

The Cast



*New Year's Day Fishing on the
Russian River, Monte Rio*

*Sonoma County
California
Volume 47, Issue 1
January 2020*

President's Message

Fly Fishing 101

A Happy New Year to you all and welcome to a new decade! It recently came to the attention of the RRFF Board that we gained 28 new members to the club in 2019. It is our hope that in 2020 that these new folks will be able to find value and pride in joining this organization, where our aim is to promote, practice, and teach the art of fly fishing.

It is always a pleasure to see new faces at our gatherings. We know that some of the new members come with years of fly fishing experience that they bring from other parts of the US or even other countries. But a substantial percentage of the new folks are either new to fishing with flies or have no other angling experience whatsoever. For those

less-experienced members, the Board would like to provide educational experiences that should help take the mystery out of what many see as a complicated sport. Some clubs provide a formal "Fly Fishing 101" class for their members to learn all the aspects of this type of angling. Our Board has found in the past that this method is difficult to organize and tough for members to fit into their busy schedules. As an alternative, we have decided to use a more flexible and individual approach by offering mentors to help the new members. In that vein, the Board has named Jeff Cratty as our New Member Mentoring Coordinator. During the past year, Jeff has been successfully mentoring new folks; so, he has the experience and knowledge to do the job himself. But with respect to his time and to leverage our club's talents, we would like him to lead in helping new members access their educational

needs and then connect them with more experienced members (not necessarily board members) who can do individual mentoring in specific areas. We believe this will be the most flexible and effective approach to bring our new members up to speed and increasing their enjoyment of the sport.

The Board's hope is that this effort in 2020 will help to retain new members, who will eventually become our club's future experts and help to educate the next generations of fly fishers.

Tight lines,

~ Ed Barich

P.S. Mike Spurlock recently put a link on our club's main webpage to the video "Artifishal" so you can view this hour and twenty-minute presentation for free. It's a thought-provoking topic, and whether or not you agree with the point of view presented, I recommend it as worthy of your time to watch.

to fly fishing as there have been numerous reports of fish being sighted and even caught after the earlier rains.

~ Editor



Members gather around Steve and Jeff for the presentation

Steelhead Clinic Report

There was a tremendous turnout for the annual Steelhead Clinic with over twenty-five (25) members attending. The clinic, which featured presentations by Steve Tubbs, Mike Spurlock, and Jeff Cratty at the Monte Rio beach, was preceded by a fantastic breakfast at Northwoods Golf Club.

At the clinic, we were treated to an informative instructional class on all aspects of the intricacies of steelhead fishing with demonstrations on shooting head, spey, and indicator rigs on the Monte Rio beach.

The numerous members attending had a great time and can't wait for next year's clinic. All that is needed now is for the Russian to run clear and return to flows (walking pace) more suitable



Question and Answer Time



Steve demonstrating casting

PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE'S PURCHASE OF CROSBY'S LODGE: Press Release

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe will be purchasing the Pyramid Lake Lodge, a 23-acre parcel of land previously known as "Crosby's Lodge" located within the Tribe's Reservation and adjacent to Pyramid Lake, a unique desert oasis. The Lodge provides groceries, gifts, gasoline, lodging, and entertainment to support recreation and fishing of trophy cutthroat trout. The Tribe intends to purchase the Lodge and its amenities to develop fishing and recreational opportunities around Pyramid Lake. Pyramid Lake is located thirty-five miles northeast of Reno, Nevada in a remote desert area located in the counties of Washoe, Lyon and Storey.

The area of the Tribe's Reservation contains 475,000 acres or 742.2 square miles. Out of this acreage approximately 112,000 acres covers the service of a terminal desert lake, Pyramid Lake. Pyramid Lake is approximately 27 miles long and 11 miles wide at its widest width. Pyramid Lake measures 350 feet at its deepest point, with a surface elevation of 3,397 above sea level (as of 2015). The perimeter of Pyramid Lake extends over 71 miles overall. Pyramid Lake is one of the most valuable assets of the Tribe

and is entirely enclosed within the boundaries of the Reservation.

Fishing enthusiasts as well as individuals and groups seeking unique recreation experiences around the lake, have been enjoying this incredible resource with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe for decades. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe sees the opportunity at the Pyramid Lake Lodge as not only a great business decision, but also an important reconnection with a parcel of land that had been removed from its Reservation without consent. Chairman Anthony Sampson Sr. "The lake is home to our most sacred spaces, amazing wildlife and geologic formations has provided our culture a sense of tranquility and spirituality that cannot be seen anywhere else," said Chairman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Anthony Sampson Sr., "This space, our home, we want to share, and we want to control in order to maintain its spiritual significance and environmental integrity."

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is looking forward to developing the new Pyramid Lake Lodge into one of the best experiences in fishing and recreation, and educating the public about the significance of our lands, water and culture." Chairman Sampson Sr., thanked NUMU Inc., the business and economic development arm of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, which will be in charge of the development. The Tribe appointed the following individuals to serve on the Board of NUMU, Inc.: Gary Shaw, a member of the Tribe and Chairman of the NUMU Board; Brandon Ceroke, a tribal member of the Tribe and Treasure of NUMU Board; Virginia Cline, a member of the Tribe and Secretary for NUMU; Brian Wadsworth, a member of the Tribe and member of the Board; Sherry Ely-Mendes, a member of the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council who serves in an ex-officio capacity for the Board; Kip Richie, a member of the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe and CEO of Greenfire; and Shannon Keller O'Loughlin, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Executive Director and Attorney for the Association of American Indian Affairs.

The Board of NUMU, Inc., selected Drew Rice, to serve as the CEO of the Tribe's Corporate Board. Rice is assisted by Cassandra Darrough to seek out quality investors interested in doing business with the Tribe. Rice and Darrough's team efforts have been successful in drawing in our current partners and securing a path to successful partnerships.

The Board of NUMU collectively stated, "NUMU, Inc., is looking forward to working with the Tribe and our business partners to support and grow the Tribe's economic development opportunities to benefit Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe members. Pyramid Lake is an important resource that the Tribe has fought for, and will continue to protect." Also, in recognition are the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council Members who approved and assisted in facilitating the purchase of Crosby Lodge: Anthony Sampson Sr. Chairman, Alan Mandell, Vice Chairman Council Members: Janet Davis, Judith Davis, Nathan Dunn, Sherry Ely-Mendes, John Guerrero, William Miller, Sharon Shaw Keever, and Michele Smith.

January General Meeting and Speaker

January 8, 2020 - General Meeting at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 7PM featuring a presentation by **Jon Baiocchi entitled "Creekin the Lost Sierra (south eastern Plumas National Forest)**.

Master fly angler Jon Baiocchi has been fly fishing and tying flies since 1972, and is a California licensed fly fishing guide (#2847), published author, educator, innovative tier, and an award winning public speaker giving fly fishing presentations to clubs and expos across the state of California and the west coast.

Jon owns and operates Baiocchi's Troutfitters guide service in Northern California where he has been guiding for the last 22 years. He has a reputation as a very hard-working guide that's been trained by some of fly fishing's best-known anglers, both past and present. His enthusiasm for the sport is contagious, and combined with his

simple approach to teaching gives students the skills needed to be successful on all types of water. Moved by all things flora and fauna, his passion for such is never ending. Sharing the knowledge with others is of the greatest importance to him now and to see others progress with their skills, and reach the next level in fly fishing fulfills his life. It's the legacy his father left him, and a cherished tradition that Jon will continue in his honor.

His locations for guiding include Lake Davis, the Wild & Scenic Middle Fork Feather River, Frenchman Lake, the North Fork Yuba River, The Big & Little Truckee Rivers, The Lower Yuba River, and many secluded creeks in Eastern Plumas County. Jon's philosophy on fly fishing is to keep it simple, be confident in your presentation, and enjoy the great outdoors. His favorite game is stalking and sight fishing to large trout in shallow water whether it is a river or a still water.

Fishing Putah Creek

Following the club speaker presentation by guide Richard Loft in November, Don Shaw and I decided to hire him to guide us for half a day. Richard has fished Putah Creek for about 10 years and guides it exclusively. When we fished the creek, the flow was about 140 CFS which is about the maximum for being able to safely cross the creek.

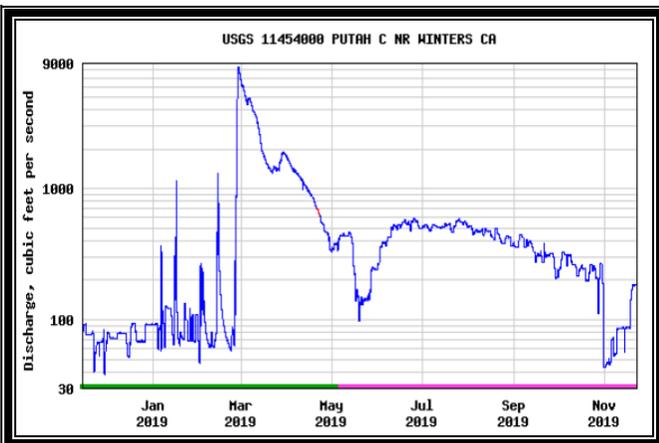
We used 5 weight rods, 5x and 6x tippet, and fished size 20-22 mayfly and midge nymphs using indicator and Czech nymphing techniques in riffles between access points #2 and #4. We did unusually well with 7 fish landed up to 18". Don hooked a larger one that broke off.



The 4.7 mile section of Putah between Monticello Dam and Lake Solano Diversion Dam was designated as a wild trout, artificial only, pinched barbs, zero take (catch and release) in 2014/15 and currently has one of the larger concentrations of wild rainbows in California. Because it has such easy access, fish are smart and fishing can be challenging.

The creek is infected with mud snails, so make sure to freeze your boots overnight and clean waders after you fish.

Flows are controlled to satisfy agriculture and the Fairfield drinking water supply which means that flows are typically good for fishing in fall and in winter. However, occasionally, some years, if rains are heavy and Lake Berryessa fills up, the glory hole spills and flows can reach into the thousands as it did late February last winter. Wading becomes very difficult at 300 and above.



~ Mike Spurlock

RAFFLE DONATIONS

RRFF Cioppino Dinner Raffle and Silent Auction Saturday, February 15th, 2020

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

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

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...

Members can purchase Cioppino Dinner tickets, donate items for the dinner, or volunteer to help at the dinner on the main page of the club website www.rflyfisher.org



Support Our Local Fly Fishing Businesses!

Archuleta's Reel Works

Custom fishing reel repair, servicing, and manufacturing.
733 Detrick Drive, Grants Pass, OR 97527
(541) 956-1691
Bill Archuleta, owner
www.archuletasreelworks.com

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Clothing, flies, rods, supplies, gear, accessories, instruction, guide service, and canoe rental.
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(707) 869-2156.
www.kingsrussianriver.com

Outdoor Pro Shop, Inc.

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Fax (707) 588-8035
www.outdoorproshop.com

Sportsman's Warehouse

Top brands for hunting, fishing, and more at America's Premier Outfitter
5195 Redwood Drive, Rohnert Park, CA 94928
(707) 585-1500
www.sportsmanswarehouse.com

January Calendar of Events

January 2020 - Casting Pond Clinics on Winter Schedule = 1st & 3rd Saturdays 12 noon - 2:30pm

??? Flash outing to Gualala River Jan or Feb, depends on river flows (Ed Barich)

4-5 Yuba Trip Redo (Ed Barich)

8 General Meeting - [Jon Baiocchi](#) "Creekin the Lost Sierra (south eastern Plumas National Forest)" (Don Shaw)

15 Board Meeting

16-19 [Sacramento ISE](#)

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@insp2.com

Program Chairman: **Don Shaw**

477-5928 donjanshaw@comcast.net

Outings Chairman: **Chris Castellucci**

763-2017 chrsluucci@aol.com

Membership Chairman & Pond Steward: **Doug Mackay**

575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Raffle Committee: **Paul Matzen**

795-8885 gbridgeman@att.net

Conservation Chairman: **Vacant**

Newsletter Editor: **Marcus Pipkin**

(615) 969-9200 marcus.pipkin@comcast.net

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wisley**

823-5572 gwriss@yahoo.com

New Member Mentoring Coordinator: **Jeff Cratty**

796-3691 rjcratty@yahoo.com

Steelhead in the Classroom: **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

Saturday, February 15th, 2020

Please join us for our annual

Russian River Fly Fishers

**SILENT
AUCTION**

*Fundraising
Raffle*



CIOPPINO DINNER

\$50.00 per person

(\$15.00 for children 12 and under)

Social from 5:00 until 7:00 PM

Wine will be offered with dinner and you are welcome to bring a special wine of your choice!

Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM

Veteran's Memorial Hall - 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa

Donations: rrflyfisher.org or contact - Gregg Wisley 823-5572 gwrisk@yahoo.com (Sebastopol) or Doug Mackay 575-5709 demackay@sonic.net (Santa Rosa).

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to contact volunteer coordinator: rrflyfisher.org or Ed Barich 539-4608.

shear along dotted line

Cioppino _____ Steak _____ Chicken _____

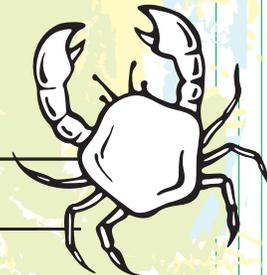
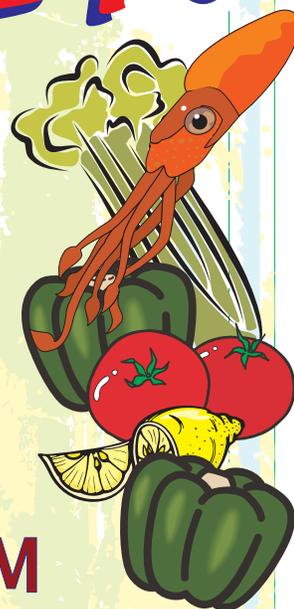
Name _____

How many will attend _____ Telephone Number _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Tickets are **\$50.00 per person**

Pay Online @ rrflyfisher.org or send payment to:

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



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* _____

Main Interests in the Club? _____

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

Choose any areas you want help with:

I would like help learning or improving my cast. I would like advice on fishing equipment. I would like a lesson in tying knots

I would like a lesson in tying flies. I would like to have an experienced member mentor me on local waters or on a club outing.

Dues paid by a new member joining the RRFF after March 1st 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