



Promoting the Art, Recreation & Conservation of Fly Fishing Since 1975

President's Message

April 2011



By Wayne Holloway

Spring is coming! Isn't it? I love March for two reasons, Daylight Savings Time and the First Day of Spring. Not that I'm loving it much today though. I'd been planning to go fishing; Plan A, head to Pyramid, Plan B, the Lower Yuba. Well now it's raining, hard, and melting the snow that has already fallen. Pyramid is gusting to 40 mph, the Yuba is ripping along over 10,000cfs and those fish gotta be getting dizzy! So here I am writing my President's Message and you can understand that my March enthusiasm is somewhat bridled this year. I have managed to get some things accomplished though, as in a pretty good stab at my "Usually don't get to do" list. You know, fix hole in waders, lube reels, clean line, sort flies, tie more flies for the Yuba, Pyramid and Henderson Springs...

Which reminds me- The demand has been so high for Henderson Springs that I have scheduled another Fishout to those sacred waters in the Fall. The May trip is full, but if you're into catching lots of big, beautiful, feisty fish, sign up for October 9th & 10th. Quick!

Speaking of Big Fish- I did manage to get one day of fishing in. I tagged along recently with the Shasta County Mayflies. I got a pass to one of their fishouts (because I promised to barbeque lunch). They're an adventurous lot for sure. It rained most of that day and the wind never stopped howling. We met at a little place east of Red Bluff called Eagle Canyon Trophy Trout Lakes (heavy emphasis on "trophy"). I managed 6 nice fish, but #7 was something for the record books. This thing weighed in at somewhere between 15 and 17 pounds and pushed 34 inches. No lie! It was no wild steelhead mind you, but was still an experience I will not forget. I'll cook lunch for the Mayflies anytime!

Things to ponder on- Salmon season! Yes, it appears that there is going to be one. That's saying a lot knowing their plight the last several years. A number of years ago Zandi and I were up in Stanley, Idaho.

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Website link <http://www.qcff.org>

As it happened we were there on the weekend of their local Salmon Festival and we took a tour of the redds with one of the Rangers. I remember him saying that salmon have been such a significant part of the food chain for so long that there is trace evidence of salmon genetics in everything. That's right, you, me, bears, trees, bugs...you get the picture. Pretty incredible! Making it pretty important (ya think?) that these magnificent creatures continue to thrive on the planet. To say the least our California runs have struggled, as salmon species have globally. So I'm delighted, yet skeptical and a bit nervous about the declaration of a *season*, meaning, that the state's ocean waters between Cape Mendocino and Point Sur are going to open for full recreational salmon fishing on April 2nd. The pre-season "ocean salmon abundance forecasts" are that there are 730,000 Central Valley Chinook salmon roaming around out in the Pacific right now. Could it be they are bouncing back from the unprecedented collapse of the past several years? In college I remember running similar forecasts and population estimates for Bio professors more than a few times. I'm sure it's no more a precise science now than it was then. Again, I'm skeptical and more than a little bit distrusting. Maybe we should leave well enough alone...at least for a little while longer.

Parking problem- Just a reminder that if our lot is full you can enter at Gate #4 and find plenty of additional parking close by.

What Fly Fishing Teaches Us- Humility

It has been determined that a fish's brain is the size of a pea. The size of a fisherman's brain has yet to be determined.

Enjoy the rain...

Wayne



By Trent Pridemore

Gold Country Fly Fishers Programs

April brings Keith Kaneko of Angling on the Fly. This will be a new program on the Amazon and Fly Fishing for Peacock Bass. Keith does a good job always.

May is friend Dan LeCount of Truckee. He guides and is one of the best tiers in the area. This program is about fly fishing Prosser, Stampede and Boca for Smallmouth Bass and trout. Possibly fly tying demos on appropriate patterns by a Master.

June is Free Hamburger Night along with Tall Angling Tales. Think of your best short Tale and have it ready. A prize of one bottle of "Fly" wine will be awarded. Lots of camaraderie and BS.

Trent

GCFF Dues Reminder

Gold Country Fly Fishers membership dues for 2011 are \$35 for an individual and \$50 for a family of two or more. If you haven't already paid your dues, you will have an opportunity at the April meeting – or you can send a check, made payable to "GCFF" to:

Neal Brunckhorst , Treasurer
19958 Chaparral Circle
Penn Valley, CA 95946



Neal Brunckhorst is a happy man with this nice Pyramid Lake Lahontan Cutthroat

Meeting & Program Announcements

The next meeting of the Gold Country Fly Fishers will be Tuesday April 5th at the Ponderosa Building (formerly known as the Senior Center) in Nevada County Fairgrounds – Grass Valley. Use Gate #2. The General Meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Members of the Board meet at 5:30pm & the Conservation Committee meets at 6:00pm.

Program:

***Keith Kaneko, with Angling on the Fly
Presentation on Fly Fishing on the Amazon River for Peacock Bass***



By Mike Williams

Fishouts

Note: Todd Williams assists Mike Williams with coordination of Fishouts. Mike can be contacted at 530-265-3589 river-angler@att.net and Todd at 530-274-8046 tmwflytyer@yahoo.com



Todd Williams

March 2011 will no doubt go down in the books as a tough month to get out and do any kind of fishing here in the Northern Sierras. Understandably we had to cancel all of our outings for the month of March. One of the topics that we've been discussing as a group is that it's our objective to put you on the water, for any of these events, giving you the best possible chance to be successful. With that in mind, we will cancel outings or reschedule events that best coincide with weather and water conditions. That's all we can do!

Our fishout planning group consisting of Wayne Holloway, Frank Rinella, Clay Hash, Don Steffa, Rocco Fasone and Todd Williams have all helped me plan this year's schedule. We have 3 outings planned for this month, so make sure that you refer to the current schedule. Club fishout schedules are revised monthly and are always available for you as part of the newsletter or at the sign-up table.

On April 23rd we've scheduled a Bass-Trout outing to Upper Scotts Flat Lake. Hosted by Rocco, this outing will be dependent on water conditions. Water temperature and clarity will dictate what we should do. If it's still too cold for the Bass, the Trout should be willing. Be prepared to fish for both that day. See Rocco for questions. On April 28th Frank and Clay will be doing another Lower Yuba River Techniques Clinic. The fishing on the Lower Yuba is so interesting that we plan to do multiple clinics throughout the year. See Frank or Clay for questions.

On Saturday April 30th Don Liljeblad will host another spring Bass outing at Lake Wildwood. There will be a 20 member limit on this outing first come first served. Len Valente will assist and host a BBQ lunch. There will be a \$5 per person fee for the food. As always we plan to have sign-up and info sheets available at the April meeting, so stop by the table.

You'll see that we haven't scheduled anything for the first part of April. We're going to let things settle down a bit.

Mike



Ed Tom with one of his many Pyramid Lake Lahontan Cutthroats



Our President apparently doesn't catch small fish



It's really fun when you catch a good one right under the coach's nose!

Fishout Schedule for 2011

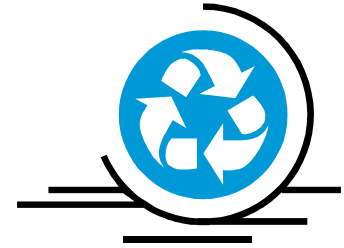
Date	Location	Fish	Fish Master	Phone
April 23	Upper Scotts Flat Lake	Bass	Rocco Fasone	530-432-2769
April 28	Lower Yuba River Clinic	Trout	Clay Hash Frank Rinella	530-913-1334 530-906-4116
April 30	Lake Wildwood BBQ	Bass	Don Liljeblad Len Valente	530-432-5964 530-432-4982
May 6	Feather River	Shad	Bob Alvares	530-478-9643
May 7	Little Kids Fishing Derby Malakoff Diggins SHP	Trout	Frank Rinella	530-906-4116
May 13-14	Henderson Springs	Trout	Wayne Holloway	916-826-8652
May 14	Lower Scotts Flat Lake	Trout	Rocco Fasone	530-432-2769
May TBA	Lower Yuba River Clinic	Trout	Clay Hash	530-913-1334
May 25-26	Clear Creek Sports Club Date tentative – could change	Trout	Frank Rinella	530-906-4116
June TBA	Davis Lake-Frenchman's (Campout)	Trout	Norm Sauer	530-478-1679
June TBA	East Carson, Walker River	Trout	Need Volunteer	
June TBA	Little Truckee River (Late June)	Trout	Ralph Wood	530-346-7065
June TBA	Golden Trout Wilderness (After Ice Out- We may adjust this month)	Trout	Rocco Fasone	530-432-2769
July 7-10	Fall River	Trout	Mark Rockwell	530-432-9198
July 23	Milton Lake	Trout	Rocco Fasone	530-432-2769
July TBA	Alpine Meadows (Granite Chief Wilderness)	Trout	Todd Williams	530-274-8046
July 30	Gold Lakes Basin (Date Tentative)	Trout	Mary Crooks Rocco Fasone	530-272-3173
July TBA	Madison, Yellowstone River	Trout	Clay Hash	530-913-1334
August TBA	Fuller Lake Family BBQ	Trout	Need Volunteer	
August 27	Lower Yuba River (UC Davis)	Trout	Mike Connor	530-432-3236
September 9-10	Frenchman's Reservoir (Overnight Campout)	Trout	Wayne Holloway	916-826-8652
September TBA	Lower Yuba River (Monday Evenings)	Trout	Steve Allen	530-470-0677
September 24	Boca Reservoir	Trout	Rocco Fasone	530-432-2769
September TBA	North Yuba River (Late September)	Trout	Ralph Wood	530-346-7065
September 17-21	Eastern Sierra 5 day trip	Trout	David Bear	530-265-2269
October 6-7	Upper Sacramento River Dunsmuir	Trout	Wayne Holloway	916-826-8652
October 8-9	Henderson Springs	Trout	Wayne Holloway	916-826-8652
November	How about early November	Stillwater fly fishing for Fall Browns?		
December	Maybe another clinic or North Coast	Steelhead		

See Todd Williams about leading a fishout. You too can do it.



By John Felde

Conservation Corner



Topic for the month is the Trout in the Classroom. There has been a lot going on in this program. Seven classrooms received about 35 steelhead eggs each in mid-February for their prepared tanks. All but 2 were able to rear their eggs successfully to alevin and ultimately to fry. Two classrooms released their fry on Tuesday, March 15th at Sailor Bar on the American River, despite the heavy rain and high water in the river. The other classes put their fry in the river on March 17th and all classes attended a tour of the hatchery after the release.

The 2 classes that lost their fry both suffered power failures for an extended period of time. I believe the lack of circulation resulted in a disappointing situation for the volunteers, teachers and the kids, but they are all willing to give it a go next year. I hope to put together a power point presentation about the program in the near future.

Don Hess will be transitioning out of the program after several years of dedicated work. Don has built tanks, handled parts acquisition, and coordinated both volunteers and teachers, along with maintaining liaison with the hatchery folks. He has always been available for questions as well as a source of training for the volunteers. He has certainly paid his dues and merits a giant "Thank You" for his ongoing efforts. Good job, Don, and my personal thanks for your work on behalf of the committee and the volunteers.

Thanks are in order for the volunteers as well for working with teachers and kids, attending training and tank set-ups, and releases of the fry. I hope to reorganize the program for next year with more volunteers and a better distribution of the workload. If anyone is interested, please contact me. John Felde 271-1103 johnfelde@colfaxnet.com

John

ATTENTION FLY LADIES

GCFF is in the process of creating activities and fishing opportunities for the ladies in the Club or for other ladies interested in Flyfishing. At the present time we are creating a list of interested women or of the men who have ladies who might be interested. We are looking for suggestions and input for activities. Suggestions and ideas have included knot tying, casting, streamside techniques, fly tying and the recognition of flies, organizing fly boxes and of course, FISHING. Suggestions have been around improving techniques as well as introducing new women to the sport.

Are you interested? Sign up at the Club Meeting, or call Board Member, Anna Lee Lantz at 265-0560, or e-mail her at outcast1@att.net. E-mails will be sent to those interested announcing activities and a gathering to meet and talk about this new direction for the Club. Of upcoming interest will be a Lower Yuba LADIES ONLY clinic with the ladies of the Granite Bay Flyfishing Club, led by Clay Nash and Frank Rinella. It is being scheduled for June, TBA.

Anna Lee

Raffle for April 5th Meeting

Door Prize:	LED Multi Tool with Lite
Regular Items:	Made in the Shade Fly Fishing Shirt: Olive large
	Albright FWWFL-4 Premium Fly Line
	Mono Master Waste Line Holder
	Red Wine with Fly Enclosed Key Chain



Big Ticket Item:
Solid Wood Fly Tying Materials Cabinet
\$ 5.00 per Card Purchased
Requires 25 cards to be SOLD to Raffle

Refreshment Report

April 5, 2011 Meeting

Snacks provided to all attending members in April will be the following:

Cookies, Coffee & Herbal Teas
Lemon Lime Water
Assorted Bread Wheels & Party Crackers
Salami & Cheese Tray
Assorted Spring Vegetables & Ranch Dip
Baked Artichoke & Parmesan Spread

See you all On April 5th 2011. As always I appreciate all of your donations back into the snack fund each month. \$1.00 per meeting per person helps to offset the increased cost of the snacks provided and allows me to bring quality refreshments for all to enjoy.

Sincerely, Vicki Valente..

Vicki

Fly Tying and Fly Casting

Fly Tying: Wednesday April 13th 6:00 to 8:00 PM at 13835 Seven Cedars Dr. Grass Valley
Call Sam at 530-477-7537 before you come.

Fly of the month: Parachute Adams

Hook	TMC100 16-14	Body	olive
Thread	dun	Hackle	dun
Post	polypropilene		

Fly Casting: Wednesday April 13th at Lions Lake 10AM -12 Noon
Call before coming



Sam Higginbotham

The Northern California / Nevada Council Federation of Fly Fishers
is proud to announce the induction of



Jim Adams

into the

Fly Fishing Hall of Fame

Saturday Evening April 9th, 2011

at Silenus Vintners, 5225 Solano Ave, Napa California

Social hour and silent auction start at 5PM - Dinner at 7PM – Followed by live auction

Jim's contributions to the art and sport of fly fishing will be formally recognized as he becomes the

31st inductee into the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame

Join Jim's family and friends as well as other fly fishing enthusiasts

as we celebrate Jim's contribution to fly fishing history.

For reservations to this special event please visit our web site at

www.nccfff.org

Registration forms along with payment must be received by March 31, 2011 to reserve your space. Seating is limited!



Federation of Fly Fishers
Conserving – Restoration – Education through Fly Fishing

**Message on the above announcement from Mark Rockwell, GCFE
Representative to the Northern California Council of Federation of Fly
Fishers:**

I want to invite the GCFE members to come to Napa on April 9, 2011, for the NCCFFF Hall of Fame Dinner. As many know, once a year the NCCFFF inducts a fly fisher into the Hall and recognizes the important contribution the inductee has made to our sport. Jim Adams has been a fly fisher since a child in the Sierra, was the first fishery biologist to work for PG&E, and eventually built his group to over 60 people plus consultants. He was the recovery biologist for Hat Creek, and led the wild trout designation for this watershed, the first in California. He's been a lifelong steelhead and trout fisherman, and was in the movie, *Rivers of the Lost Coast*. He is now retired and continues to fish worldwide, and attends fishing shows with his booth with antique fishing equipment and books. Jim is someone who deserves our Thank You and recognition.

I'd suggest we try to have a GCFE table (9 people) to attend. This is Napa, so come early, bring wives/husbands or significant others, and enjoy a Napa Valley weekend. Contact Mark Rockwell, 432-0100, summerhillfarmvp@aol.com to sign up. Registration at: www.nccfff.org.

Fly Exchange

Don't forget to tie some flies for the monthly meeting Fly Exchange. Just bring 7 identical flies of your choice to the next meeting of Gold Country Fly Fishers. One of your flies will go into an assortment of flies from each tier which will be raffled off during the meeting. The remaining flies will be redistributed to each tier, so that each comes away with a variety of flies tied for that meeting. If you have questions or want more info on the Fly Exchange program, contact Ed Tom (273-6719 edtomcarvings@gmail.com) or Trent Pridemore (274-8770 trentpridemore@dishmail.net)

Note: The fly exchange will take place at each monthly meeting, including April 5th.

Gold Country Fly Fishers

P.O. Box 2988
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Officers and Board Members

President: Wayne Holloway

Vice President: Dennis Carlson

Secretary: Tim Ackerman

Treasurer: Neal Brunckhorst

Director: Frank Rinella

Director: Jim Coe

Director: Anna Lee Lanz

Director: Todd Williams

Past President: Steve Allen

Committees & Chairs

FFF: Mark Rockwell

Mentoring: Frank Rinella w/ Don Steffa

Conservation: John Felde w/Gery Anderson

Programs: Trent Pridemore w/Steve Allen

Fishouts: Mike Williams & Todd Williams

Raffle: Vicki Valente

Meeting Snacks: Vicki Valente

Library: Len Valente

Casting/Fly Tying: Sam Higginbotham

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Newsletter: David Bear



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Note: Contributors to the GCFE 2010 Christmas Dinner Raffle are listed in the attachment to this month's Newsletter entitled "GCFE 2010 Christmas Raffle Sponsors". Members are encouraged to support those generous contributors

Gold Country Fly Fishers

Purpose and Objectives

Support the “catch and release” ethic

To promote fly fishing for the recreation of members

Promote and support the conservation of our water and fisheries

Provide assistance to members in the skill and techniques of fly fishing

Publicize and promote fly fishing, fly casting, fly tying, and other related topics

To represent fly fishers through liaison with sports and conservation organizations

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.gcff.org

Gold Country Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 2988
Grass Valley, CA 94945

