

The Cast



Russian River Fly Fishers

Sonoma County California
Volume 44, Number 3
March 2017

Preparing the Cioppino
Bob Hughes and Derek Campbell

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

President's Message

Another Great RRF Annual Dinner

One of the most cherished traditions in the RRF club is our annual Cioppino Dinner, which was held February 25 at Veteran's Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa. This was the first time I served as event coordinator, and as we got into the planning stage I realized that this was quite a complex project. Our task list was two pages long and it became apparent that a lot of things had to go right to make the event a success. Fortunately, this club has a lot of capable members who have the experience and motivation to keep the tradition running. As in previous years, we had plenty of donated goods and services to fill our raffle and silent auction fund-raisers. The tables were decorated in an aquatic theme and a slide

show displayed members enjoying RRF outings of the past. The entrees prepared by chefs Steve Tubbs (Cioppino) and John Frenzel (Steak) made for some very pleasant dining. You could tell by the crowd noise that everyone was having a great time.

We also had a video presentation by Suzanne Gulick of Casting for Recovery. The RRF board has made a \$1000 donation to her organization and Suzanne explained to us how our gift would allow a breast cancer survivor to attend a weekend session of casting and fly fishing instruction on a California river. The therapeutic value of the event, as described by the participants in the video, made us all reflect on the impact our donation has made.

Steve and I were the last two guys to leave the hall that evening. As we turned the lights out and closed the doors, I could still picture all the enjoyment that had gone on earlier.

We call ourselves a fishing club, but there's more to it than just casting and fishing.

Thanks for attending,

~ Ed Barich



Suzanne Gulick - Casting for Recovery - with Paul Matzen...

UPCOMING RRFF OUTING!

Lower Sacramento River Guided Trip

March 31st - April 1st.

Christie and Rich Geernaert have reserved rooms at the Best Western Motel in Andersen, CA. and 4 potential guides for two days of trout fishing on the Lower Sacramento River in the Redding area. Since the outing is getting close, you should sign-up soon to be able to reserve a guide.

The trip sign-up page is on the www.rrflyfisher.org website. Christie will get back to you with the guide's contact information.

Christie Geernaert - 292-1304 or christiegeer@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

WANTED

Must be familiar with MS Word and Desktop Publishing. Will help!

Please contact Steve Tubbs - steve@kresky.com

RRFF General Meeting

Wednesday, March 8th - 7:00 PM

The Lodge Room at the Santa Rosa
Veteran's Memorial Building

BRING YOUR QUESTIONS FOR OUR GUESTS:

Josh Fuller - NMFS

Eric Larsen - CDFW

Bob Coey - NOAA

Representing some of the agencies that are working to improve our Russian River Watershed, Josh, Eric and Bob will discuss new regulations and answer your questions about many of the programs that are currently underway in the Russian River ecosystem. This is an opportunity to discover what is happening, and what is hoped for, on the Russian River and our north coast.

~ Joe Banovich, RRFF Program Director

Join the RRFF on Facebook

We currently have **797 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>

Santa Rosa Fishing Tackle, Duck Decoy,

Sporting Collectible Show

Friday, March 10, 2017

Saturday, March 11, 2017

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.*

For more information, call

Red Johnson,

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

email: warrenjo@pacbell.net

Conservation Corner

Public Lands

Rarely have I seen as much conversation concentrated around a conservation topic as I have around the fight to keep our public lands in public hands. At the end of this article I've got some actions I'd like you all to consider taking that could make a difference. I'll spend my time trying to convince you that doing a little writing of your own is going to be worth your valuable time.

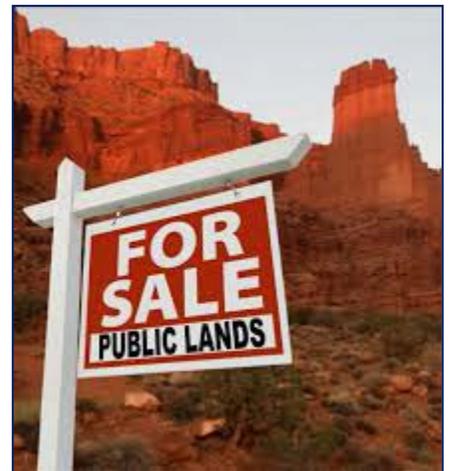


First I'll make the argument that public lands are the most important factor in allowing all of us to go out and enjoy fishing in America. Fish don't necessarily need public lands to survive. They need clean, cold water. And not everyone needs "free" access to fish. Southern England has a stable native brown trout fishery on its famous private chalkstone streams. Kamchatka doesn't exactly have a strong tradition of public land. But for fishing, and in particular, fly fishing to thrive in the American West, we need the broadest base of stakeholders and conservationists to care about the fish.

To make that happen, that base needs to be built from all walks of life in America. Our demography is changing. More and more people are moving to urban environments. The diversity of our country is increasing. The children of those people may not be born into families with a natural tie to the land and its health. So we need to grow the next generation of stewards for our fish. And I believe that one sure path to that is through fishing. And fishermen, especially those from a broader base of this country, need to be able to get to the water without paying their way in.

And what about that water? I mentioned that fish need cold, clean water to thrive. Maybe not all fish, but fish like salmon, steelhead, and trout, which make up the majority of fish we fly fishermen chase in the West. Public lands have provided the buffer between destructive extractive practices such as clear cutting, strip mining, and oil drilling. Because we the people own these lands, theoretically individuals can't easily come in and abuse them without some accounting. The public lands that have been preserved now contain almost all of the pristine land in the West that can serve as the seed to heal past mistakes. The Elwha River revival in Washington State is a prime example of that. Because there was a pristine wilderness headwaters protected by a National Park, the river was able to begin to recover very quickly (from over 100 years of degradation) once two dams came down that had blocked fish passage and retained silt. Extensive public lands in the headwaters of the Eel River in California are why the historically 3rd largest producer of salmon and steelhead has been placed at the top of the list of watersheds that could be restored.

So why worry? As the current Administration demonstrated today by rolling back the 2015 Clean Water Rule (protecting 60% of all of our stream miles), and the U.S. House of Representatives showed by passing [House Resolution 3650](#) last Summer (proposing to sell off 2 million acres of national forest *per state*), there are those in the current majority that wish to take lands and clean water away from the public. From you and me...and from that next generation that might grow up middle class, brown and in the city.



The resistance to this direction is growing. In my own industry, the Outdoor Industry Association recently decided to hold the governor of Utah, Gary Herbert, accountable for his support of the plan to sell 3.3 million acres of public lands to mining and

extractive industries. This industry, which annually generates \$12 billion and supports 122,000 jobs in Utah alone, has decided to look for a [new home for its biannual trade show](#) as a show of force opposing the delivery of public lands into the hands of a few, greedy corporations.

So what can you do? Here are four actions I'd like you to consider taking – With just a few clicks and a few sentences, you can make a major difference by signing online petitions and sending emails to your congressmen. **Important** - Take a moment to personalize the form letters. Staffers are much more likely to read these than generic, copied form letters.

1. Join your voices with other conservation organizations like Trout Unlimited that believe in the [power of Public Lands](#).
2. Join other outdoors groups, not just fly fishers, whose collective might can change minds. A good example is to consider taking the [Sportsman's Pledge](#).
3. Support [BLM's Planning 2.0 initiative](#). As a [recent TU blog post](#) notes, "A critical vote is expected in the Senate in coming weeks that may eliminate the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Planning 2.0 initiative through the Congressional Review Act. The House has already voted to repeal the BLM planning rule."
4. Support critical public lands such as the [Tongass National Forest](#) (the "Salmon Forest") and the fight to keep these lands wild and clean.

You can always reach me for comments, more information, or ideas for future articles at dcampbell00@hotmail.com.

~ Derek Campbell, RRF Conservation Director



2017 RRF Cioppino Dinner...

RRFF Cioppino Dinner

Thank You All!

We would like to thank all of the individuals and businesses who donated items for the raffle and silent auction and for beverages and snacks for our Cioppino Dinner last weekend. We had gift certificates, fishing rods and reels, a pontoon boat, books, hydration packs, flies and fly tying materials, art, beer, wine, cheese and much more.



John Frenzel & Lynn Hughes...

Business Donors:

Archuleta's Reel Works (Bill Archuleta)
Camelbak & Marmot (Derek Campbell)
Outdoor Pro Shop (Patrick Elie)
Sportsman's Warehouse (Bill Foster)
Cattlemen's Steakhouse (John Frenzel)
The Creamery Store (Don Shaw)
Jackson Family Vineyards (Mike Pendergast)
King's Sport & Tackle (Steve Jackson)
Lagunitas Brewery (via Cecile Focha)

Individual Donors:

Chris Castellucci
Julian Garrett
Phil and Nancy Ito
Greg Jacobs
Doug and Sylvia Mackay
Tom Magliulo
Ken Magoon
Paul & Margie Matzen
Neil Silverman
Mike Spurlock
Ken Young



Heather Hamm - serving it up!...

In addition, we would like to thank all who helped with the event and preparations:

Cecile Focha - Beer Table

John Frenzel and Lorrin Ngum - cooking steaks

Steve Tubbs, Derek Campbell, Bob Hughes and Jeff Cratty - cooking Cioppino

Ken & Helen Young, Bill Laurie, Tim Grogan - ticket sales and check-in

Ken Young - permits

Don Jan Shaw - Cheese Table

Ken Magoon, Gregg Wrisley and Mike Spurlock - raffle and auction

Heather Hamm and Kelly Ames - kitchen help and serving

Doug Mackay, Chris Castellucci, and Derek Campbell - set up and cleanup

My apologies if we missed anyone,

~ Ed Barich

Welcome New Member

The RRF would like to welcome our newest member **Kyle Frank**. Please contact any board member if you have questions. Welcome Aboard!

**Check out the Russian River Fly Fishers
on the Internet at**

www.rrflyfisher.org

**for outings information, RRF events,
member news, photos and more!**

RRFF 2017 Fishing Outings

Now that we've enjoyed our Annual Cioppino Dinner, we can look forward to monthly club outings and events. Eventually, the storms will end allowing lakes and streams to clear and provide good fishing. You can see more information and sign up for these trips by going to our web site, **www.rrflyfisher.org** and clicking "Updated Calendar and Trip Sign-ups".

March 11th YUBA RIVER OUTING on UC Property - led by Ed Barich.

March 30th LOWER SACRAMENTO RIVER Guided
- April 2nd Drift Trip organized by Christie Geerneart.

April 6th PYRAMID LAKE OUTING organized by Ken Magoon. The beaches north of Crosby's Lodge are now open.

Early May RRF OPENER Steve Tubbs, John Frenzel, Heather Hamm, Tim Grogan and Kelly Ames. (Location TBA)

May 25th VERONA, SACRAMENTO RIVER Led by Lee Soares. Shad and Striper Fishing from Boats.

June 22nd LAKE ALMANOR led by Ed Barich.
- 25th June 23: Clinic and Fishing the Hex Hatch with Lance Gray.

July 27th HAT CREEK and BAUM LAKE led by Bill Laurie. Camping at the PG&E Campground in Cassel

Aug 19th RUSSIAN RIVER SMALL MOUTH BASS led by Bill Laurie. Drifting the Lower River.

Sept 21st UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER led by Bill Laurie. Camping and Trout Fishing
- 24th

Oct. 19th LOWER TRINITY/ KLAMATH RIVERS
- 22nd Fishing for Steelhead led by Bill Laurie.

Won't you join us on the water?

~ Ken Magoon, RRF Outings Director

Fall Fun

I was pining over missing RRFF fall outings to Davis and Lewiston Lakes, even though the fishing up here on the Stanislaus was pretty entertaining during that time. I have not been staying on top of the RRFF trips because I am out of the area, but with a little effort it is actually easy to stay up on them and I can do better by signing up on our well-run website. So I decided to make a trip happen with some local fishing buddies. On Nov 11th and 12th, we journeyed to Frenchman Lake, a trip we hadn't done for a couple years.



Now don't get me wrong...I love to show up on calm sunny days, cast blindly, maybe change the depth a bit, and immediately catch boatloads of fish all day long. But that was not to be the case this trip and it was challenging.

When Andrew and I arrived the first afternoon, Carl and Jay were already out on the lake and the wind was howling. It took us awhile to gear up, eat lunch and drag our kayaks the long distance to the lake since the level was quite low. We're not known for rushing into things anyway, but always have a good time. Upon arrival, Jay had caught a couple nice rainbows and Carl had only had a hit or two. It was slow. Andrew caught a fish immediately on the way out, but I was snake-bit for the afternoon as I fought the wind and tried to fish effectively. Most of the rainbows to that point had been hooked on orange Wiggle-Tails fished with intermediate lines.

Looking up, it was very pretty in a stark high-desert sort of way and Andrew photographed this Prairie Falcon trying to kill coots near his kayak. The wind never settled and, remembering that Andrew had caught his on the way out, I

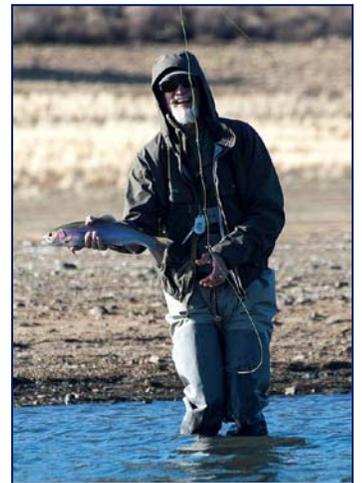


started fishing closer to shore in 4-6 ft. of water using a floating line and long leader that allowed me to detect some under water contour changes on the bottom. My luck turned on my last two casts of the evening and I caught two very nice rainbows. That made my day! We then dragged everything back to the cars, drank to the reservoir gods, broke down gear and drove back to our lodging and a good Mexican dinner in Portola.



The next day Carl and Jay took off straight to the lake after coffee

while Andrew and I woke a bit slower over a fine breakfast. When we arrived at the lake the winds were already howling and they had not had a hit yet. I decided not to fight the wind again, instead anchoring near shore at various locations where there were slight ridges (to stack bait against) and/or an ambush point for the bigger fish. I caught a fish periodically but it really turned on for me after a much needed shore break. When I got out of the water I noticed literally hundreds of small scuds (size 24? and smaller) in the cuff of my wader. I knew I needed to imitate their mother, but I had forgot my scud patterns. I put on a small pale Hare's Ear, which works for me when I need a scud since a scud's profile is straight when they swim anyway, and went back out, anchored up and voila, many hits and fish mostly small in the 10-11 inch range. Finally I decided to scuttle the boat altogether and just waded into the mud. I fished from shore using the same method and caught a few very nice rainbows. Sometimes it pays to be flexible and creative.



All in all a nice trip, but I look forward to my next outing with the RRFF.

~ Walt Kruse

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(and take advantage of their discounts when available)

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(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. 16258 Main Street, Guerneville, CA 95446.
(707) 869-2156.
www.kingsrussianriver.com

Outdoor Pro Shop, Inc.

Fishing gear, supplies, fly fishing, flies, rods and accessories.
412 Houser Street, Cotati, CA 94931.
(707) 588-8033,
fax (707) 588-8035
www.outdoorproshop.com

Calendar of Events

RRFF Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinic

Beginning 3/16/17 - from 4:30 until 7:00 pm every Thursday (weather permitting) at the RRFF Casting Pond in Dan Galvin Park, Santa Rosa.

March

- 4 Final Winter Fly Casting Clinic - noon until 2:30 pm
- 8 RRFF General Meeting - 7:00 pm @ Vet's Hall
- 10-11 **Fishing Tackle, Duck Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show** - SR Vet's Hall
- 12 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 15 Board Meeting
- 16 **Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics Begin** - 4:30 until 7:00 pm. Every Thursday following.
- 31-1 **Lower Sacramento River Guided Trout Trip** hosted by Christie & Rich Geernaert (2 days)

April

- 6-9 **Pyramid Lake Outing** hosted by Ken Magoon
- 12 RRFF General Meeting
- 19 Board Meeting
- 21-23 **Spey-O-Rama** @ Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club, San Francisco

RRFF Board of Directors

President: **Ed Barich**

539-4608 ebarich@sonic.net

Vice President:

Secretary and Outings Chairman: **Ken Magoon**

527-8376 magoon5294@aol.com

Treasurer & Webmaster: **Mike Spurlock**

(415)-599-6138 mikerrff@gmail.com

Casting Instruction Chairman, Facebook: **Steve Tubbs**

765-1787 steve@kresky.com

Program Chairman: **Joe Banovich**

526-6015 joebanovich@sonic.net

Library Master: **Don Shaw**

664-8573 donjanshaw@comcast.net

Member at Large: **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 gbridgeman@att.net

Member at Large: **Ken Young**

539-9649 wlk4fun@sbcglobal.net

Conservation Chairman: **Derek Campbell**

591-5667 dcampbell00@hotmail.com

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wrisley**

823-5572 gwriss@yahoo.com

Coordinators

Day Fishers & Fly Tying: **Lee Soares**

974-2651 frommewee@comcast.net

Women's Activities: **Susan Bostwick**

815-5926 shbgold@gmail.com

Raffle Coordinator: **Christie Geernaert**

292-1304 christiegeer@gmail.com

Casting Pond Stewards: **Doug & Sage Mackay**

575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**

527-9607 fish2xsbc@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor: **Steve Tubbs** (temporary)

765-1787 steve@kresky.com

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



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 You Help the RRFF? _____

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**