



Sonoma County  
California  
Volume 47, Issue 3  
March 2020

## FEBRUARY 2020 CIOPPINO DINNER

### President's Message

#### Updates from the RRF Board

While a droughty February may have slowed down our members' outdoor activities, your Board has been busy with planning, organizing, and keeping the RRF running smooth.

The 2020 Annual Cioppino Dinner was held on February 15th at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Santa Rosa. This year we served our guests 119 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 \$4350, our second highest ever. The silent auction and raffle were a big success thanks to generous donations by our members and local stores, and fly-fishing guide businesses. A good time

was had by all (check out the photos on our website taken by member Elvin Gines), 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, newsletter and website expenses, 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 \$1,000 to both the Steelhead in the Classroom and Casting for Recovery programs, and we just recently provided a scholarship for a child to

attend Trout Unlimited's Sierra Trout Camp. As was mentioned in January, the board is beginning a program to provide mentoring to new club members to help them learn fly-fishing skills that will improve their enjoyment of the sport.

Like many club members, I went 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 our club is 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>

One last bit of news is that the club's position of Conservation Coordinator has finally been filled. The board has approved members Charlie Schneider and Tom Greer to job-share the position in order to keep our members better informed about conservation issues that impact the quality of our sport, both locally and nationally. Since Charlie and Tom are members of board of the Redwood Empire Trout Unlimited chapter, the board hopes that their background will support this goal and promote future collaboration between RETU and the RRF. I will introduce them at our next General Meeting and please congratulate them on their new role.

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.

~ Ed Barich

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## Thank You to All of the Donors to Our Annual Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser

We had an amazing turnout for our annual cioppino dinner. How did we do on the dinner this year?

- Everyone seemed to have lots of fun.
- We had 119 attendees compared to 140 last year.
- Financially, we had our second-best year ever with over \$4,000.00 profit.
- Donations were very generous (and the best ever) with an estimated value of over \$7,000.00 (auction and raffle items and wine for the dinner).
- Next year the dinner will be held on March 13, 2021. Please save the date!
- A list of all the donors to the Cioppino dinner follows:

Bear Republic Brewing

California Cider Company

Cattlemens Restaurant

Chris Castellucci

Christie Geernaert

Confluence Outfitters Guiding

David Focha

Derek Campbell, Camelbak

Don & Jan Shaw  
Doug & Sylvia Mackay  
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Elvin Gines  
Glen Stanley  
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Heather Hamm  
Howard Nakagawa  
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James Orosz  
Jeff Cratty  
Jody Banovich, Parvino Wine Co  
John Frenzel  
Jon Baiocchi Troutfitters  
Karl & Louise Joost  
Kathleen McConnell  
Kelly Ames  
Ken Hanley  
Ken Young  
Kevin Ostrom  
Kings Sport & Tackle  
Lakeview Terrace Resort  
Larry Henzerling  
Lee Soares  
Legends Restaurant  
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Malcolm Zollinger

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Richard Loft, Napa Valley Guides  
Spencer Bader  
Sportsmans Warehouse  
Steve Tubbs  
Sweeney's Sports  
Ted & Joerg Olsen  
The Fly Shop  
Tim Grogan  
Wild Hog Vineyards  
*~ Editor*

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## A Few Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser Photos



*Manning the raffle ticket table*



*The Steak is looking good*



*Ready to eat*



*Lots of Crab*



*Ready to win a raffle item*



*Stirring the Pot*



*Enjoying each other's company*

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

Question of the day from a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Cross and Crown in Rohnert Park **“How do steelhead know where to go in the creeks?”**

RRFF coaches picked up steelhead eggs on 2/26 for classrooms around Sonoma County and delivered to Cross and Crown, Roseland Elementary, Gravenstein Elementary, Santa Rosa French American Charter School, Summerfield Waldorf School and Farm, Grant Elementary, Apple Blossom, and Westside School in Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Petaluma, Cotati, and Healdsburg.

The next pickups will be on Wednesday 3/11 and Wednesday 3/25. This is a big year!

RRFF coaches, much appreciated by the classroom teachers, offer insight and tales of fishing experiences; what fish eat; they may share flies that match hatches; and sometimes even show the kids about fly casting. Our coaches this year are Jeff Cratty, Bill Laurie, Charles Jacobs, Gregg Wrisley, Karl Joost, Mike Spurlock, Tom Greer, Tony Ramsden, Andy Crichton, Alan Espinosa, Kevin Ostrom, and Elvin Gines.

We encourage the students to know the life cycle of steelhead; experience the creeks and streams around them; help to protect their watershed; and know about/identify the “bugs” that our fishy friends like to eat. And, we encourage them to ask a lot of questions and have good discussions with each other and their teachers and coaches.

Here’s a photo of Shelly Spriggs at Sonoma Water ready to check out eggs from Warm Springs Hatchery to coaches, and a photo from Ms. Der’s class in Rohnert Park.



*The Kids are Excited as they Crowd around the Tank*

Let’s all pray for March rain to fill the creeks!

~Karl Joost

(707) 483 6172





The Eggs!!!!

Francisco, and a Cal Trout Board Member. A well-traveled and seasoned outdoorsman, George knows the ins-and-outs of the fly fishing and is passionate about making the sport accessible throughout a client's lifetime.

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### Casting Pond Address

For the new members who may not be aware, our club maintains a beautiful casting pond located in the confines of Dan Galvin Park. The park's address is **3330 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95405.**

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Learning About the Life cycle of a Steelhead

**RRFF Newsletter**  
**Submissions**

If anyone has a submission for the newsletter, please email your articles as a MSWord doc to our newsletter editor:

**Marcus Pipkin –**  
**marcus.pipkin@comcast.net**

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### March General Meeting and Speaker

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 - General Meeting at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 7PM featuring a presentation by George Revel on West Coast Steelhead.

George Revel is the owner of Lost Coast Outfitters and is a California native who has traveled around the world with the hopes of lucking into Steelhead. George has caught steelhead in CA, OR, WA, BC, AK, and Russia. He is a three-time National Fly-Casting Champion, rod designer, FFF Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor, Past President of the venerable Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club in San



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## March Calendar of Events

5 [Redwood Empire Trout Unlimited meeting at Lagunitas Brewing](#)  
6-8pm

8 Day Light Savings, Casting Pond Clinics on Summer Schedule =  
Thursday's 4:30-7:30

11 Steelhead in Classroom Egg Delivery to Classroom (2/26, 3/11,  
3/25) (Joost)

11 General Meeting at Vets Hall - [George Revel](#)- West Coast  
Steelhead (Don Shaw)

18 Board Meeting

25 Steelhead in Classroom Egg Delivery to Classroom (2/26, 3/11,  
3/25) (Joost)

26-28 [Pyramid Lake](#) (Chris Castellucci)

Visit [www.rrflyfisher.org](http://www.rrflyfisher.org) for a complete list  
of upcoming events!

## RRFF Board of Directors

## RRFF Board of Directors

President: **Ed Barich**

539-4608 [ebarich@sonic.net](mailto:ebarich@sonic.net)

Vice President: **Doug Mackay**

575-5709 [demackay@sonic.net](mailto:demackay@sonic.net)

Secretary: **Vacant**

Treasurer & Webmaster: **Mike Spurlock**

(415) 599-6138 [mikerrff@gmail.com](mailto:mikerrff@gmail.com)

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

765-1787 [steve@inspiri2.com](mailto:steve@inspiri2.com)

Program Chairman: **Don Shaw**

477-5928 [donjanshaw@comcast.net](mailto:donjanshaw@comcast.net)

Outings Chairman: **Chris Castellucci**

763-2017 [chrslucci@aol.com](mailto:chrslucci@aol.com)

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

575-5709 [demackay@sonic.net](mailto:demackay@sonic.net)

Raffle Committee: **Paul Matzen**

795-8885 [ggbriidgeman@att.net](mailto:ggbriidgeman@att.net)

Conservation Chairman: **Charlie Schneider and Tom Greer**

Newsletter Editor: **Marcus Pipkin**

(615) 969-9200 [marcus.pipkin@comcast.net](mailto:marcus.pipkin@comcast.net)

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wisley**

823-5572 [gwriss@yahoo.com](mailto:gwriss@yahoo.com)

New Member Mentoring Coordinator: **Jeff Cratty**

796-3691 [rjcratty@yahoo.com](mailto:rjcratty@yahoo.com)

Steelhead in the Classroom: **Karl Joost**

978-3897 [joostspacbell.net](mailto:joostspacbell.net)

## Coordinators

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

974-2651 [frommewee@comcast.net](mailto:frommewee@comcast.net)

Women's Activities: **Susan Bostwick**

815-5926 [shbgold@gmail.com](mailto:shbgold@gmail.com)

Casting Pond Steward: **Doug Mackay**

575-5709 [demackay@sonic.net](mailto:demackay@sonic.net)

Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**

527-9607 [fsh2xsbc@earthlink.net](mailto:fsh2xsbc@earthlink.net)

**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 30<sup>th</sup>

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