lodges on the island were changing their reservations.

There were a total of 7 guests at the lodge the week we were there, 4 from California, 2 from Switzerland and one from Ohio. The Swiss of the Swiss army knife family had been coming most years for the last 6 years. The angler from Ohio comes in the summer for Sockeye and in the fall for Silver Salmon. The two

guides were great. The cook and her husband rounded out the staff. Our guide, Joe, would come up to us after a meal and say "What kind of fishing would you like to do now?" and off we would go!

ABC's guide to bring fish home:

If you plan to bring back fish on the airline you should bring your own ice chest. If you forget, or decide to bring back more fish, you can buy boxes from the lodge at \$10/each. The boxes come in two sizes, Small 26x10x5 inches and Large 28x14x6.5. Saltery Lodge will fillet your fish and pack your box as part of your lodge stay fee. Your fishing guide does all the work, so you should plan on a good tip. Alaska Airlines allows one bag and one briefcase or purse as carry-on and two checked bags. Each checked bag should be less than 70 pounds so you could bring back 140 pounds of fish. Carry-on fish is not allowed. Northwest Airlines limits the weight of each checked bag to 60 pounds. The box is made from wax covered cardboard and does not insulate as well as an ice chest. Styrofoam ice chests are not allowed because they have broken during flight. Ice chests with built in wheels are good to have. The volume of the large fish box is 2548 cubic inches or 11 gallons or 42 liters. Since the large boxes are designed to hold about 70 pounds of fish, if you buy a lightweight ice chest with the same volume as the larger box, the weight when filled with frozen fish will be about right. The rod case counts as one checked bag. Bring some 3M reinforced shipping tape to wrap around the entire ice chest in case the latch opens. Water ice is not allowed in the ice chest or fish box. You can have up to 5 pound of dry ice but you must declare it when you check the bag. Most people stop fishing for their box on Wednesday so that the fish has time to hard freeze before the trip. Most people do not use dry

ice. You will be charged for each overweight checked bag. Extra checked bags cost \$50/each. Fish smoking service is available in Kodiak. (Wow ... my head is spinning from that ... maybe you should just buy some fish at the market when you get home?!?!... The Editor)

Conservation

Greetings RRFF members, I have taken over reporting on ecological and conservation developments that should be of interest to our club. I have been receiving a number of notices on fishery and water quality related topics for a number of years and I will pass some of them along in the Cast. I would appreciate any contributions and comments from you guys. My e-mail address is 'magoon5294@aol.com'.

This month I want to encourage RRFF members to attend the Russian River Appreciation Festival on Sunday, September, 14 from 3:00 to 6:00pm at Hop Kiln Winery, 6050 Westside Road, Healdsburg.

Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. The festivities will include a BBQ, an auction and numerous booths and displays. Phone (707) 578-0595 for reservations.

The Hop Kiln Winery has been owned for a number of years by Marty and Joyce Griffith, who have been great supporters of Trout Unlimited and the conservation and protection of the Russian River. The event is a benefit for **Friends of the Russian River**, the **Environmental Center of the Sonoma County Conservation Council**, and the **Russian River Environmental Forum**.

I am contributing a box of 2 to 3 dozen steelhead flies on behalf of and tied by members of the Russian River Fly Fishers and 2 hours of fly casting instruction at our Thursday

evening clinics to the auction. I would appreciate contributions of your flies to this donation. Your names will be listed and the Club will receive recognition in the local environmental community. Call 527-8376 or send an e-mail to me and I will arrange to pick up flies.

If you go to this event let people know about your RRFF connection. Invite them to our meetings. You know, network.

Ken Magoon

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

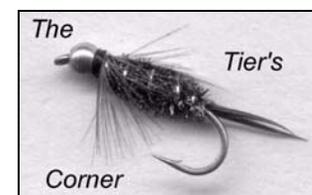
Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month, so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version (color pictures!), have a look!



Crawdad

Materials Needed:

Hook: Eagle Claw L058S size 4
Thread: Nylon sewing thread .005
Lead: Non-lead 0.030 size
Antenna: Rubber leg material
Eyes: Molded plastic pearls on a string chain from craft store
Claws: Orange feather or marabou
Feelers: Bucktail brown
Larva Lace: Orange hollow plastic material from local fly shop
Small wire: From hobby store (smallest diameter)
Hackle: Brown feather
Body: Brown chenille
Weedguard: Hard Mason 20 lb leader



Recipe:

STEP 1:

Before placing hook in vise, bend the shank of the hook half way from the bend of the hook to the eye about 30 degrees up. Place hook in vise.

STEP 2:

Wrap 0.030 Non Lead wire around hook, starting at 30 degree bend and wrapping to just back of the eye of the hook.

STEP3:

Wrap Nylon sewing thread over the Non Lead wire to lock it down. Put a drop of cement on wraps. Bring the thread to the 30 degree bend toward the bend of the hook. There should be about 1/2 inch of hook shank showing from bend to 30 degree bent portion. Take the rubber leg material and lay it on top of the hook shank so the ends extend out over the bend of the hook 1-1/2 inches.

STEP 4:

Tie in the brown Bucktail (feeler) material on top of hook shank so the bucktail projects out over the bend of the hook 1/2 inch, wrap back over the bucktail to 30 degree bend, cement wraps.

STEP 5:

Take a continuous string, of four string chain black eyes, with needle nose pliers smash out the center two and tie in eyes on top of hook shank back from the bend 1/4 inch, cross wrapping to lock them down. Cement wraps.

STEP 6:

Take the wire from the hobby store, cut 7 inches off one end, bend in half. Take 1/2 inch piece of Larva Lace insert the legs end of the wire in one end on through till about 1/4 inch of bare wire is out the end of Larva Lace.

STEP 7:

Take an orange feather, clip the center out, about 1/2 inch from tip. Set that aside for the tail, later. Down 1/2 inch, clip out the center out, continue doing that till you get to the base of the feather. Take one of the 1/2 inch clipped feather parts, leaving about half of the feather, cut barbs, leaving the stubble on the shaft. Insert the stubble end of the feather into the wire loop formed by inserting the wire in one end of the Larva Lace, pull the wire on through the Larva Lace till the stubble part of the feather just starts to enter the Larva Lace, put a small drop of cement there and continue pulling the clipped feather though, leaving a small portion of the feather claw extending out of the Larva Lace. That should be one claw for the Crawdad. Do the same thing for another claw. Try to keep the claws the same size.

STEP 8:

Tie in claws on the side of the hook under the eyes, leaving about 1/4 inch of Larva Lace claws sticking up a head of the eyes.

STEP 9:

Take a brown feather and tie it in at the thirty degree bend of the hook shank. That will be the legs of the

crawdad. Leave it for now. Tie in brown chenille at same place as brown feather and wrap chenille around hook toward the hook bend, between eyes and around and back to tie in point. Wrap brown feather around the body of the crawdad just before the eyes, for the legs and back to the tie in point. Continue wrapping the brown chenille up the body or tail till you get about 1/4 inch from tail or eye of hook. Take the piece of orange feather end or tip you cut off the feather to make the claws, put cement on barbs and use your fingers to smooth the feather so the barbs stick together. Let dry and tie in on top of hook shank out over the eye of the hook. Continue to wrap chenille to eye, tie off. Clip the palmered feather for the legs on top and bottom of Crawdad.

STEP 10:

Take weedguard material, bend it in half, crimp with pliers and tie in on the hook bottom just behind the eye of the hook so the legs of the weedguard extend past the hook point.

This bug can be fished with a floating line casting the bug on the land and crawling it into the water use short hops, rest, short hop and so forth. It can be fished with leadcore shooting head in deeper water so the bug crawls along the bottom of stream or lake. Best fished early morning, late night. Though crawdads are out in the daylight too. Every species of fish love these bugs. Have fun fishing them. Crawdads have little Crawdads spring, summer and fall.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

Annual Photo Contest

Greetings everyone, It's been a long summer (f it seems way to short to me.) I'm quite certain that many of you have been out on some great trips over the past couple of months. Did you remember to take your camera? Since were heading into the fall/winter mode for the club I thought I would send out this friendly reminder that we are continuing our Annual Photo Contest again this year.

So, send me your photos eh? The general format of the contest is the same as the previous contests. I will be accepting photos until the January 2004 general meeting. At that point I will put together the arrangement of images together in the categories of Most Humorous, Best Fish, and Best Overall. The images, along with ballots, will be available at the February Dinner for viewing and selection. If the categories we've selected seem to deter you in anyway, don't let it. Just send me your photos and I'll make sure they get included; and may develop a new category based upon the content. Besides, it's a great opportunity for me to live vicariously through you over the past summer and to take a gander at what you've been up to!

I can accept your photos via e-mail for those of you in the digital age. My e-mail is: bake_bo@yahoo.com. Digitally, I can accept jpeg, gif, tiff, etc; just about any electronic format that's out there. If you'd like to send me the actual photo, that's fine as well. I can scan them and return the photo to you post haste. So let's see those pictures!

As a side bar note: I'm quite certain that we have archived enough images to begin the design for a 2004 Russian River Fly Fishers calendar. If this may be something that you think you would like to hang in your

fly tying room, cubical, or bathroom let me know. I can put together a preliminary design and get an idea of printing costs and go from there. Let me know though, if there is not enough interest generated; I don't believe I will take this task on this year.

So send in those pictures!

Rick Baker

The Casting Pond

Don't forget about our Thursday Casting Clinics! Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. As the weather warms, it's fun to meet with fellow members and have a cast of two. Casting instruction is free and instructors will usually be out there between 4:30 and 6:30 pm.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Rick & Scotty

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

Lee Smith

Season Closer

The dates for the Closer remain Oct 10th-12th and the event will be held at a campground on the middle section of the Trinity River (final location under review). ½ pounders are supposed to be hot there at that time. Contact Scotty Broome or Lee Smith for additional details.

Lee Smith

Classified

Scott Eclipse Series 4wt 6 pc 9'
new \$400

St. Croix Imperial 8 wt 4 pc 9'
\$100

Call Duncan @ 431-1007

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678 or
'segmead@aol.com'

12 Ft Smoker Craft (Sea King)

Aluminum Boat \$200

Contact Tom Lynn @538-4366

6 HP Evinrude Outboard in great shape ... long shaft ... used for Santana 22 ... \$250 ... includes gas tank

Contact John @ 938-4116

Pontoon Boat ...Bucks Bag

"Bronco" w/ dual chamber ... used once ...excellent condition ...\$650

Contact Leath @ 569-8559

Estate Sale (former member)

Fly rods: 8 weight graphite and glass...miscellaneous fly reels... vests...fly tying materials...books
call Russ Lockner @544-4133

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Scott Lewis

RRFF Apparel Items

As many of you know the clothing items with the club logo have been in since June. The stuff looks great! Again, a big thanks to Kim Orloff with Stinger Sportswear for helping the club out on this! Just about everyone has picked up, or made arrangements with me to pick up, their items. I still have a few individuals left to pick up their stuff.

They are:

Owen Dimock

Bob Terry

Mike Seeber

Wayne Taylor

I will once again bring your items to the September general meeting (*which should be a good one!*) If you don't pick them up then, they

will be placed into the conex out at the casting pond. I really don't have any room to keep hanging onto your items. The weekly Thursday casting clinics will be going on for a bit longer and you can pick them up then; or make arrangements with one of the board members to pick them up.

Additionally, the club has purchased a number of hats, which we are offering to you for \$8.00 each. If you think you would like one (or two) let someone know. We can make sure we have them on hand to purchase. Another option is to wait to win one in the monthly raffle where the club will be offering several from time to time.

Rick Baker

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Kirk & Ann Hopkin, the Johnston Family and Glen Stanley.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

The Editor

Support Our Local Shops

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Petaluma, CA 94952
707.762.3073 Fax-762-0739

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Santa Rosa, CA 95405



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

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*Since 1976
For October 2003*

*Santa Rosa Area
Mel Krieger This Month!*

Volume 28 Number 10 October 2003
rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Marji Major

A word from our President

Greetings everyone and we are off to a good start. Our September meeting featured Dan Blanton and a beautiful program informing us about fishing in and around the Monterey Bay area. Dan was there early presenting tips on how to tie his famous flies and then donated three of them to the raffle. I think everyone in attendance learned something new.

Now some important club business. John Iding, our great CAST editor for the last three years, has notified us recently that he wishes to pass the CAST editor's job on to another club member. December will be his last issue. The Board would like to hear from you if you are interested in this job. Please call me or John as soon as possible so that we can facilitate a seamless transition. And I'm sure you join me in thanking John for the outstanding job he has been doing with the CAST.

This will be your last CAST if you have not sent in your dues. Steve Tubbs has sent out notices to anyone who is not current and will be updating the membership list at the end of the month.

We have been approached by the Boy Scouts of Sebastopol and Healdsburg to assist them in their merit badge programs and we are proud to do so. In previous years, the Youth Program in our club has been very active and we have received awards for our efforts. We currently do not have a Youth Program and would be very happy to have one. If interested, call me. If any of you are involved with Boy Scouts in other local areas, we would like to talk to you about your merit badge program.

Look for announcements about another rod building class and an advanced rod building class for those of you ready to take the next step. Don Price and Charlie Schillinsky will be coordinating the classes.

And last but not least, the folks at the Russian River Sportsmen's Club at Duncan Mills have a wonderful

facility right on the Russian River that is available for lots of activities. The clubhouse is large and features all the amenities. There is RV camping right on the property as well as a boat launch. Joe Banovich, who is actively involved with both clubs, has invited the Sportsmen to bring membership information to our club meeting, so look for it and consider joining their club. I think you will definitely enjoy the experience.

Do not forget that Mel Krieger will be here for our October 8th meeting. Mel will be demonstrating his casting techniques and the club has reserved the large auditorium (at the Vet's Building) for this event. Bring your friends, neighbors and/or relatives for this world class speaker.

I'm still trying to come up with a clever tag line - any suggestions?

Coming Events

OCT

8th Membership Meeting
9-12th Season Closer .. Trinity R
15th Board Meeting
22nd Fly Tying Meeting
Thurs Casting Clinic 4:30-6:30
pm

NOV

12th Membership Meeting
19th Board Meeting
26th Fly Tying Meeting
Suns Casting Clinic

DEC

10th Membership Meeting
17th No Board Meeting
24th No Fly Tying Meeting
Suns Casting Clinic

Board of Directors

President: Marji Major (539-5437)

Vice President: Lee Smith (538-0706)

Secretary: Tom Campbell (576-0284)

Treasurer: Pat Gibbard (578-6115)

Membership Database: Steve Tubbs (765-1787)

Program Director: Joe Banovich (526-6015)

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Casting Instruction: Rick Jorgensen (987-8764)

Special Events Chairperson: Marji Major (539-5437)

Newsletter Editor: John Iding (938-4116
jfinet@vom.com)

Lake Captain: Tom Lynn (538-4366)

Webmaster: John Iding (938-4116)

Youth Activities: Open

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Appointed Chairs:

CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)

Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)

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Refreshments: David Franzman (578-9317)

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Any opinion offered in the **CAST** is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: The Bridge Pool on Mataura River NZ (Photo by Nancy Driscoll)

CAST by e-mail

The **CAST** is available by e-mail. The e-mail version is in color so those pictures really look nice. You can read the **CAST** online or print it out on your printer. You can forward a copy to a friend who you may be interested in having join the club. If you would like to receive the **CAST** by e-mail, send me a message at 'jfinet@vom.com' and I will put you on the distribution list. You will receive the **CAST** in PDF format (need Adobe Acrobat Reader 5.1 which is free online ... most newer computers have this program already). If you don't like it, we'll put you back on the mail version. The Club is saving over \$500/yr with the 50+ members who currently receive the **CAST** by e-mail.

The Editor

October Meeting Program

The RRFF Presents

Mel Krieger

Mel Krieger has been a devoted fisherman since he fished for black bass as a young man in Louisiana and Texas. He moved to San Francisco in 1964 with his wife Fanny and his daughter and son and took up flycasting with a vengeance. He became an avid tournament caster and first traveled to New Zealand when he won a trip there as first prize in a flycasting tournament. He soon created his popular Angler-to-Angler travel program to New Zealand and now operates Club Pacific, an agency for fishing travel to all parts of the world.

Mel has taught flycasting and flyfishing for over 35 years and presently heads the Mel Krieger International School of Flyfishing. He has taught in Europe, Asia, South America, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada. His widely acclaimed book and videotapes entitled "The Essence of Fly Casting" "Beginnings - An Introduction to Flyfishing" and "The Essence of Spey Casting" have been used as curriculum for casting schools all over the world. He has written articles for books and magazines in many countries around the world.

Mel has been involved in the creation of many innovative programs such as the "Flycasting Instructor Certification Program" endorsed by the Federation of Fly Fishermen and which has been functioning both in the US and aboard.

In 1994, Mel and Fanny were inducted individually in the Northern California Council/Federation of Fly Fishers Hall of Fame for their contributions in the world of Fly Fishing.

Mel's love of teaching and fishing takes him to all parts of the United States as well as on angling adventures to the world's great fishing waters.

Mel's program will share his casting expertise using single hand and spey rods. The program will be held in the larger center room in the Vet's Building so there will be more room for casting.

Weds October 8th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

The Auditorium, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

Fishing Access

July 1st has come and gone and those fishing access plaques you have are in need of renewal. Please contact Tom Lynn at the next meeting to pay your fee and update your plaques. If you think you will not be using your access plaque ... pleasure return it to Tom so the club will not have to keep producing new plaques. Local fishing access is a significant feature of the membership to the Russian River Fly Fishers ... so don't miss this opportunity.

Tom Lynn

Trinity River Outing Season Closer

The planned trip on Oct. 9-12 will be held at the Lazy Double B Ranch Camp and RV Park. The Lazy Double B (Salver, CA.) is located 5 miles east of Willow Creek on Hwy 299 (upstream on the Trinity). There will be no organized food preparation (the club will not be buying any food). Willow Creek has 3 or 4 restaurants and groceries. Members desiring full R.V. hookups should call the Double B (530-629-2156) and make reservations (I have reserved 2 spaces). Members that did not sign up at the September meeting and wish to attend should call me (Lee @ 538-0706) to confirm. Those members that did sign up and are not coming should also call. If anyone has questions about the outing please do not hesitate to call me.

Fishing: There should be half pounders, steelhead and salmon in this section of the Trinity. Half pounders and steelhead can be fished with the shooting head swing or floating line swing (with BB shot). Floating line indicator fishing drifted down seams with stone flies and egg pattern dropper is very effective. Brindel Bugs (bead head) and favorite steel head flies on the swing are also very good. Salmon take big streamers down deep (black and chartruese) drifted slowly, and big egg patterns also work.

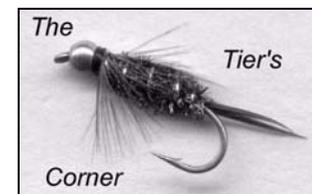
That said, you should probably stop at the Eureka Fly Shop on 101 (1632 Broadway, Eureka, 707 444-2000) for expert advice without buying every fly in the shop. Hope to see you all there.

Lee Smith

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris



Pheasant Tail Nymph

Materials Needed:

Hook: TMC 5262 size 12 to 20

Weight: 0.015 Non lead wire, 4-6 turns

Tail: PT fibers

Rib: Copper wire

Abdomen: PT fibers, 4-5 for size 14 hook

Thorax: Peacock Herl Wingcase

Legs: PT fibers

Thread: Brown 8/0 or 6/0

Recipe:**STEP 1:**

Wrap non lead wire on bare shank of hook.

STEP 2:

Tie in thread, starting one eye length behind eye of hook, lock down thread with two wraps of



thread over end of thread.

STEP 3:

Slide non lead wire up against thread, wrap thread to back of non lead, wrap thread forward over non lead, then back over non lead to above hook barb or the start of the hook bend (Non lead defines the thorax area).

STEP 4:

Tie in about eight PT fibers for the tail, (making sure the ends of the PT fibers are even), the length, about the width of the hook gape. Wrap the thread forward over the excess PT fibers to back of non lead wire, establishing the abdomen of the fly. Cut excess PT fibers.

STEP 5:

Tie in copper wire for the rib, wrapping thread back over copper wire to above hook barb.

STEP 6:

Clip off about 1/8th" of the small ends of the PT fibers, tie in the tips, move the thread forward behind the non lead wire, wrap the PT fibers, forward in close turns, to back of the lead wire, keeping wraps even. Tie down with two wraps of thread. Don't cut the excess PT fibers that are sticking up yet.

STEP 7:

Spiral wrap rib, copper wire, over PT fibers to behind non lead wire, tie down with three wraps of thread behind excess copper wire and PT fibers, twice in front of them. Cut the PT fibers, wiggle copper wire back and forth to break.

STEP 8:

Tie in PT wingcase, behind the non lead or thorax area, tips to rear, about even with the tail fibers. Cut excess fibers.

STEP 9:

Even up three peacock herl tips and tie in tips behind the non lead wire or thorax. Wrap herl forward to the front of the thorax or non lead wire, tie off and clip excess.

STEP 10:

Fold PT fibers (wingcase) over peacock herl (thorax), tie off, do not clip excess.

STEP 11:

Divide tips of PT fibers or wingcase, in half, that are pointing out over the eye of the hook, pull tips back and slightly down to each side of thorax and tie off for the legs.

STEP 12:

Wrap a neat head, half hitch or whip finish, cement head.

How to fish this fly:

Use Floating line, 7-1/2 to 12 ft foot leader, tapering down to a size 4x or 6x tippet, under an indicator. Tie two different flies on, one a foot above the end one, where allowed. Good for quite water in lakes and fast rivers, fished dead drift. Cast, let settle, to or toward the bottom, or tumble in river flows. Concentrate on prime lies. If you are not hooking bottom add weight on the line above the fly. Favorite flies for winter, include brassies,

pheasant tail nymphs, hare's ear nymphs, prince nymph, midges and pupae. Smaller patterns, size 14 - 22, will out fish larger flies during the winter.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

The Casting Pond

Don't forget about our Thursday Casting Clinics! Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. As the weather warms, it's fun to meet with fellow members and have a cast of two. Casting instruction is free and instructors will usually be out there between 4:30 and 6:30 pm. After Daylight Saving Time ends at the end of October, the Casting Clinics will be held by appointment on Sundays.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Rick & Scotty

Raffle Donations

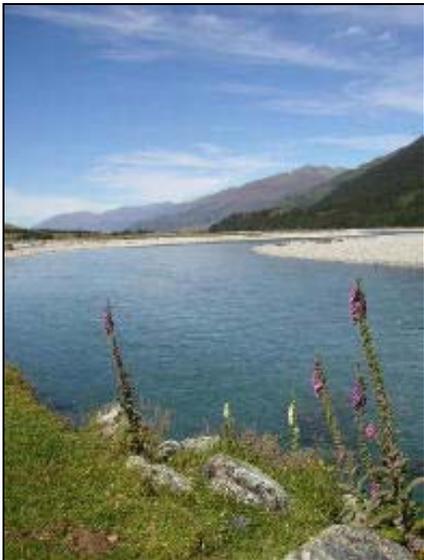
This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

Lee Smith

Getting Your 'Significant Other' in the Act

by
John Iding

How often have you thought, how great it would be if you could share your passion for fly fishing with your significant other. Oh, I know, some of you say 'no way ... I want to have fun' ... but then some of us would really enjoy sharing that special time with our partners. I have had the pleasure of sharing time on the water with my significant other Nancy several times now, and I will remember those times forever. Take the first time ... in New Zealand on the Young River near Wanaka, it was a long hike and we had to cross the Makarora River to get to the Young River. Nancy hadn't waded across a

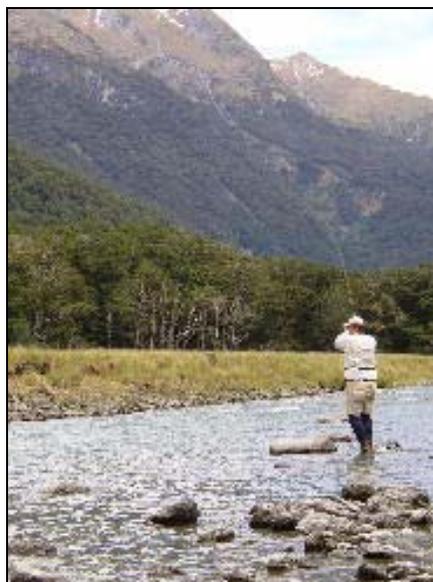


river before ... not a big river. She extended her faith in me (and my ability to create wading boots for her out of hiking boots!) to the limit and held my hand and started to cross ... up to the waist and hanging on ... she had a big smile on her face by the time we made the other side. Yes ... I did that! The hike up the Young River valley was lovely and an easy

hike. The ferns were tall and lush, and the path was worn as it had been used for hundreds of years. When we reached the first meadow, and the valley turned the river into a meadow stream, it was time to fish. She wasn't ready to fish but loved the valley and sat and started to draw ... in color



pencils that I had purchased for her just a couple days before. She was happy. I of course started to study the water and figure out where I wanted to fish and with what. The response was ... well ... New Zealand at it's best. 4-6 lb plus rainbows taking large dry flies. The river was ours ... no



one around. It was good. We hike up a little farther, and Nancy started to say 'fish there ... in that seam ... just on the slower water' ... wow ... she has a wonderful natural sense of where the fish are! A few days later we were on the Mataura River in the Gore area of the South Island. We hiked upstream along a lovely section of the river through farmland and spotted a few fish rising here and there. This was the place for Nancy to get into fish ... and our friend Selwyn was with us and spotted a fish in a backwater that he thought Nancy could cast to ... so off they went and I headed upstream. I have the picture ... one of my favorites ... with Nancy holding her first real fish ... a 5 lb brown ... that she caught and fought by herself ...



great job Nancy! Another fish followed that and she was having some fun. I realized that this may spoil her for the rest of her fishing days ... those 10" rainbows in the Sierra's were going to seem pretty small after this!

Then there was the place we stayed in the Gore area on a farm ... near the Mataura River ... and the owners said that the previous guests had tried and tried to catch the fish down at the bridge near the property. They were good fishermen ... and they just

couldn't get those big guys near the bridge. Nancy and I had to have a look ... and see these grand fish that were uncatchable. Nancy got up on the bridge to be the spotter and I headed down to the bank just above the pool. She said 'they are looking the other way!' ... and I stood and cast my favorite flying ant ... let it settle in the quiet pool ... and bang ... this large fish hit my fly. I was feeling the adrenaline and the pride of catching the tough ones ... about the same time the big guy ate the tippet and ran off. But good fun it was and I think Nancy thought she was a great spotter and I was a great fisherman. Such a connection is one of those things you just don't ever forget. Later that day, after fishing other waters, we stopped back at the bridge just to see what was going on. I cast my flying ant again ... and hooked another big fish in that pool. Two hookups in the same day at that pool ... feeling good. Nancy was the spotter ... and we did it as a team.

The thing I felt the most was a connection with Nancy about fishing ... when I am off fishing ... she will better understand what the passion is about ... the hunt ... the release ... the joy. That was one of the things we were able to bring back from our last trip the New Zealand. A great trip and one I would certainly recommend to members who have not been. Maybe I will be able to get Nancy to write a little article on that big one under the trees that got away!

Reflections on the River

by
Nancy Driscoll

The cool water's colors change as you weave your way along the bank. Glittering riffle playing dizzy light, long languid run of stone dappled blue, green pool with sandy floor. Collage of water, sand, stone and light....ever in flux. Never repeated. Stand quiet now and seek the elusive shadow of the thing you desire. See it shift slow in the security of deep shadow water. Run hard and fast in the swift sundance current. To see it is the big magic. Feel the anticipation grow as you cast your hope on the water and join the stream. Will you and the shadow become connected for a few precious moments and share the struggle for life? Ever in flux.

Classified

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678 or 'segmead@aol.com'

6 HP Evinrue Outboard in great shape ... long shaft ... used for Santana 22 sailboat... \$250 ... includes gas tank

Contact John @ 938-4116

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"Bronco" w/ dual chamber ... used once ...excellent condition ...\$600
Contact Leath @ 569-8559

Estate Sale (former member)

Fly rods: 8 weight graphite and glass...miscellaneous fly reels... vests...fly tying materials...books
call Russ Lockner @544-4133

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Scott Lewis

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Sindee & Paul Cuschieri, Brian Gillespie, Oscar Gonzalez, Henry Gronroos, Rodger Sartori and Patricia Lonacker, Eric Tellenbach and "welcome back" to Bill Laurie.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

The Editor

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month, so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version (color pictures!), have a look!

The Editor

Photo Contest

Just a friendly reminder, we are once again are having the Photo Contest this year. The general format of the contest is the same as the previous contests. I will be accepting photos until the January 2004 general meeting. At that point I will put together the submitted images in the categories of Most Humorous, Best Fish, and Best Overall. The images, along with ballots, will be

available at the February Dinner for viewing and member voting. Announcement of the winners will be in the March Cast with distribution of prizes being done at the March General meeting.

I can accept your photos via e-mail for those of you in who prefer to take photos via digital medium. My e-mail is: bake_bo@yahoo.com. Digitally, I can accept jpeg, gif, tiff, etc; just about any electronic format that's out there. If you'd like to send

me the actual photo, that's fine as well. I can scan them and return the photo to you post haste. I will accept them at the General Monthly meetings, or feel free to give me a call to get my mailing address.

Good luck and keep those camera shutters clicking!

Tight Lines,
Rick Baker

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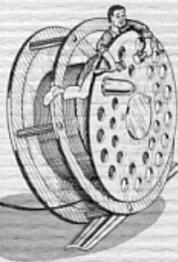


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Santa Rosa, CA 95405



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

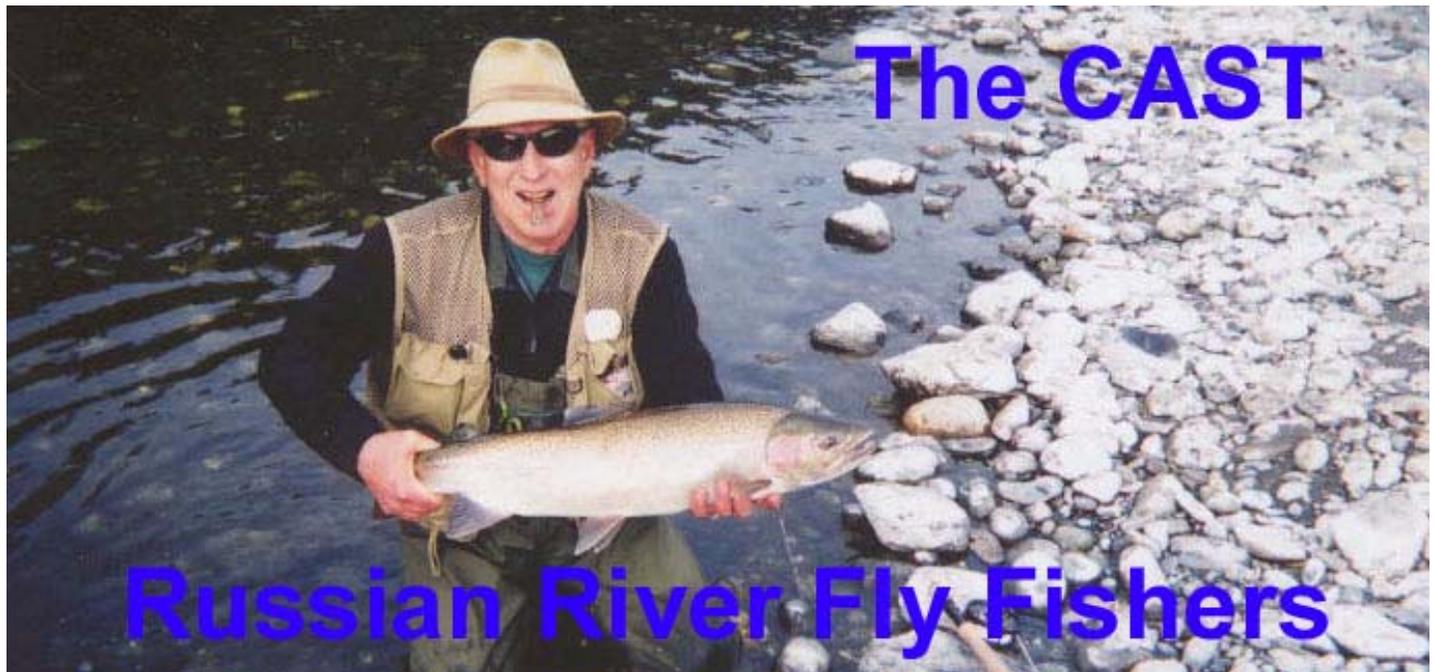
Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

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



Since 1976
For November 2003

Santa Rosa Area
Steelhead Fishing Time!

Volume 28 Number 11 November 2003
rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Meanderings by Marji Major

A word from our President

The leaves are falling - it must be Fall!

Mel Kreiger was the speaker at our October meeting. All of you who were there were treated to a very special presentation. Mel held our attention with his casting techniques along with several amusing stories and then after a short break, he shared slides and stories about his favorite fishing places in Argentina. What a treat for all of us who were there and if you weren't there, sorry you missed a very special evening.

Joe Banovich, our program coordinator, has Mike Foster scheduled for our November meeting and his program presents steelhead fishing in Northern California. The date is November 12th at the Vets Building in Santa Rosa. Mark your calendar now and tell your friends. Meetings are from 7 to 9 pm; most meeting evenings have fly tiers gathering earlier and they are very gracious about sharing their skills.

Also on the schedule for November is a pond cleaning day. This is a very necessary function we have to do if we want to maintain that very special area we have in Galvin Park. It would be nice to see a few new faces and the more helpers we have, the faster the job will get done. Lee Smith has volunteered to coordinate this activity and he has set aside Saturday, November 22nd, from 9 am until finished. Please contact him if you can help. The club has the equipment needed and you should wear old clothes and rubber boots.

There is going to be a Sports and Boat Show at the Cow Palace in San Francisco, January 21-25th. The club has been offered a free booth to promote the Russian River Fly Fishers. Even though several of the board members feel this would be worthwhile to our club, none of us will be able to attend. Therefore, I am encouraging any one of our members who would be interested in not only promoting the club but being able to attend this show, please contact me. You may also contact Western Sport Shop in San Rafael

and talk to Jim Edgar. There are several slots available at the booth and they will be assigned on a first come basis. Please give it some thought.

Lee Smith and several other club members had a fun time at the closer which you can read more about elsewhere in the CAST. I saw the pictures and it looked like a good place to be. Small group outings are a great way to learn new waters and techniques or re-experience old ones. If you have an idea for an outing, let it be known. Who knows, there may be others who have been thinking along the same lines. The next club outing will be the opener but that will not be happening until next April (unless Ken Magoon organizes another March outing to Pyramid Lake?? ... Editor).

The CAST is the voice of the Russian River Fly Fishers. If you have comments, ideas, things to share, please send them to the editor. The CAST deadline is the Monday after

the third Wednesday of the month. The club hopes to have a new editor soon as John would like to retire from the position. And speaking of the CAST, if you haven't paid your dues, you will no longer be on the mailing list until you re-up.

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The Editor

Coming Events

NOV

12th Membership Meeting
 19th Board Meeting
 22nd Casting Pond Cleaning
 26th Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

DEC

10th Membership Meeting
 17th No Board Meeting
 24th No Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

JAN

14th Membership Meeting
 21st Board Meeting
 28th Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

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Cover Photo: Lee Smith on the Trinity River (Photo by: Joe Craig)

Raffle Donations

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Lee Smith

November Meeting

Program

The RRFF Presents

Mike Foster

Mike Foster began fly fishing and fly tying over 50 years ago and grew up in Sonoma County fishing the Russian River. Mike worked with Mel Krieger for 25 years as a fly fishing instructor and wrote for Angler Magazine for four years. He has contributed articles to several magazines and is currently regional editor for Fly Fishing and Tying Journal.

Mike's program will illustrate various techniques for fishing salmon and steelhead in the waters of the Northwest.

Weds November 12th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

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Tom Lynn

The North Umpqua

September 2003

by

Paul Major

Dick and I pull into the Smith Springs wayside just after 7 am on the morning of our second day on the river. Relief strikes as we see no other rigs parked under the huge firs in the semi-darkness. The run is ours.

Even though we roused out in the dark, just coffee for me and tea for Dick, no time for breakfast, several rigs had left Susan Creek Campground before us. These were serious fishermen headed up or down river by headlight to be at their chosen water by first light.

Smith Springs is beautiful water. Two hundred yards of boulder-strewn complex fast current full of pockets for the fish to hold in and not much more than three or four feet deep anywhere. Ideal water for the floating line which I, perhaps obstinately, always fish on the Umpqua. Smith is not heavily fished, perhaps because there's no backcast room anywhere on it and an eighty-foot cast is required to cover the water. Spey rod water if God ever made any.

We unstrap the long rods from the magnetic carrier and scramble and slide down the near vertical trail to the river. Dick goes in at the middle while I wade and rock hop to the head of the run where it breaks from a wide shallow flat into the first holding water. I wade out to knee deep, light a cigarette and just stand there looking at the morning mist rising off the water. A fish rolls a hundred feet below me which snaps me to full attention; was it a steelhead or a big trout? It doesn't matter, it's showtime.

I start with barely fifteen feet of line out of the rod tip, plus twelve feet of leader and make the first cast,

lengthening the line by three feet every cast until I reach the limit of my comfortable range with the fly out about eighty feet. Then it's cast, swing, step downstream through the boulder and cobblestone bottom. Cast, swing, step ... and fifty casts later I'm working the fly through the area where the fish rolled. One, two, three casts alternating wet fly swing and greased line presentation ... nothing ... one more cast, the fly works through where I thought the fish would be, almost to the end of this swing ... THUD! Feel the weight, swing the rod back low and hard, YES! This fish lunges toward the far bank, stops, thrashes the surface ... and is gone.

I shakily reel in ... the fly's still there, the steelhead isn't ... so it goes, all's well, God is in his heaven, and so am I, back on the North Umpqua.

Trinity River Outing

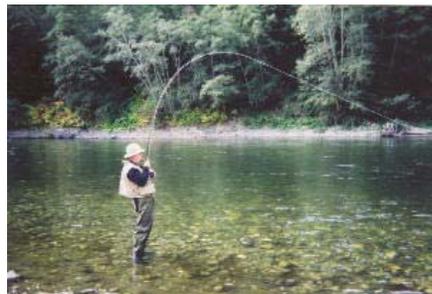
Season Closer

October 12 - 15, 2003

by

Lee Smith

"Do not believe everything you hear". Thursday morning started with me following Ken Magoon to the Eureka Flyshop to purchase \$60 worth of flies (we absolutely couldn't live without) and a map



with circles where all the fish would be. *We were on our way.* 45

minutes later we pulled into The Lazy Double B Campground. Shabby is a kind word for this place. You had to be half billygoat to access the camp sites. When I called for information, the guy assured me it was a very nice campground. What to do...then I remembered that



I had called The Willow Creek Chamber of Commerce a month earlier and was told of a beautiful campground on the Trinity at Willow Creek. I was told it only had 11 campsites on first come basis, so I nixed it. **Big mistake.** Phil arrived and we car-a-vanned back to Willow Creek to find this place. On a side street in Willow Creek (there being only 2) we stopped to ask a Highway Patrolman directions but were told to get off the street because we were blocking traffic. We did pull off the road, and then got the information from Officer Grump.

Well...the campground was beautiful and empty – overlooking the Trinity with fish jumping. Again... What to do??? We then drove back to the Double B to ponder the situation (since reservations had already been made) with no manager present. We decided to leave directions to the new campground on the front porch of the office and drove back to Paradise. Everyone eventually found it, but what a way to start!

By 4 or 5:00 there were 6 to 8 of us fishing below the camp catching way too many smoults with a few salmon rolling. Friday morning, Ken started fishing with a swim (I guess to familiarize himself with the river). Friday found some of us fishing the

Circles on the map (where the fish are) to no avail. But the Trinity is a very beautiful river to be on. After talking to a few drift boat guides with no hookups we determined the steelhead were few in the Willow Creek section.

Saturday some of us went to the Klamath. I went down stream from Weitchpec with Joe and Jackie to Johnsons Pool. Saving a fly that Rick Jorgensen gave me (beadhead brindle bug variation), my first cast of the day yielded a 29" 10 lb. Steelhead (WOW). Joe and I picked up a few half pounders after that.



Saturday night threatened rain and we all had a community pot stew that Jackie put together....seemed to feed about 15 of us.

Sunday about half of us packed up and the rest went up stream on the Trinity (on rumor from a guide) and caught some steelhead – half pounders and one salmon.

All in all it was a nice outing - exploring new waters, great weather, and catching a few fish. I hope we try it again next year.

Tubin' & The 2nd Rod

I had a chance to drift the Missouri River in Montana this past summer. Having a buddy along solved the problem of how to get back up river after drifting from Holter Dam down to the little town of Craig. I was told I would need two rods on the drift.

One for dries and one for nymphing the riffles.

Leon, who organized the trip, had built a rather complex rod holder that bolted to the oar lock frame on his pontoon boat and then clamped onto the rod. It left the rod unprotected from outside forces, which won't do for a klutz like me. Rocks, tree limbs, tules, etc. gravitate toward me whenever I have a rod out of its case. With that in mind I looked around the garage trying to come up with a rack that would keep the second rod in one piece and not cost an arm and a leg to build. I settled on a piece of 1-1/2 inch schedule 40 PVC pipe about 6 foot long and some 15 inch velcro straps. Both components are available at Home Depot.

I used a table saw and cut a slot about 3/4 inch wide the length of the tube. I widened the slot on one end to a full 1 inch and made the larger slot long enough for the rod handle to drop into with the reel pointing up. I glued an end cap to the end with the larger slot to keep everything from sliding backward. The narrow part of the slot won't let the reel foot slide to the front and keeps things from going out the other end.

The next thing was figuring out how to keep the rod rack and my South Fork connected as I was floating down the river. After some head scratching I laid the PVC on top of the pontoon, with the slot pointing up and resting against the oar lock frame. I marked the two risers on the PVC. I bracketed each riser with two 1/4 inch holes drilled into the PVC. The velcro straps I used had a slit in one end. I threaded the strap through one hole, then through the slit in the strap (otherwise I would lose the strap to the vagaries of Mother Nature). The strap continued around the riser pipe, through the second hole and continued inside the pipe to the original opening led outside

again and grabbed the wrap around the riser (the pipe is now secured to the riser). The strap continues on, passes under the PVC pipe and is long enough to come around the PVC passing over the slot and secures the rod in the pipe by attaching again to the velcro on the riser. After the first couple of hours on the river I decided that the passing of the strap over the slot was unnecessary.

I'm pleased to say the rack did its job and both the rods I used on the trip are resting safely in the closet at my house. I think the idea of a PVC rod holder could easily be modified for use with a "V" style float tube, a Fat Cat, Glide Rider, etc. It might even be possible to use it with a round float tube but I think that might be more awkward.

Chuck Perry

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris



Surf Candy

Materials Needed:

Hook: Mustad 34007 or 34011, size 8 - 2/0.

Thread: Nylon 0.005 or Danville's 3/0 - 6/0 white.

Weight: Non Lead, 0.015 - 0.030 or don't use any.

Body: Feather dusters from the dollar store.

White, Blue, Green.

Lower wing - white synthetic hair.

Lateral line - pink Krystal flash

Upper wing - a darker colored synthetic hair than lower wing.

Top - a darker colored synthetic hair than

lower wing

Krystal Flash: Pink.

Epoxy: five minute or 30 minute.

Paint: Scribbles from the craft store, black and natural.

Eyes: Stick on prismatic. (black on pearl most common, black on yellow next common).

Markings: Red, Green, olive, or black permanent markers as desired.

Recipe:

STEP 1:

Smash barb of hook and place in vise. Wrap five wraps non lead wire, one eye length back of eye of hook. Tie in nylon thread and wrap over non lead to lock it down. Wrap thread half way down hook shank. Put a small drop of Zap-A-Gap on thread and non lead to lock down.

STEP 2:

For all sizes of hooks, hair length is 2-1/2 times the length of the hook shank. On this size 8 hook, cut a length of white wing synthetic hair half the thickness you need and twice as long as you need. Place the wing

material behind your thread as it hangs by the thread bobbin.

STEP 3:

My faster version is to tie in the material half again as much as you need, in the middle of the hook shank, laying half of the material 2-1/2 times out over the hook bend, and wrapping thread toward hook eye then bringing the excess material sticking out over the eye of the hook back over the tied in material to form



a wing, wrapping the thread back down to the tie in point at middle of hook shank. Do the same with the other materials. That bullet proofs your fly and keeps the material from coming off the hook. Another version as follows: Take each end of the wing material clump and bring together around your thread. Hold the tips in your fingers with the tips of the wing material angled upwards and toward yourself.

STEP 4:

Take the thread up , over the hook shank and away from you. By maintaining the tension and an angle on the wing material while wrapping the thread, you will slide the wing material down to the hook shank, along the thread as you slowly wrap the thread around the hook shank. By holding the wing material on an angle you will keep the wing material on top of the hook shank while you bind in the synthetic wing materials. Only bind down with a few thread wraps.

STEP 5:

Repeat above for tying in a few pieces of Krystal Flash, then again for upper and top wing materials.

STEP 6:

The paint (Scribbles) I use from the craft store in place of the stick on eyes, white as the base and black for

the pupil. Let dry completely before putting on the epoxy. Put on prismatic stick on eyes, about three eye lengths back from the eye of the hook. Apply marker pens to form gills or any outlines desired or even darker back section on the top of the fly.

STEP 7:

Mix up some epoxy and coat the whole fly to just behind bend of hook. Keeps material from wrapping around hook bend. Dry by hand or a rotary drier moving it constantly so the epoxy doesn't form a ball or drip on one side of the fly.

Depending on how you tie the pattern, the materials and the fly line/leader setup used, you can place this pattern anywhere in the water column that bait fish may travel between feeding locations.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

CAST by e-mail

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

The Editor

A Message From Our Video Librarian

A special THANK YOU to those who have donated fishing videos and books to the club library. Over the past few months many of you donated items that have been added to our collection.

Video titles such as:

- Fishing the Dry Fly
- Anatomy of a Trout Stream
- Strategies for Selective Trout
- Cutthroat Life Cycle
- Fly fishing for Bass
- Hooked on Fly Tying
- Stonefly Patterns

...and books titles:

- The Joys of Trout
- Trout Magic
- Angler's Choice
- Casting and Fishing the Artificial Fly
- How to Fish from Top to Bottom
- Greased Line Fishing for Salmon and Steelhead

As you know the club owns dozens of books and videotapes available for loan. These items can be checked out at the monthly meeting and borrowed until the next meeting. Look for the table with the items on display, follow the simple directions and enjoy your loaned item for a full month.

Your Video Librarian – **Beckie Simmie**

The Casting Pond

Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. Now that Daylight Saving Time has changed, the Casting Clinics will be held by appointment on Sundays.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Rick & Scotty

Classified

8' pram or dingy \$350

Contact Stan Mead @ 546-0678 or 'segmead@aol.com'

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Contact John @ 938-4116

Pontoon Boat ...Bucks Bag

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Contact Leath @ 569-8559

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Scott Lewis

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Anthony Arzate, Max Broome, Dennis de Caccia and Darren Scaife.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

Steve Tubbs

Photo Contest

Just a friendly reminder, we are once again having the Photo Contest this year. The general format of the contest is the same as the previous contests. I will be accepting photos until the January 2004 general meeting. At that point I will put together the submitted images in the categories of Most Humorous, Best Fish, and Best Overall. The images, along with ballots, will be available at the February Dinner for viewing and member voting. Announcement of the winners will be in the March Cast with distribution of prizes being done at the March General meeting.

I can accept your photos via e-mail for those of you in who prefer to take photos via digital medium. My e-mail is: bake_bo@yahoo.com. Digitally, I can accept jpeg, gif, tiff, etc; just about any electronic format that's out there. If you'd like to send me the actual photo, that's fine as well. I can scan them and return the photo to you post haste. I will accept them at the General Monthly meetings, or feel free to give me a call to get my mailing address.

Good luck and keep those camera shutters clicking!

Tight Lines,
Rick Baker

The CAST

As you know, the Board of Directors is searching for a member who would be willing to take on the job of CAST editor. This can be a very rewarding position and can be a lot of fun. If you have any interest in this position, or have any questions about the job, please contact Marji Major.

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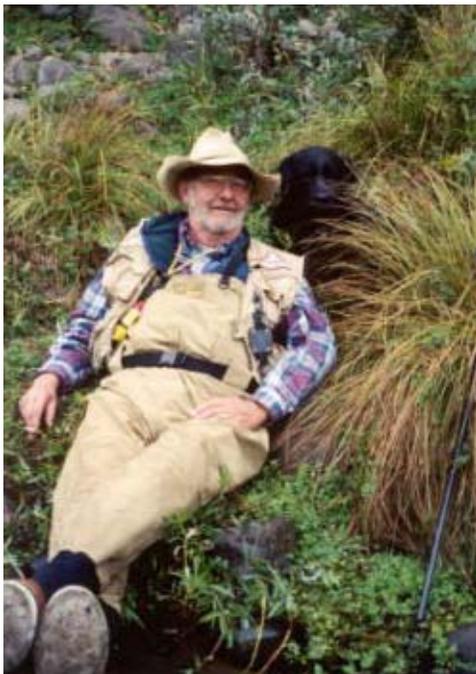
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The Trinity River

Russian River Fly Fishers
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Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

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Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

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



The CAST

Russian River Fly Fishers

Volume 28 Number 12 December 2003

rrflyfisher.tripod.com

Since 1976
For December 2003

Santa Rosa Area
Enjoy the Holidays!

Meanderings by Marji Major

A word from our President

In this season of Thanksgiving that is exactly what I want to do, give thanks. A few weeks ago, one of our members Sheila Tsarnas, called me to ask about the possibility of organizing a casting lesson for a group of 4-H-ers. I turned her over to Paul Major who enlisted Steve Tubbs and Ken Magoon to help with the project. After several phone calls a date was set and the groups got together at the casting pond November 16. From all I heard, and from the thank-you note we received, a good and productive day was had by all. In addition to the club's rods, Steve, Ken and Paul brought their own equipment so that everyone had lots of practice. And I'm not talking about a small group - there were 18 kids plus parents! Thanks to everyone who put this wonderful afternoon together.

My next thank you goes to the determined group who showed up November 22 for our annual pond

cleaning. Lee Smith, project coordinator, had already pulled the drain so what was left was a several years of mud and sludge (last year's cleaning was rained out). Jim Hummell and Paul Major brought out power washers and the rest of us grabbed push brooms and squeegees and started moving the muck to the drain. There was so much muck that the drain kept clogging but with much determination and a lot of fortitude we managed to clean the pond "better than it has ever been cleaned" according to one of the members who has participated in this endeavor before. So many thanks to Steve and Nick, Becky and Alan, Rick, Terry, Greg, Jim, Batch, Ralph, Hector, Sandy, Paul and our leader Lee. A few more broom pushers would have shortened our project but we managed to get it done by 3 pm with a break for pizza about noon. The consensus of the group was that this is a project that absolutely needs to be done once a year.

Next I would like to thank Joe Banovich for the quality of speakers he has procured for our meetings. I have enjoyed all their programs and

those of you who were not at the last meeting with Mike Foster missed a very informative presentation showing us how to fish rather than where to fish. Elsewhere in the Cast is the announcement of this month's program. Please join us; you won't be disappointed.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce the RRFF's annual dinner which again this year be held at the Druid's Hall in Santa Rosa on Saturday, February 14. Plans are already started to make this evening another success. The hall has been secured, the speaker booked, the kitchen crew activated and we are all ready to go. The committee is actively working to put together the best raffle ever. We are going to limit reservations due to the size of the hall and the facilities available to us. Please, if you send in a reservation, enclose your payment. No payment,

no reservation. If you find that you can attend at the last minute, you may call me to see if there is space available. If any member would like to be part of the festivities before the festivities, please get in touch with me. As usual, we can always use more help.

And one more bit of news before I close - I am hearing rumors about a monthly fishing group to scout our local areas that can be accessed easily in an afternoon. I am sure that we will hear more about this as the plans materialize. I am privileged to have such a great group to work with this year.

Thank you and happy holidays to all of you.

Coming Events

DEC

- 3rd Fly Tying Meeting
 10th Membership Meeting
 17th No Board Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

JAN

- 14th Membership Meeting
 21st Board Meeting
 28th Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

FEB

- 14th Annual Dinner Meeting
 18th Board Meeting
 25th Fly Tying Meeting
 Suns Casting Clinic

CAST Editor

Beginning with the January edition of the CAST, James Hummell will be taking over the job of CAST Editor. Please forward all materials for the CAST to James at jameshu@sonic.net.

It has been my pleasure to be your CAST Editor these past three years.

John Iding

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CAST Archives: Bob Sisson (525-1976)
Club e-mail List: Scott Lewis (527-9168)
Video Library: Beckie Simmie (527-8844)
Refreshments: David Franzman (578-9317)

The CAST is published monthly and provided to members of the Russian River Fly Fishers. Contributions to the CAST are welcome and should be sent to jfinet@vom.com or John Iding @ 1255 Stephens Gate Road, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Deadline for submission of newsletter material, classifieds, etc. is **5 calendar days after the date of the Board Meeting** each month. Board members and interested guests note that the Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7 pm, Round Table Pizza, Montgomery Village, unless notified otherwise.

Any opinion offered in the CAST is that of the author and does not necessarily represent the view of the Russian River Fly Fishers, its members or directors.

Cover Photo: Joe Banovich on Lower Sac (Photo by: Unknown)

December Meeting Program

The RRFF Presents

Frank Pisciotta

Frank's program, "FlyFishing Opportunities in the Truckee-Tahoe Area", will entail the Truckee and Little Truckee Rivers, Martis and Milton Lakes...and other small creeks and streams in the area...named and unnamed.

Frank R. Pisciotta is one of California's top, veteran, independent, flyfishing guides. A native Californian, he has pursued trout within the state for over 40-plus years, from the lakes & streams of urban Marin county to the 10,000'+ John Muir Wilderness for the state fish...the golden trout. After graduation from the University of San Francisco, 1968-69 "on-the-ground" service in Vietnam & half-a-year touring Europe as a civilian he had a brief two year stint in the corporate world. He then became involved in a family craft business on the north slope of San Francisco's Telegraph Hill. He started flyfishing in the spring of 1970...he has done such, exclusively, since.

During his first decade of flyfishing Frank became very familiar with Northern California waters; most especially the McCloud (...prior to Nature Conservancy arrival) and Upper Sacramento Rivers, in addition to Hat Creek. In 1979 Frank personally built his current residence

in Truckee; focusing on the area's, at the time, unbeknownst, quality flyangling waters. There, in 1984, he established his *Thy Rod & Staff* guide service. Starting in 1992 his guide service became affiliated with the *Orvis Endorsed Lodges, Outfitters and Guides (ELOG)* program. He remains in the program and is the only *Orvis Endorsed Guide* in the Lake Tahoe basin and northern Sierra. In 2001, prior to an interview, an outdoors radio-talk show host introduced Frank as ... "the Dean of Guides in the Truckee Area." In 1996, encouraged by repeat clients, friends & family because of his adeptness at instruction, he started the *Reel School of FlyFishing*.

Weds December 10th

Bring a Friend

Fly Tying at 6 pm ... Meeting at 7 pm

The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa

Joe Banovich

Lap Desk

I built a lap desk for tying in front of the TV, (two commercials = one finished fly). I normally use a Norvise but I have been tying #16 through #20 flies and the lack of the midge jaws for it made tying these sizes a little tough. Another trip to my scrap pile was in order. I came across a discarded plastic cutting board that measures about 12" by 18". I washed the dust off and thought I had it made. I dug out an old pedestal vise, went back upstairs and soon discovered that tying with this set up wasn't much fun. Things disappeared off the desk, scissors, bodkins, materials etc. . even as I was tying to say nothing of when the lap desk was sitting by my chair and unattended. Another trip downstairs was in order.

I happened upon several scraps of oak base board about 1/4" thick and 1 1/2" tall. I cut and pre-drilled the baseboard and the cutting board and in the process discovered that brass screws twisted off before they could be screwed all the way in. Secure in the thought that all was now in order I trundled back up stairs. After a couple hours in front of the TV I discovered on going to bed that I had an imprint of the base of the lap desk on my thighs. I knew it had gotten heavy but I was tough and could take it till my wife started pointing and laughing. The pedestal was heavier than I thought!

How do you secure a vise to a lap desk? A clamp was out of the question for obvious reasons. I didn't want to thread the stem of the vise so I could bolt the vise in place. A trip to the hardware store located a nut that accepted a 3/8" bolt and was about 1 1/2" long!! Aha!! Problem solved. On getting back home I discovered the stem of the vise was too large to fit in the threaded hole of the coupling(?). I drilled the threads out to fit the stem of the vise and drilled the desk appropriately to locate the vise and presto, a 6 lb. weight was off my lap when I discarded the pedestal. Ah, what relief!! Back to tying in front of the TV.

It turned out that everything was not sweetness and light. My wife has a very good sense of smell and was annoyed by the aroma of head cement especially after the second time I spilled it when moving the desk from my lap to the adjacent TV table/tray.

Back to the drawing board er, scrap heap. A 1/4" piece of plywood veneer was soon cut to size to fit snugly into the desk surround. I spaced it up off the surface of the desk with some 1/2 wood spacers that I glued to the bottom of the veneer. Appropriate holes were cut in

the veneer to hold glue and various size spools of this and that. While I was at it I added a couple of 3/4" posts to the rear section of the desk. One post to act as a bobbing holder and one to store spare spools for a Norbobbin.

A couple more mods to the desk are in the offing but as yet nothing more has been done. No more glue spills have happened and the various tying tools and materials have all stayed in place while tying or at rest between sessions in front of the TV.

One last comment on tying in front of the TV. KEEP MATERIALS FOR ONLY ONE PATTERN AT THE DESK. My wife discreetly suggested that my area was unsightly and a real mess. She was right. Now a lidded plastic box from Wall Mart sits under the TV tray holding the lap desk when it is not in use. Both lap desk and plastic box can disappear in a flash if company is expected or arrives without being announced.

Chuck Perry

Rod Building Class

Earlier this year, Charlie Schillinsky conducted a rod building class that was met with great enthusiasm, appreciation, and worth-while results. He has again agreed to conduct a similar class, plus the addition of an advanced methods class that will include decoration and customization. The time will be February or early March - a final date and place has yet to be determined. Details will follow at the December meeting and future articles in the Cast.

Don Price

Monthly Fly Tying Meeting

Our Fly Tying meeting is held the fourth Wednesday of each month and starts at 7 pm at Tom Campbell's home (with occasional exceptions ... see Coming Events): 1475 Lupine Drive, Santa Rosa. Both new and experienced tiers meet to share information and techniques. Call first so you can get one of the kits Terry Faris puts together which includes the materials necessary to tie the fly of the evening (\$3 or so). Call Tom Campbell (576-0284), or Terry Faris (539-4354) for information. Should you have email and would like to get information about what is happening, please drop a note to Tom 'tashton@sbcglobal.net'.

Terry Faris



POPSICLE

Materials Needed:

HOOK: 36890 size 2/0 - 8.

THREAD: Nylon sewing thread 0.005. Finish head off with a color that compliments the fly with 6/0 Danville's thread.

FLASH: Tinsel and Krystal Flash

MARABOU: Different colors- Orange, Purple, Red, Chartreuse, Black.

HEAD: Use waterproof marking pen to color head

Recipe:

STEP 1:

Mash the barb on the hook. Start the thread 1/4 inch back of the return of the wire, near the eye of the hook and tie it down. Tie in the tinsel flash gold side up. (When you make a wrap, the silver side will show). Let the bobbin hang at this point and wrap the flash back in close turns to

the bend of the hook and back to the tie in point.

STEP 2:

Tie in a marabou feather by it's tip, hold the tip in your right fingers and stroke the fibers back with your left fingers. Lay the tip on top of the shank of the hook and tie in, let bobbin hang at this point. Wrap marabou around the hook going away over the top and coming around under the hook shank toward you. Try to get about three wraps, stroking the fibers of the marabou back with you left hand fingers as you make the wraps so the fibers don't get wrapped under the center shaft of the marabou. Tie off and cut excess marabou. Let bobbin hang at this point.

STEP 3:

Take a few pieces of Krystal flash, stagger the ends, loop the strands around the tying thread and slide them to the top of the hook. Tie in place.

STEP 4:

Tie in by the tip another marabou feather as you did with the first, tie it off and cut excess marabou. Let bobbin hang.

STEP 5:

Tie in another color of marabou as you did with the second marabou feather, Tie off and cut excess marabou. That should bring you close to the eye of the hook. If you are tying with clear nylon thread,



wrap a neat head, tie off and cut thread. Tie in the 6/0 thread over the nylon thread in a color to match the

last marabou feather or just use a black waterproof marking pen to cover the nylon thread. Coat the head with "Hard As Nails" fingernail polish to seal the head.

For most of winter Steelhead fishing, present the Popsicle using the traditional down and across approach. A type 4 or 5 density sink tip with 4 foot or less of leader suits most of the water fished. For lighter flow use 2 or 3 sink type heads. Used in swift water, the Popsicle tends to collapse, turning the vibrant pattern into nothing more than a stick. Try to hold back a little through the drift and swing, to animate the pattern. If you hook something alive, hang on and play your fish with skill. Being successful at fly fishing for winter Steelhead is measured in thousands of casts.

Questions or requests? Contact Terry Faris

CAST by e-mail

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

The Editor

The Casting Pond

Come on out for a refresher on the basics, or tune up for whatever level you are at. Now that Daylight Saving Time has changed, the Casting Clinics will be held by appointment on Sundays.

Location: Dan Galvin Park at the intersection of Bennett Valley Road and Yulupa.

Snail Alert!!

According to Carlo at Western Sports Shop, our local waters are facing an infestation which, to paraphrase Carlo, "will make whirling disease look like a head cold".

This threat to our waters is the New Zealand Mud Snail... a very small and seemingly innocuous critter, (from the pictures Carlo showed me it just looks like... a snail), but an extremely prolific little varmint it evidently is. Once established in a piece of water it, well, proliferates, which is what prolific things do, I guess. And then it grazes on any and all aquatic plant life it encounters.

You can see where this leads... a kazillion snails munching away on the weeds... soon no weeds, then no aquatic insects who live in the weeds, then ultimately no trout who live on the insects. Carlo says he understands that this snail has already infested the fabled Armstrong Spring Creek in Montana and has destroyed the PMD hatch for which Armstrong was famous.

To get to the bottom line... THE NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL IS NOW IN PUTAH CREEK!! Once established there is currently no way to get rid of it, BUT... it is essential that we do everything possible to keep it from spreading to other waters. These things don't walk cross-country and they can't fly... the most likely way they could get from Putah Creek to, say, Hat Creek is by hitching a ride on your

footgear. Carlo recommends that anyone fishing Putah Creek either dedicate one pair of boots to Putah only, not to be used in any other waters, or at the least sterilize any boots you use in Putah Creek thoroughly (strong chlorine bleach solution ??) before using those boots in any other waters.

People, this is serious business. I just learned of this, so I don't have any more details, but give Carlo a call at Western Sports Shop in Santa Rosa or drop by and talk to him... he's been doing the research and can give you more and better information. And Carlo... thanks for the heads-up!

Paul Major

(PS ... the following web site has some additional information ... www.wildlifefiles.com/Putah.html

...The Editor)

Summer Thoughts

by
John Iding

The sun warmed me up (nice thought just now!) on a brisk summer morning and the wind was down, and the hike along the Maddison River downstream of \$3 Bridge felt good. There were no rising fish to be seen, but that never prevents me from putting on a dry fly and prospecting. I admit it, I am a dry fly affectionado. Which fly can sometimes be the challenge; the green thingie, the tan mayfly, but on this day I decided to go with a size 8 golden stone. The water was big and fast and a larger fly seemed to make sense. I studied the water and looked for the slots and breaks where I thought a hungry fish might reside. Casting a long leader with 6x tippet, what I always seem to start with, was the plan. It wasn't long before a rather nice drift brought up a large rainbow to look, but refuse. Fussy fish, I mumbled as I moved on. Not long after another likely spot produced a swirl and I set the hook,

felt the weight, and also felt the loss of weight! That bruiser snapped the fly and tippet like it was butter. Once wasn't enough, I had to do it again before I decided I should be using something stronger, and so I tied on 5x and another golden stone and continued.

The fish were being shy, but the fly was right, and the time for patience was ripe. After many more casts through lovely water, I saw another nice fish take and set up for a wonderful ride. A strong pull against the faster water, testing the tippet. A lightening fast run out into the fastest water and back, in a flash. Keep that slack under control! This 19" rainbow eventually was mine, and I slipped the hook free and admired the chunky fish. And so the day progressed.

Two more fish took the fly, literally, and made the tippet selection seem a poor choice. So on went the 4x and I went back at it. Two more fish rose and were played and released. After taking a little break sitting on the bank and just admiring the Montana big sky, I switched to a caddis emerger fly that I had recently tied and wanted to try. First cast to a seam behind a large rock produced a big swirl and a grand rainbow was on and eventually landed. It was a size 16 caddis emerger (Ken Magoon ... you know the one!), with 5x tippet (see ... I learn slowly... but it was slower water!). Now this was fun! The hike continued down to the end of the \$3 Bridge property and back again. That emerger would float on top and get action, sink and swing and get action, and also just sink in the faster water and get action. Three ways to fish it in the same cast ... and the fish seemed to like it all three ways. There were those moments wading out to that rock in the middle of the river, when I kept

telling myself "you don't have to go out that far!" It was a great day on a great piece of water. As evening approached, I headed back to my tent camp at Wade Lake, a wonderful little campground not far from the Maddison. This campground is not very large but it is in a lovely valley with moose and other critters frequenting the campsites. I remember the time I was camped there and sitting in my chair reading later one afternoon, and I heard some munching. I thought it was a dog or something and looked over my shoulder to see the biggest moose I had ever seen 10 feet away and chewing up the flowers in my camp spot. I froze, until I figured out if I was in danger or not. I was in danger if I moved too fast! I did slowly move out of the chair and over to the non-moose side of my car, and watched with some relief. That moose just finished off the flowers and then moved on to the next camp spot and started on those flowers. Soon a group of campers followed that moose at some distance, everyone snapping pictures. That was cool!

A camp dinner was prepared followed with a little more reading, and the day was complete. I headed off to dreamland, dreaming about the next day's adventures, again on the Maddison. It doesn't get much better than that! Summer 2004, I am ready to go back!

Classified

6 HP Evinrue Outboard in great shape ... long shaft ... used for Santana 22 sailboat... \$200 ... includes gas tank
Contact John @ 938-4116

Pontoon Boat ...Bucks Bag "Bronco" w/ dual chamber ... used once ...excellent condition ...\$600
Contact Leath @ 569-8559

Members who use e-mail!

We have been compiling a list of members with e-mail addresses to be used for Club announcements. If you would like to be included on this list, send an e-mail message to Scott Lewis (slewis95407@msn.com). Scott will periodically send out an updated list to the group. Save the message and use it to 'reply to all' when you have an announcement for membership. Don't forget to let Scott know if you change your e-mail address!

Scott Lewis

In Memorium

Hirk Williamson, a member of the Russian River Fly Fishers, recently passed away.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members: Thomas Davenport, Norman Jack, Steve Miller, Marvin & Roni Stautsand Kenneth Young.

Don't hesitate to contact any of the Board members with questions you may have. See you at the meetings or at the casting pond! Welcome aboard.

Steve Tubbs

Raffle Donations

This is just a reminder that we can always use donations of equipment or just about anything related to fly fishing for the Club raffles. All donations are welcome. Please submit your donation items to Lee Smith.

Lee Smith

Photo Contest

Due to a limited response to the Year 2003 Photo Contest, we have decided to eliminate the competition this year. Perhaps after another year or so, the photos will accumulate and we can again have a photo contest. Thanks to those who did respond.

Rick Baker

RRFF Website

'rrflyfisher.tripod.com'

The CAST is available to view or download from our web site each month, so if you want to see what it looks like in the e-mail version (color pictures!), have a look!

The Editor

Fishing Access

July 1st has come and gone and those fishing access plaques you have are in need of renewal. Please contact Tom Lynn at the next meeting to pay your fee and update your plaques. If you think you will not be using your access plaque ... pleasure return it to Tom so the club will not have to keep producing new plaques. Local fishing access is a significant feature of the membership to the Russian River Fly Fishers ... so don't miss this opportunity.

Tom Lynn

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CAMERON

Garrett

Thank you, thank you so much for the fly casting lessons. The kids had a great time. None of them had ever had that experience before. A few of them told me, "I could do this all day long!" The instruction was great. You were all so nice to give of your time. Thank you for allowing us to do this. Sheila

Dear Mr. Major, Mr. Tubbs, and Mr. Magoon,

Jonathan Andrew

Thank you for your time. We appreciate you teaching us fly fishing.

Alexander Valley 4-H Fishing Project
Logan Lafranchi

James Paul Miles
Chenox
Simeon
Max Kinsman
Matthew Jillian

Recently, Sheila Tsarnas organized a group of 16 kids from the 4H group in Santa Rosa to visit the RRFF casting pond and receive casting instruction from three of our members. Paul Major, Steve Tubbs and Ken Magoon volunteered to provide instruction and it appeared that all of the kids had a great time and a few of them continued casting after the official instruction had ended. The kids sent a thank you card to show their appreciation for the time spent by our members. Great work guys! **The Editor**

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



Address correction requested

Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Occupation _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Signature _____



Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member:

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

Existing membership renewal:

- (Single membership - \$40 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Family membership - \$45 annual dues payable July 1st)
- (Junior membership - \$25 annual dues payable July 1st)

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

Dues run from July 1st to June 30th

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