

The Cast



Sonoma County California
Volume 45, Number 3
March 2018

RRFF Steelhead Clinic - Monte Rio
January 2018

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

President's Message

Another Successful RRFF Annual Dinner

The 2018 RRFF Cioppino Dinner, held on February 17 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa, provided our members and friends with an enjoyable evening of food and fun. This was my second year acting as event coordinator, and thanks to our experienced and capable volunteers, the planning and execution keeps getting smoother. We served our guests 114 dinners, with tasty entrees created by Steve Tubbs' kitchen crew and John Frenzel's BBQ team. Our members and friends of RRFF donated some really nice items to the raffle and silent auction, and at the end of the night practically all of those prizes went home with happy winners.

Since the Dinner is our primary club fund raiser, you will be pleased to hear that the net profit for the evening was \$3800, a record high for the past 6 years. Those funds will cover our operating expenses for the next year, and as I mentioned at the dinner, will allow us to make a donation of \$1000 to the Steelhead in the Classroom educational program in which some of our members are actively volunteering. In addition, the RRFF board has approved a \$500 donation to Casting for Recovery, another worthy program that helps us meet our club's goals of promoting fly fishing education and conservation.

But for me, the best part of the Cioppino Dinner is seeing so many of our members at one event. Although few of us can make it to every outing or general meeting, the dinner is a welcomed chance to greet both familiar and new faces. I want to thank

all those who volunteered at the dinner, and thank all of you who attended, for making it our social event of the year.

~ Ed Barich



Fly Fishing Film Tour - F3T

April 26th 7:00PM, at the Rialto Theatre - 6868 McKinley St, Sebastopol, CA 95472



The original and preeminent exhibition of fly fishing cinema, The F3T is a one-of-a-kind experience. For the second year, [Redwood Empire Trout Unlimited](#) hosts this popular event, which gathers together fishy folk of all ages to enjoy epic adventures in fly fishing around the world.

This year's collection of films is absolutely fantastic!

- **African Tiger:** Follow the Capt Jack Productions team, as they go on the hunt for giant tiger fish. Armed to the teeth, these ferocious alpha predators are not easy to find and even harder to catch. [View Trailer.](#)
- **100 Miles:** By nature, an adventure is not defined by some pre-canned success story.

Adventure is defined by an unknown outcome. And, as it turns out, the Alaska wilderness is a perfect canvas for genuine adventure and the unexpected. [View Trailer.](#)

- **Beyond the Horizon:** Tells the story of Rankin Jackson's struggle to provide for his family while trying to survive the push of drug-running and ultimately how fly fishing revealed his road to redemption. [View Trailer.](#)
- **Dubai on the Fly:** When westerners think of Dubai, fishing is about the last thing we imagine, if we think of it at all. But at the heart of this fast, modern city lies a shockingly intact traditional fishing culture alongside a blooming fly angling industry. [View Trailer.](#)

Join us for a fun night of film and register to win great prizes! Tons of great gear giveaways to get the fishing season started right. This Film is a fundraiser for RETU, where we put 100% of your ticket dollars and donations to work restoring our local watersheds. Thursday April 26th in Sebastopol. Doors will open at 7pm, so please join us for a pre-event get together where you can purchase goods and food, socialize, view auction items and see introductions for Redwood Empire Trout Unlimited. Last year we nearly sold out! **The film starts promptly at 7:30pm.**

***** Richard and Christie Geernaert will make chili before the film festival for the first 16 RRF members to respond by email to Christie at christiegeer@gmail.com.**

March General Meeting

Wednesday, March 14th - 6:30 pm

Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Building

featuring

Mark Wong

and his presentation on

Flyfishing the Surf

Please join us and bring a friend!

Newsletter Editor

WANTED!!

Are you familiar with MS Word and Desktop Publishing, and do you have editing skills? Will help!

Please contact Steve Tubbs - steve@inspiri2.com

Steelhead in the Classroom

Excitement Abounds in the Classrooms!!! - Tanks are being set up and steelhead eggs delivered!

Well, it's happening! RRF coaches are helping teachers set up their aquariums and stabilize temperatures in their elementary school classrooms. Tom Greer, coach for 2 classrooms at Oak Grove Elementary, sent this note and photos from Genevieve Burchfield's 1st grade at Oak Grove Elementary School in Sebastopol - "The kids and teachers are great and so excited about rearing Steelhead! Also, the tank temperatures have stabilized around 50 degrees so we're looking good for eggs next week."

Tom also said "I'm having both my classes log temperatures 3x per day and I'll graph that data (both air and tank temp)."

Well, there are 14 RRF coaches for the Steelhead in the Classroom program helping teachers in 24 classrooms in Sonoma and Marin Counties! This is phenomenal. Our RRF coaches are Bill Laurie, Bob Pawlan, Christie Geernaert, Jeff Cratty, Karl Joost, Ken Young, Mark Petersen, Roger White, Susan Bostwick, Lee Soares, Tim Reuling, Tom Greer, Tony Ramsden and Mike Spurlock. Their teacher/classrooms are in Sebastopol, Windsor, Santa Rosa, Kenwood, Rohnert Park, Petaluma and Novato.

Steelhead eggs have already been delivered to 9 classrooms (on 2/21) and the remainder will be delivered on 3/7 and 3/21.

Such excitement and such learning going on!

Congratulations to the students (and the RRF) for sponsoring this great program, and to our coaches - "You are doing a fantastic job, which will help create future caretakers and lovers of the natural world!"

~ Karl Joost, 707-483-6172



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

www.rrflyfisher.org

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

Do-It-Yourself Alaska Wilderness Fishing Trip

Have you ever thought of doing an inexpensive trip to Alaska that takes you to the outback? Booking an expensive lodge is very easy but a DIY cabin trip is not that much more difficult and is much less expensive. It does require very careful planning, however.

First, get yourself the DeLorme Alaska Atlas and Gazetteer.

If you turn to pages 10-11 (pages may have changed – this is my 1992 Version) you will find charts titled "Freshwater Fishing" and "Saltwater Fishing". These

We flew from SFO to Ketchikan (currently about \$400 on Alaska Air). We had hired Family Air http://www.familyairtours.com/page6_lake%20trips.html to fly us out. Family Air met us at Ketchikan airport, took us shopping at the local grocery store, and took us to the float plane dock. Our "cabin kit" had been rented and was waiting (propane stove, lantern, kitchen utensils for cooking and eating, \$25/day). We also reserved a 3 HP outboard motor and 5 gallons gasoline, \$25/day. We flew out same-day in a Cessna 185 float plane (took two trips to get 4 guys with food, sleeping bags and fishing gear to the cabin, approximately 18-minute flight, currently \$660 per trip).

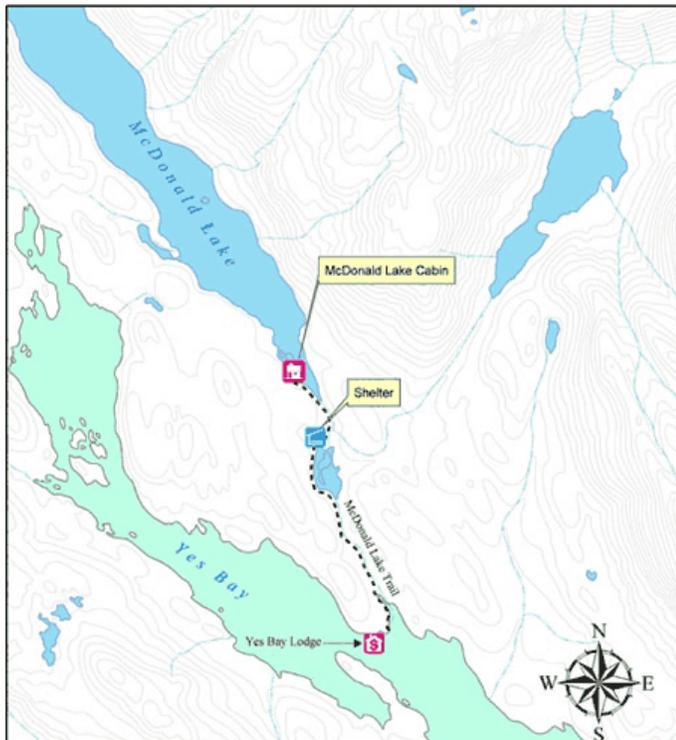
Alaska out-of-state fishing license can be purchased on-line for \$70/week.

Total cost currently is about \$1,025 per person., not including food or SFO airport parking.

We fished Jordan Lake, Heckman Lake (also has a cabin) and Roosevelt Lagoon and streams. All locations were connected via a network of easy to walk boardwalk trails.

Fishing was very good. We caught many pink salmon, sockeye salmon, cutthroat, dollyies, and rainbows. The Coho were not in yet (July).

McDonald Lake Cabin



<https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/mcdonald-lake-cabin/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=71774>

Similar setup to Jordan Lake. Cabin cost is \$75/day. Family Air, 30-minute flight, currently \$1,080. In this case, we also rented a second motor and an inflatable zodiac, so we had two boats for 4 fishermen.

Overall cost a bit higher than the Jordan Lake trip. Total cost currently at about \$1,175 per person (does not include the cost of the additional inflatable boat), not including food or SFO airport parking.

Fishing the creek on the McDonald Lake Trail down to Yes Bay was unbelievably good dry fly fishing. Also, fishing was good on the north end of McDonald Lake where the creek came in. Caught loads of cutthroat, dollyies, rainbows, and a couple of steelhead. No pinks or Coho were in yet (July).

Castle River Cabin

<https://www.reserveamerica.com/camping/castle-river-cabin/r/campgroundDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&parkId=71828>



In this case, we flew to Petersburg on Alaska Airlines, about the same price as flying to Ketchikan. We opted to use a local outfitter to boat us to the cabin, a several hour ride from Petersburg. Cabin rental is currently \$45/day.

I don't remember the cost of the boat trip, but much less expensive than a float plane. Overall cost of this trip probably about \$900/person.

Fishing was very good. We caught Coho, cutthroat, dolly varden and rainbows. (August)

Salmon and steelhead availability are dependent on the timing of the runs but there are generally always lots of cutts, dollies and rainbows around. Pink salmon runs are better in even years, and can be so overwhelming that you may want to avoid even years in order to target other species.

If anyone wants to plan a trip like this, there are lots of wilderness cabin choices and I can help you get started.

~ Mike Spurlock

Join the RRFF on Facebook

We currently have **879 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>



The Saturday line-up at the RRFF Casting Pond...

UPCOMING RRFF OUTINGS

Baum Lake - March 22 to 25

We'll be staying in Burney, Ca. at the Charm and/or Green Gables motels (530-335-3300). The latter is a quaint group of cottages adjacent to the Charm, but pricier. Some members will bring their RVs and stay at the PG&E Campground in Cassel, although there won't be a Host (and possibly no water or toilets open). We fish from boats, tubes and 'toons, but no gas motors. There is limited bank-fishing access. The trout are planted with some good-sized "hold-overs" and brood stock. The bite on midges and buggers is steady and quite good this time of year.

Lower Sacramento River - April 19 to 21

Christie Geernaert <christiegeer@gmail.com> has reserved 10 rooms for RRFF members at the Gaia Hotel in Andersen, CA (530-365-7077). Attendees should call the hotel to secure one of the rooms. Christie has a list of guides that may still be available. You could also contact the Fly Shop in Redding for guides. The Lower Sac in the spring has always produced good caddis and mayfly hatches. Since the drought is back, the flows should allow for good fishing conditions.

"The Opener" Baum Lake and Hat Creek - May 3 -6

This is a great opportunity to spend a fun weekend fishing with a large number of RRFF members. We camp at the PG&E Campground in Cassel, which now has a reservation system best used by folks with RVs. The club also tries to get a group of sites together for *John Frenzel and Friends* great dinners on Friday and Saturday nights. You could also stay at one of the motels in nearby Burney (see the description above). For a challenge, try your hand at catching the more elusive Hat Creek, wild trout section fish.

Memorial Weekend Lower Sacramento River Shad Trip

Led by Lee Soares, this annual outing has produced some fun days catching good-sized shad and the occasional striper. We camp at Verona and fish from boats.

See the description and sign-up for all these trips on the rrflyfisher.org website.

~ Ken Magoon

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Calendar of Events

Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics – Held every

Thursday beginning March 15th (weather permitting).

This event is FREE and is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Beginners are welcome...

March

- 9-10 Red's Show - (Vet's Hall)
- 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 14 RRFF General Meeting (Vet's Hall) - 6:30 pm
- 15 First Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinic
- 21 RRFF Board Meeting
- 22-25 Baum Lake Outing (Ken Magoon)

April

- 5-8 Pyramid Lake Outing (Ken Magoon)
- 11 RRFF General Meeting (Vet's Hall) - 6:30 pm
- 18 RRFF Board Meeting
- 19-22 Lower Sac Outing (Christie Geernaert)
- 20-22 Spey-O-Rama - (GGA&CC - Golden Gate Park)
- 26 Fly Fishing Film Tour - (Rialto Theater)
- 28 RETU Russian River Clean-up
- 28 Trout Season Opens

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

RRFF Board of Directors

President: **Ed Barich**

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Vice President: **Doug Mackay**

575-5709 demackay@sonic.net

Secretary and Outings Chairman: **Ken Magoon**

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Treasurer & Webmaster: **Mike Spurlock**

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

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Program Chairman: **Joe Banovich**

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Library Master: **Don Shaw**

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Member at Large: **Chris Castellucci**

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Member at Large: **Mike Kast**

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Membership Chairman: **Doug Mackay**

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Member at Large, Casting for Recovery: **Paul Matzen**

795-8885 ggbriidgeman@att.net

Member at Large: **Ken Young**

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Conservation Chairman: **Derek Campbell**

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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**

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

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Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**

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

765-1787 steve@inspiri2.com

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 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**

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**

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