

The Cast



Russian River Fly Fishers

Sonoma County California
Volume 46, Number 3
March 2019

Cioppino Dinner Crowd
Santa Rosa Vet's Hall

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

President's Message

Notes from the RRF Board

While heavy February rain and snow may have slowed down our member's outdoor activities, your Board has been busy with planning, organizing, and keeping the RRF running smooth.

The 2019 Annual Cioppino Dinner was held on February 16 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa. This year we served our guests 140 dinners, with tasty entrees created by Steve Tubb's Cioppino crew and John Frenzel's BBQ team. Since the Dinner is our primary club fund raiser, you will be pleased to hear that the net profit for the evening was \$6000, a record high of the past 6 years. The silent auction and raffle were a big success thanks to generous

item donations by our members and local stores, including Kiene's Fly Shop, Sweeney's Sports, Outdoor Pro, and The Fly Shop. A good time was had by all, and we would like to thank our members who volunteered their time to set up, run the event and clean-up afterwards – without their efforts, this great evening would not have been possible.

You may be wondering what the Board does with the profit that is generated by our annual dinner. Each year the majority of the income is used to cover our club expenses: hall rental fees, guest speaker fees, casting pond maintenance, and insurance. Beyond those essentials, the Board allocates funds to support the club's mission to advance, promote, practice and teach the art of fly fishing. For instance, this year the RRF donated \$1000 to both the Steelhead in the Classroom and Casting for Recovery

programs. The Board is in the planning stages of new programs to expand fly fishing education, both inside and outside the club. Stay tuned for more information on this in the next few months.

Like many club members, I went to the Pleasanton Fly Fishing show this month and while I was there I attended a meeting of the Northern California Council of Fly Fishing International (NCCFFI). You may not know this, but as of last year our club became an affiliated member of the NCCFFI. Our main intent in joining was to reduce our insurance expense by utilizing the group insurance that NCCFFI offers to all its members. At the meeting I became aware of other benefits that the NCCFFI provides in their efforts to assist fly fishing clubs in the areas of conservation, education and community. Of particular interest to me was the education category, where they offered to help clubs establish skills clinics that could be given to their members. The idea of pooling the knowledge of the many fly fishing clubs in California to provide a better experience for their members is very appealing to our board. We will keep you informed as we investigate the possibilities that membership in this association may provide. If you would like to learn more about the FFI, check out the content at <https://flyfishersinternational.org>

If you have any ideas about how our club could better meet the needs of our members, just contact me or any of the RRFF Board members with your thoughts. Our club works best when we are all involved in the process.

~ Ed Barich



RRFF Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics

Thursday, March 14th, marks the official beginning of our **RRFF Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics** for 2019. These weekly clinics are held **4:30 – 7:00 pm every Thursday evening** during Daylight Savings Time (weather permitting). We do not cast in the rain!

The **RRFF Casting Pond** is one of only four casting facilities in California, and the only one north of the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club in Golden Gate Park. It was constructed by the Russian River Fly Fishers in 1986 and donated to the City of Santa Rosa for public use. Located in the southeast corner of Dan Galvin Park, beyond the soccer fields and the dog park, the Casting Pond offers a premium practice area to perfect the Art of Flycasting. The pond is open 7 days a week during regular Dan Galvin Park hours.

Our Casting Clinics are always **FREE** and are **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!** Beginners are welcome and very much encouraged. We do have some equipment available for your use at the Casting Pond if you do not have your own.

The casting instruction team is made up of RRFF member volunteers who donate their time to help others learn to throw a fly line. We can start you with the basics, or help you learn more advanced techniques. Regardless, fly casting proficiency is largely the result of practice...and our fly casting venue offers the perfect opportunity to hone your skills.

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

www.rrflyfisher.org

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

Unlike other forms of fishing, fly fishing introduces a new level of involvement in the fishing experience. Largely based on observation of the environment, fly fishing requires the enthusiast to learn more about what is going on in whatever aquatic ecosystem they find themselves. This entails developing an understanding of interactive factors that occur both above and below the surface of the water, and how those factors influence the behavior and accessibility of your quarry. It also requires learning how to fly cast, described by some as an Art, and certainly a beautiful dance of line, air and water when performed correctly. I propose that the “beautifully executed fly cast” is one of the biggest influences in attracting new flyfishers to our sport.

Flyfishing can be a life-long pursuit, and perfection is truly unattainable. As your understanding develops, and as your questions change, you realize that each new realization and plateau only opens the door for an ever deepening integration with the world around you. Of course you choose how far you wish to take it...but there is always something new to observe and learn.

So...let's begin with fly casting.

Won't you join us?

~ Steve Tubbs

Casting Instruction Director

RRFF General Meeting

featuring

Mike Samuelson, on Patagonia

Matt Cardle, on English Chalk streams

Jon Ambrose, on reintroducing native salmon and steelhead above dams in the Central Valley

(Jon is the reintroduction coordinator for the NMFS' Central Valley Office.)

Wednesday, March 13th, at the Lodge Room of the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building. Meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Join the RRFF on Facebook

We currently have **935 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>



Thanks to all for making the Cioppino Dinner a financial success:

The dinner came out quite well financially exceeding any prior year by substantial amount. Here are some highlights:

- We made a profit of over \$6,000. The highest prior year is 2018 at \$3,700.
- Attendance was 140. Last year we had 114. The highest year for which we have records was 2016 which had attendance of 150.
- Expenses were lower than any of the last 4 years except 2017 when we only had 105 attendees.
- The total income from the raffle and the beer table was over \$1,600, second highest ever. The estimated value of the auction items was \$1,140 including \$290 of which was purchased by the club.
- The silent auction profit was over \$3,700, the highest ever. Last year was the previous all time high at \$2,500. The auction had 100% donated items this year. We took in an average of 75% of

what we estimate the auction items were worth.

- We had so many donations, we held some back for use in the future.
- We had about \$474 in donations this year (Magoon bucket, Steelhead in Classroom bucket and cash donated at raffle table). This is the first time we have solicited cash donations.



Cracked crab, ready for the sauce...

We would like to thank all those who made this year a record for donations to the dinner:

- Derek Campbell
- Diane and Kaitlin Magoon
- Don Shaw
- Doug Brutocao (Aqua Flies)
- Earl Cummings
- Edson & Annie Hudson
- Greg Jacobs
- Howard Nakagawa
- Jody Banovich
- John Frenzel (Cattlemens)
- Jon Baiocchi (guide)
- Ken Young
- Kiene's Fly Shop
- Lagunitas Brewery
- Larry Peter (Petaluma Creamery)
- Lorna Peters
- Michael Pendergast
- Mike Spurlock
- Outdoor Pro Shop
- Peter Santley (guide)
- Sweeney's Sports
- The Fly Shop



Yaaah! Out for Delivery! Update from Steelhead in the Classroom

RRFF coaches picked up steelhead eggs on 2/13 and then again on 2/27 for classrooms all around Sonoma County. Tom Greer, Bill Laurie, Charles Jacobs, Gregg Wrisley, Jeff Cratty, Mark Peterson, Tony Ramsden and Karl Joost were involved in getting classrooms from Sebastopol, Windsor, Petaluma, Rohnert Park and Roseland (Santa Rosa) started with 50 steelhead eggs for each classroom.

Carried in a container over ice, the eggs were very excitedly received. On the 2/27 delivery day after tremendous rain, with everything set up, some of the school districts were closed due to flooding! So our intrepid coaches had to find ways to connect with teachers going over not-yet closed back roads. Due to the CDFW permits, it was either now or not at all, so the teachers were excited to get the eggs in the tanks anyway.

On 3/27 another group of RRFF coaches, including Tim Reuling, Susan Churchill, Susan Bostwick, Patty Newland, Lee Soares, Ken Young, Bill Laurie and Tom Greer again will pick up and deliver eggs to the final group of schools, getting them all started on this journey.



(Photo 1 –)Here is the scene at Sonoma County Water Agency, as an employee from Warm Springs Hatchery brings eggs and permits.

(Photo 2) And there are Charles Jacobs and Mark Peterson ready to go.



(Photos 3,4,5) At Mrs. Der's 4th grade class in Rohnert Park, children are shown the newly arrived eggs and then individually help put them in the aquarium "redd", where they will be until they hatch and are released.





This is a very exciting beginning for learning about the life-cycle of steelhead and about the Russian River watershed.

A big thanks to all our volunteers for getting involved with the students.

~ Karl Joost
707-483-6172

Our continued thanks for the commitment of Susan Bostwick and Lee Soares, and their support of the RRFF Women's Activities and Fly-tying Program.

Donate your extra fly fishing gear to our RRFF Bargain Table (at every General Meeting). A fellow member could use it!



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.redshow.com



RRFF Opener – Pyramid Lake, April 25th – 28th.



Vintage RRFF Patch

RRFF Newsletter Submissions

Newsletter materials are due the fourth Monday of each month. Please email submissions as an MSWord doc to our newsletter editor:

Marcus Pipkin – marcus.pipkin@comcast.net

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Calendar of Events

RRFF Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics – Held every Thursday during Daylight Savings Time – 4:30 until 7:00 pm (weather permitting).

This event is **FREE** and is **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**
Beginners are welcome...

March

- 2 Last Winter Fly Casting Clinic – 12 – 2:30 pm
- 8-9 Red's Show – Santa Rosa Veteran's Building
- 13 RRFF General Meeting – 6:30 @ SR Vet's Hall
- 14 First Thursday Fly Casting Clinic – 4:30 – 7 pm
- 20 RRFF Board Meeting – Sportsman's Warehouse
- 21 Thursday Evening Fly Casting – 4:30 – 7 pm
- 28 Thursday Evening Fly Casting – 4:30 – 7 pm
- 28-31 Clear Lake Bass/Crappie Outing – (Chris Castellucci)

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**

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Library Master / Outings: **Don Shaw**

664-8573 donjanshaw@comcast.net

Outings Chairman: **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**

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Raffle Assistant: **Ken Young**

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Conservation Chairman: **Vacant**

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wisley**

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Member at Large: **Jeff Cratty**

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Steelhead in the Classroom: **Karl Joost**

978-3897 joost@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**

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Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**

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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

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