

The Cast



Russian River Fly Fishers

Sonoma County California
Volume 47, Number 2
February, 2019

Mouth of the Russian River at Jenner

Since June 1977
Visit our website at
www.rflyfisher.org

President's Message

Our Cioppino Dinner is Coming Soon!

The month of February is known for steelheading on the Russian River, and also for our RRFF Annual Cioppino Dinner. For those of you who are new to the club, the dinner is our biggest social event and fund raiser of the year, and it is an evening you will not want to miss. The event will be held the evening of Saturday February 16 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa. We will be serving excellent food and drinks, with Steve Tubbs leading the seafood cioppino cooking crew and John Frenzel's team manning the barbecues to create delicious steak and

chicken dishes. As in previous years, we will be having a raffle and silent auction of fly fishing-related items as well as valuables and services of general interest. And of course, the best part of the evening is a chance for you to get together with our 152 members to trade fish stories with friends you may not have seen in years.

So right now you are probably asking yourself, "What can I do to make this year's event a success?" Glad you asked! Here are some tips from your Prez:

- **Buy your dinner tickets early** – To prevent over or under purchasing food, our Dinner Planning Committee has to make a guess each year on how many guests will be

attending. If you know you will be attending, why not buy them today and do us all a favor? You can mail in a check using the form at the end of this newsletter. Or easier yet, go to our website at rfflyfisher.org and use your credit card.

- **Donate valuable items for the raffle and silent auction** – The majority of funds raised by this event come from items that members donate. Those funds are used to support our monthly meetings, casting pond activities and education programs. Check the Donations article in this issue to find the contacts who will accept your donations.
- **Participate in the Raffle and Silent Auctions** – You know you are going to see things there that you want – bring cash for raffle tickets and your credit card for the auction items. You get the goods and you help fund club projects – that’s a win-win!
- **Volunteer at the Dinner** – The dinner this big takes a lot of work, *and with many volunteers we can spread the load* so that all members can enjoy the evening. Contact Ed Barich at ebarich@sonic.net or 707-539-4608 and I will find something for you to do.

But the most important tip of all, show up for the dinner and have a great evening.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

~ Ed Barich



RRFF General Meeting

There will be **No General Meeting** this month. Please join us at the annual **Cioppino Dinner** this Saturday, February 16th at the **Veteran’s Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa!**



Steelhead In The Classroom

February 2019 Update

FISH ON! 2019 Steelhead in the Classroom Update

This is a *busy, busy, busy* week for RRFF coaches - 40 plus 10-gallon tanks and insulating foam are being assembled at the SCWA's Westside Water Education Center near the Wohler Bridge on the Russian River.

This is in preparation for the New Teacher and Coach Training **Steelhead in the Classroom and Aquatic Wild Workshop**. This is a comprehensive all-day training for new teachers raising steelhead in their classrooms being held Saturday 1/26/19.

Teachers and coaches will be trained in the full responsibilities of raising steelhead fry and releasing them into tributaries of the Russian River in Sonoma County. Coaches will be matched with teachers and teachers will return to their classrooms loaded with tank, chillers, gravel and under-gravel filters- all the hardware necessary to set up, and incredible printed material, posters and literally books of information to use.

Additional emphasis will be on understanding how to access and use the incredible on-line curriculum provided by CDFW for the program and on games and interactive learning.

RRFF's greatly value the relationship we have with teachers and children in steelhead life-cycle training and in understanding and being stewards of the watershed. The Steelhead in the Classroom program offers real hands-on science to hundreds of young children each year- they are the future!

This year, we have donated \$1,000, purchasing 40 tanks and many of the chillers to keep the tanks between the ideal fishy 45 - 55 degrees F and have 15 coaches this year.

Many, many thanks are due to the members and volunteers of the RRFFs! Thanks to all and everyone wish the coaches great successes again.

~ Karl Joost
Coordinator for RRFF Coaches
707-483-6172

Santa Rosa Fishing Tackle, Duck Decoy, Sporting Collectible Show

Friday, March 8, 2019
Saturday, March 9, 2019

Show Hours -
Fri. 9 am to 5 pm & Sat. 8 am to 3 pm.

Santa Rosa Veterans Building
1351 Maple Avenue in Santa Rosa, off Hwy 12
across from the Santa Rosa Fairgrounds.

...No Guns & No Ammo...

For more information, call

Red Johnson,

707-539-3662, cell: 707-888-7935

email: warrenjo@pacbell.net

www.redsshow.com

Join the RRFF on Facebook

We currently have **930 members** on our RRFF Facebook page.

You can keep up with the RRFF and our fly fishing and conservation community by joining us at:

<http://www.facebook.com/russianriverflyfishers>

Check out the Russian River Fly Fishers
on the Internet at

www.rrflyfisher.org

for outings information, RRFF events,
member news, photos and more!

RFF Winter Fly Casting Clinics

The RRFF Casting Pond in Dan Galvin Park

Held on the first and third Saturday of each month,
from noon until 2:30 pm (weather permitting).

Our Winter Fly Casting Clinics are **FREE** and are **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!** Beginners are always welcome.

We do have some equipment available for your use at the Casting Pond if you do not have your own.

This is a perfect opportunity for you to fine-tune your casting skills or learn new techniques. Our volunteer instructors can help you at whatever skill level you find yourself. Our casting pond is a remarkable venue, and one of only four in the entire state.

Won't you join us?

~ Steve Tubbs, Casting Instruction Director

Calendar of Events

February

- 2 Fly Casting Clinic – RRFF Casting Pond (noon)
- 4 Rod Building – Julian Garrett
- 9 Lake Sonoma Steelhead Festival
- 16 RRFF Cioppino Dinner – 5:00 pm
- 22-24 Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show

March

- 2 Fly Casting Clinic – RRFF Casting Pond (noon)
- 8-9 Red's Show- Santa Rosa Vet's (9:00 – 5:00)
- 13 RRFF General Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 14 Thursday Fly Casting Clinic – 4:30 pm
- 20 RRFF Board Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 21 Thursday Fly Casting Clinic – 4:30 pm
- 21-24 Clear Lake Outing – (Chris Castellucci)
- 28 Thursday Fly Casting Clinic – 4:30 pm

Visit www.rrflyfisher.org for a complete list of upcoming events!

RRFF Board of Directors

President: **Ed Barich**
539-4608 ebarich@sonic.net

Vice President: **Doug Mackay**
575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Secretary: **Vacant**

Treasurer & Webmaster: **Mike Spurlock**
(415)-599-6138 mikerrff@gmail.com

Casting Instruction Chairman, Facebook: **Steve Tubbs**
765-1787 steve@inspiri2.com

Program Chairman: **Pending**

Library Master / Outings: **Don Shaw**
664-8573 donjanshaw@comcast.net

Outings Chairman: **Chris Castellucci**
763-2017 chrslucci@aol.com

Member at Large: **Mike Kast**
538-9762 michaelrkast@gmail.com

Membership Chairman: **Doug Mackay**
575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Member at Large, Casting for Recovery: **Paul Matzen**
795-8885 ggbriidgeman@att.net

Raffle Assistant: **Ken Young**
539-9649 wlk4fun@sbcglobal.net

Conservation Chairman: **Vacant**

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wrisley**
823-5572 gwriss@yahoo.com

Member at Large: **Jeff Cratty**
765-2404 rjcratty@yahoo.com

Member at Large: **Karl Joost**
978-3897 joosts@pacbell.net

Coordinators

Day Fishers & Fly Tying: **Lee Soares**
974-2651 frommewee@comcast.net

Women's Activities: **Susan Bostwick**
815-5926 shbgold@gmail.com

Casting Pond Steward: **Doug Mackay**
575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**
527-9607 fsh2xsbc@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor: **Marcus Pipkin**

RAFFLE DONATIONS

for

RRFF Cioppino Dinner Raffle and Silent Auction

Saturday, February 16th, 2019

Contact one of the following Board members to have your donation picked up:

Gregg Wrisley, 823-5572 or gwriss@yahoo.com

Doug Mackay and Jeff Cratty cleaning the Casting Pond...

Doug Mackay, 575-5709 or demackay@sonic.net

All of the following contributions are desirable:

- **Fly Fishing Gear** and all types of fishing accessories. (Other fishing gear welcomed.)
- **Fly Tying Vises and Tools.**
- **Prams, Pontoons, or Float Tubes** (Must be in very good and safe condition.)
- **Camping, Hiking, and Recreational Equipment.**
- **Art Work and Books.**
- **Products and services** (from your, or a friend's, business.)
- **Guided Fishing Trips** or access to private fishing water.
- **Spa Sessions or Cosmetology Services.**
- **Food Items or Wine.**
- **Tickets to Sporting Events or Souvenirs.**
- **Dinners or stays at B and B's.**
- **Fun Family Activities.**

Include donor's name and description of the item donated. (Unfortunately, we won't be able to accept RV's, autos or large boats.) The RRFF Cioppino Dinner is our only fund-raising event of the year. Your donations and your participation always make this evening a memorable one! Make plans now to attend...

~ The Raffle Donations Committee

The following was provided by Mike Spurlock...from one of his guides...

 **Scott Young** November 6 at 5:31 PM · 🧑🏻

A fish story by me
So after a long day of chopping wood getting lumber and some tractor work I decide make a few casts cause well river looked good . Didn't feel like putting on waders as it was 345 and would be dark soon so grabbed my rubber boots and headed across river in the jet . Upon jumping into the water I realize one boot has a rather substantial leak and that I was gettin soaked grrrr thought I fixed that leak 😊 . The wind was picking up a bit and had some bite to it yes winter is coming . Oh well I won't stay long and I'm wet already so whatever might as well keep fishing .
A few casts later line just gets tight close into shore . No big tug just a steady pressure so I set . I get a heavy heavy pull back hmmm that's a big fish . Then the reel starts to scream and I see it doin it's best shark impersonation as it heads for my boatlaunch where It starts blowing up the water like a mad seal 🤪 holy crap I wish I had my waders I Then it just decides it is leaving and no amount of pressure on the spool is helping . Two running lines and backing gone in a flash I begin running for the last bit of shore and try to make a stand . It's worked before so I put tip or rod in water and start cranking ... it's not liking it but it is slowly coming back up the rapid ...there is hope but then it gets wrapped in some wood by the shore 🤪🤪🤪 . Now what ? I can feel it still there but can't seem to break it soo much stretch in running line . Hmm idea wedge rod into tree stump and run to top of run get boat . Then put rod in holder get bush saw and climb out over river tryin to cut off branch but it too dicey so back to boat and back it down along wood . Somehow wedge boat onto log , anchor on it and resume sawing off branch . Holy this is more than I bargained for ,thumb which I cut bad last night cuttin taters begins to bleed again 🤪 . Resume trying to winch fish up thru wood, it's moving and almost have line back when branch I cut hits my line and snappppp ! Lol that's the way it goes at least I can go in and get my wet socks off . It is steelhead fishing u just never know ..Life is good 😊

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Chasing winter – A small Giant Trevally from Christmas Island....and a spring sunset from the Florida Keys...

Russian River Fly Fishers
c/o Mike Spurlock
20 San Domingo Way
Novato, CA 94945



Russian River Fly Fishers Membership Application

I acknowledge in this agreement, and fully understand, that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waiving any right that I may have to bring legal action or to assert a claim against Russian River Fly Fishers (RRFF) for its negligence. Any member who invites a non-member (including member's spouse and family) agrees that such guest is bound by the same conditions and agrees to so advise the guest. I have read this statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in the Russian River Fly Fishers. This agreement is valid for all RRFF sanctioned events, (fishing outings, picnics, meetings).

Name _____ Date _____ Referred by _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _ _____ Work Phone _ _____ E-mail Address* _____

How can the RRFF help you? _____

Occupation _____ Signature _ _____

* Required for e-mail newsletter

Please mark one of the following categories:

I apply as a new member: Single membership - \$50 annual dues Gold membership - \$1,000.00 (one-time)

Family membership - \$55 annual dues [JOIN ONLINE @ www.rrflyfisher.org](http://www.rrflyfisher.org)

Junior membership - \$25 annual dues

Existing membership renewal: Single membership - \$50 annual dues Gold membership - \$1,000.00 (one-time)

Family membership - \$55 annual dues [RENEW ONLINE @ www.rrflyfisher.org](http://www.rrflyfisher.org)

Junior membership - \$25 annual dues

Dues paid by a new member joining the RRFF after March 30th of any year will cover the balance of that year and also the membership dues for the following fiscal year. The RRFF fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th

Please mail this application and your check payable to: **Russian River Fly Fishers**
c/o Mike Spurlock, 20 San Domingo Way, Novato, CA 94945