

The Cast



Russian River Fly Fishers

Sonoma County California
Volume 45, Number 9
September 2018

Tim Reuling with "Fish On!" at Kinney Reservoir
~ August RRF Outing ~

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

President's Message

Ask not what your club can do for you...

With the first RRF General Meeting of the club fiscal year happening this month, I am tempted to report to you all the benefits that come with membership: fly casting lessons, guest speakers, fly fishing outings and the general comradery of hanging out with other members of the fly fishing community. It would be a great way to arouse interest in increasing our numbers, but with about 175 paid members to date, we are already a substantial crowd. Instead, I would like to concentrate your attention on increasing our number of *active* members. Right now our Board of Directors consists of 13 members who donate substantial amounts of their free time to make our club worth joining. Ask any of them if it is worth the effort, I am sure that they will tell you it certainly is. Here are some of the positions that our board needs to fill in the next few months:

Celebration of Life — Ken Magoon

In loving memory of Kenneth Magoon, please join his wife, Diane, and daughter, Kaitlin, together with friends and family, in a celebration of his life on **Sunday, September 16th**. Ken, a long-time RRF member, passed away at home on July 24th. His family would like to invite Ken's RRF friends and comrades for tributes, photo remembrances, fellowship, and light refreshment at **Legends Restaurant** at the Bennett Valley Golf Course from **11:00am until 2:00pm**.

RSVPs are appreciated. Casual attire is suggested. Please send questions and RSVPs to: CelebratingKenMagoon@gmail.com

- Board Secretary – With the passing of Ken Magoon last month, our bylaws require that we have a secretary present at board meetings. The main function of the Secretary is to

accurately record the minutes of the monthly board meetings and promptly make them available for the club members. As an officer of the board, you would be able to contribute to decisions that affect the direction of the club and ensure that our members see value in belonging to the RRFF.

- Conservation Chairperson – Our bylaws include the promotion and conservation of recreational resources and game fish. No, this is not the primary function of our club, but if we don't pay attention to this issue our sport will eventually disappear. We need a conservation chair who can educate us on what is at stake, and show us opportunities where we can contribute our time, talent and treasure to keeping our sport alive.
- CAST Newsletter Editor – I know you enjoy reading the monthly CAST (you must be reading it right now!), but what if this were the last issue? We have been trying to find an editor to replace Steve Tubbs for two years, but with no success. Steve has graciously continued publishing during that period, but I would not blame him if he said this was his last month. We need someone with basic MS Word skills and ability to edit. We would also welcome that person to join the board so that the CAST would continue to accurately describe club events.

For more information on any of these positions, contact me at ebarich@sonic.net or 707-539-4608. And if they don't interest you, let us know what skills you would be willing to volunteer – there are other less urgent jobs that need to be staffed. Spreading the load helps our active members avoid burnout and keeps more of us involved in the success of our club. All you need to do is...

...Ask what you can do for your club!

~ Ed Barich



RRFF General Meeting

Wednesday, September 12th, featuring

Hal Janssen

**7:00 pm – The Lodge Room, Santa Rosa
Veteran's Memorial Building**

Hal Janssen, nationally known writer, artist, lecturer and video personality has been fly-fishing over 60 years in fresh and saltwater. Golden Gate Casting Club "old-timers" mentored him as a child, giving him a shooting head and teaching him to cast. His rare naturally polarized eyes enable him to quickly analyze stream conditions, taking fish when others are unsuccessful. Growing up in the 50's, Hal was an active member of the *Rivers of a Lost Coast* "greats" group, and a consummate stillwater authority. Hal's self-confidence and fiery enthusiasm seem to guide him in everything he does.

Hal and Scientific Anglers developed S/A's wet-tip fly line. He helped develop Sunset Line Company's fly lines, the first tapered lead-core line, and the invention of the density compensated uniform sink line. Hal was the first to conceptualize the clear fly line and was part of changing Amnesia from solid to fluorescent colors. He created fly display boxes, tools, shirts, and more. Hal also designed a signature line of hooks with Partridge-U.K., and consulted with a number of companies on rod design. Over 70 Janssen fly patterns have been distributed worldwide. Hal has a series of three *Fly-Fishing Secrets* DVD's, and founded the Hal Janssen

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

www.rrflyfisher.org

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

Company in 1979, the first exclusively fly fishing equipment distributor.

As a fine artist, Hal Janssen illustrated all of the fly drawings and paintings for Anglers' Calendar for over 20 years and has illustrated many magazine articles. When Hal gets involved he usually gets "Best of Show," as exemplified by his fish carvings. He calls them "Living Wood" because of their unique life-like realism. In his spare time, Hal restores classic cars and has achieved professional pin-striper status.

Hal has written over 25 articles for leading fly-fishing magazines. He has contributed to 21 books as both artist and author. Hal gained broad recognition as an instructor for his stillwater fly-fishing seminars and schools, and has entertained thousands in fly club presentations as a member of the Coors Outdoor Team, and Ed Rice's International Sportsman's Exposition Pro Staff. He helped found the Diablo Valley Fly Fishers Club and is a fisheries consultant to conservation groups. Hal's book, *Stillwater Fly-Fishing Secrets*, is full of never before available stillwater information, revolutionary fly patterns, and instruction on how to tie and fish them.

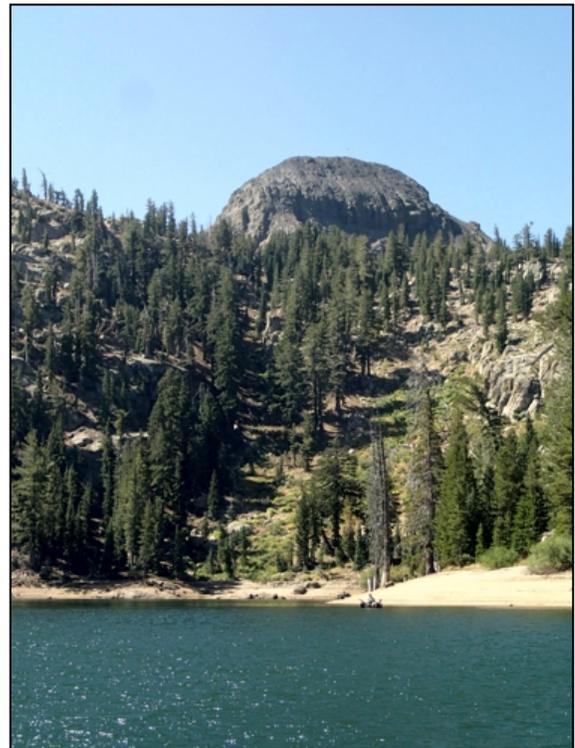
Hal is a member of the Federation of Fly-Fishing Hall of Fame and a member of the prestigious California Outdoor Hall of Fame. He is an exceptional individual who has made significant contributions to the sport of fly-fishing. ~ Marty Seldon



Fishing Lake Alpine and Its Environs

As in previous years, August is time for an RRFF outing at Lake Alpine in the Sierras, just off Hwy 4 near Ebbetts Pass. At 7300 feet elevation, the Pine Martin Forest Service campground on the east shore of Alpine provides cooler and cleaner air than is typically found elsewhere in late summer. And despite a smoldering forest fire just south of the pass, the air at Alpine was better than at home, thanks to prevailing westerly breezes.

This year's outing roster included Bill Laurie, Charlie Jacobs, Tim Reuling, Gregg Wrisley, Matt Cardle, Chris Castellucci and Ed Barich. With a group this size, we were able to pool our resources and have common dinners each of the three nights we



Trolling below Ebbett Mountain...

Pay Your Dues and Win a Prize!

Have you paid your 2018/2019 RRFF membership dues yet? Well, if you haven't, we have an incentive for you to do it soon. **Sportsman's Warehouse** in Rohnert Park has donated a **\$100 gift certificate** to the RRFF and we are going to raffle it off at our September 12 General Meeting. All you have to do to be eligible for the raffle is (1.) pay your dues before the meeting and (2.) show up to receive your ticket and put it in the tumbler. Remember you must be present to win – so we are looking forward to a good turnout!

Paying your dues is easy. You can pay online with your credit card at www.rflyfisher.org, or send a check payable to: **Russian River Fly Fishers to: Russian River Fly Fishers, c/o Mike Spurlock, 20 San Domingo Way, Novato, CA 94945.** Do it today!

camped, leaving us with more time to fish and relax. Charlie barbecued some juicy sirloin steaks over a wood fire one evening, and Bill Laurie treated us with pasta with homemade sauce on another. But the most impressive culinary production was when Matt created a paella feast from scratch. Using a large steel paella pan and a Spanish propane burner specifically designed for this application, Matt combined sausage, chicken, vegetables and rice into a dish that was a feast for the eyes as well as the taste buds. As Bill has often said, we might need to change the description of the RRF to a “fishing and fine dining club”.



Off to Wolf Creek...

During last year’s outing, most of us spent all of our fishing hours on Lake Alpine since the action there was very good. Alas, conditions at the lake had changed considerably this year – the water level was probably eight feet lower than the record 2017 level. According to the locals, PG&E (the operator of the reservoir) had released a substantial amount of the reserve in the previous weeks. The result was that some of the best spots we fished last year were now high and dry, and the drop in water level had put the trout in a frump. After an afternoon and morning of trolling and casting with only a few fish teased, it became apparent that the Lake Alpine bite was definitely off compared to previous years.

With the consensus that the grass had to be greener on the other side of the range, we packed up our angling gear and drove over the pass to the East Carson River area. Matt had more experience on this side than the rest of us, so he guided us to a small tributary called Wolf Creek. Wadered-up and armed with our lightest fly rods, we marched across an irrigated meadow, past puzzled cattle, to the tiny stream. This was a wild rainbow fishery, and we

spread out along the creek to spend a few hours pestering the tiny native trout, without the need to share it with any other anglers.



Launch at Kinney Reservoir...

On the last day of our outing, we got up early and took our kayaks, pontoons and float tubes to the top of Ebbetts Pass, where Kinney Reservoir sits at the top of the Silver Creek drainage. We had heard that Kinney had been planted with rainbows the previous week, so our hopes were up, anticipating some better lake fishing. At around 8000 feet, it was noticeably cooler at Kinney than at Alpine, and although the lake is shaded by Ebbett Mountain to the west, winds swirled across its surface making boating and casting interesting to say the least. The fishing started out very slow, but later in the morning Tim was able to show us how to troll woolly buggers and sparrow flies and land some of the planted rainbows.

After lunching on the dam at Kinney, we packed up our boats and headed east to the East Carson for some afternoon angling. The number of fly fishers we saw there was greater than anywhere else we have been on the outing, but there was not much action going on there either. The one exception was a personal best that I accomplished – I finally caught a trout on my Tenkara rod. Sometimes a minor victory seems bigger when things are slow.

Although the Lake Alpine action was not up to par, a useful side effect was that it got us out to visit some of the other waters in the area. That, along with pleasant camping, tasty food and good companions, makes an RRF outing better than working - any day.

~ Ed Barich

Newsletter Editor

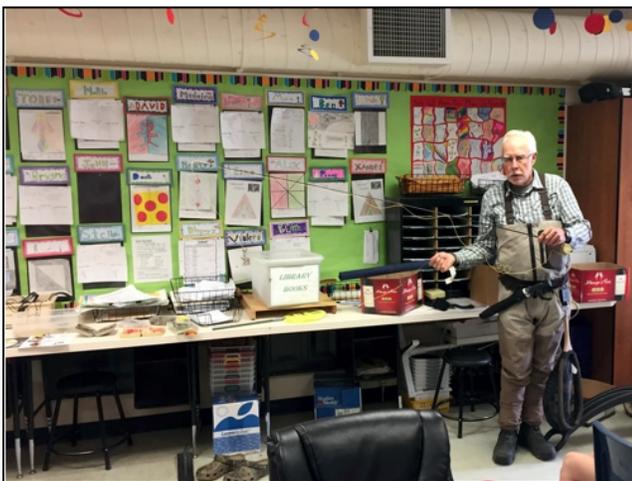
WANTED!!

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

Please contact Steve Tubbs - steve@inspiri2.com



This is pretty neat stuff and a chance to really spark some life-long interest in the environment, steelhead, trout, and possibly fly fishing.



Steelhead in the Classroom

WOW! 50 steelhead eggs per classroom: Steelhead in the Classroom 2018 - 2019!

Want to help children get excited about creeks and rivers, steelhead and trout? You can - by being a coach with the **Steelhead in the Classroom** program. It's easy, training is free, and there is a great network of RRF coaches from last year.

You, as the coach, can help a teacher set up a 10 gallon tank and chiller that will be used to hatch the steelhead eggs. Through the program, Warm Springs Hatchery provides the steelhead eggs that you will bring to the classroom. When the eggs hatch and the fry are ready, you can help the classroom release them in a local tributary of the Russian River.



Want to know more? Ask Karl Joost (cell: 707 483 6172) or any of last year's RRF coaches about their experiences: Bob Pawlan, Christie Geernaert, Jeff Cratty, Bill Laurie, Ken Young, Mark Peterson, Susan Bostwick, Lee Soares, Tim Reuling, Tom Greer, Tony Ramsden and Mike Spurlock.

Most of your effort will be in February, March and April, so being a coach probably won't interfere with your fishing trips!
~ Karl Joost



For more on river otters:

<https://www.kqed.org/science/681180/what-if-you-could-put-your-pregnancy-on-hold-these-animals-can>

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/river-otters-making-a-comeback-in-parts-of-bay-area-watershed/vi-AAygV21>



River Otters Coming Back!

In late spring, I spotted a river otter making its way from Santa Rosa Creek, over Flat Rock, and into the pools of Brush Creek. As I watched, it deftly checked under the overhanging brush and under large rocks for trout and crayfish. In about two minutes it found a crawfish, and “snip-snap” - up in the air and down the hatch. I also observed a nice trout watching motionless from the middle of the creek as the otter went about its business. It's a sign of health for the creek for sure.

~ Karl Joost



Join the RRFF on Facebook

We currently have **903 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>



Heenan Lake

CDFW Heritage Trout Challenge

8 miles east of Markleeville on Hwy. 89 at Monitor Pass, Heenan Lake is one of the few remaining places to catch a Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. Heenan sits down in a little bowl at 7200 feet.

The regulations are a little complicated, so be sure you are familiar with them. Starting on the Friday of Labor Day weekend and going until the last Sunday of October, Heenan is open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from sunrise to sunset. No bait is allowed, only barbless hooks may be used, and all fish must be released.

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Calendar of Events

Thursday Evening Fly Casting Clinics – Held every Thursday evening, 4:30 to 7:00 pm (weather permitting).
This event is FREE and is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
Beginners are welcome...

September

- 12 **RRFF General Meeting** – 6:30 pm, Vet's Hall
- 16 **Celebration of Life – Ken Magoon** – Legends Restaurant, Bennett Valley – 11am – 2pm
- 19 **RRFF Board Meeting** – Sportsman's Warehouse

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**
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Program Chairman: **Joe Banovich**
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Library Master / Outings: **Don Shaw**
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Outings Chairman: **Chris Castellucci**
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Member at Large: **Mike Kast**
538-9762 michaelrkast@gmail.com

Membership Chairman: **Doug Mackay**
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Member at Large, Casting for Recovery: **Paul Matzen**
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Raffle Assistant: **Ken Young**
539-9649 wlk4fun@sbcglobal.net

Conservation Chairman: **Vacant**

Raffle Coordinator: **Gregg Wisley**
823-5572 gwris@yahoo.com

Coordinators

Day Fishers & Fly Tying: **Lee Soares**
974-2651 frommewee@comcast.net

Women's Activities: **Susan Bostwick**
815-5926 shbgold@gmail.com

Casting Pond Stewards: **Doug Mackay**
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Casting Pond Monitor: **Binky Castleberry**
527-9607 fsh2xsbc@earthlink.net

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](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