

NCCFFI Report for Clubs, February, 2023  
Mark Rockwell

We invite all of you to the Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton, CA., February 24, 25 & 26th. We will be there in force with our normal booth meeting fly fishers and referring them to all of you, our clubs, so they can visit and consider joining. Beyond this club communication effort, we'll be again teaching fly tying to kids, with a focus on qualifying Scouts for the Fly Fishing Merit Badge. That will include tying 2 different flies, learning 3 knots, and doing some casting. In addition to our "in-the-building" efforts, we'll also be supporting a large host of fly casting instructors who will be teaching casting to the event visitors. This will take place out on the grass lawn area which is located behind the pavilion of the show through the back gate and the right. Look for the signs for 'Casting lessons'



A major part of the show for us is introducing club casting teachers to the **Fly Casting Skills Development Program (FCSD)**. It is a fun way to improve casting skills for all fly fishers in a self-paced fashion. There are now four levels from beginner to advanced: Foundation, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Sarah Trenchel and Russ Carpenter will be on site to teach club casting teachers how to set up the course and the process to actually teach the various casts needed to pass the different levels. Both Sarah and Russ are certified casting instructors from the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club in S.F.

This specific program will be taught on Saturday the 25th starting at 9:30 in the morning. **Please contact Clay Hash, clayhash.fft@gmail.com, to register to attend.** We can only take 6 people at a time. It's possible we'll have more than one session, so it's important to register so we can advise you of the time you should be there for your session. Clubs that have started this program for members all say they have really enjoyed the casting sessions, and they are learning a lot. If you pass one or more of the levels - Bronze, Silver, Gold - you can apply and receive a certificate and pin from FFI. . **We promise you, it will be both fun and rewarding!**

Another activity we will be doing is our **Club President Luncheon**. It will be hosted starting at noon, location to be determined, but it will be at the show location. Our Booth will have location details, so stop by for directions.

**We invite either the club President, or, if they can't make it, a club representative. We want your club to attend to meet & share information about your club, and hear what NCCFFI has prepared for 2023 activities.** We have developed many exciting learning programs - casting, tying, fishing and techniques for difficult fishing locations. **Clay Hash, Founder of Fly Fishing Traditions**, will present at various locations in our region in 2023. All of these activities are designed to be utilized by our clubs and members, and, we promise, they will be both educational and fun. We'll cover details of locations, times and dates for all of these at the lunch.

For conservation, a major focus of NCCFFI, we'll give you a glimpse of what we're working on to improve & recover our watersheds and fisheries. We'll also present a wonderful short video on what will be happening on the Klamath dam removal & restoration process that starts in 2023 - this year!! We are focused on improved fisheries for all fly fishers.

**Please contact Mark Rockwell, mrockwell1945@gmail.com, to register for the lunch.** We need to know who and how many will attend so we can provide adequate food and drinks, as well as enough space to have a restful and enjoyable time. It will be a fun time!

Mark Rockwell, President, NCCFFI