



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

President's Message

September 2010



By Steve Allen

Everyone in attendance enjoyed our Annual Pot Luck Picnic at Condon Park in early August. Program Chairman Trent Pridemore encouraged us all to bring our best picnic fare to accompany his secret recipe Tri-Tip and BBQ Chicken main courses. All dishes were excellent and we thank all those who made this event so much fun. Anyone missing this evening might give it a try next year. Good job Trent and Crew!

Frank Rinella will speak to us about the Greater Yuba Clean-Up at our September Meeting. This worthwhile effort will take place Saturday September 25th at Park's Bar (Marysville side) at 8:30AM. Please save this date, as this is our opportunity to repay our River for another year of first class enjoyment. The California Coastal Commission sponsors our Clean-Up Statewide, with SYRCL organizing locally. Come on out and join in the fun.

This warm weather encourages me to talk about our Christmas Party. Vicki will be organizing again this year, and the Voice of The Christmas Raffle Neal Brunkhorst will be entertaining us with his humorous ways with raffle tickets and prizes. December 4th is the date for our Christmas Party!

The Northern California Council of Fly Fishers is having their yearly Sportsman's Outdoor Expo in Placerville this October 1-3. Look for the poster in this Newsletter. Program Chair Trent Pridemore is looking for someone to help with our programs. If you are interested in serving our Club in this way, please go to this and other such events and get the cards and brochures of

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any impressive presenters you might hear. This is a "backyard event" that we would all enjoy.

While watching a fishing show on The Sportsman's Channel, I watched a fly tier wearing a SF Giants cap tie a great looking fly designed to catch the Golden Ghost (Carp). Turns out this tier was Hogan Brown; the speaker at our next meeting. We have all fished with flies that Hogan designed and tested on our local waters. Please make every effort to attend and soak-up all Hogan has for us at our next meeting. If you are not catching fish in The Lower Yuba, Hogan will get you thinking and doing the right things in the proper sequence.

Thanks to all who make our Club so active on our waters and effective in our community. See you all out there and at our Sept. Meeting.

Steve

MEETING & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Gold Country Fly Fishers will be Tuesday September 7th 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:

Hogan Brown – Entomology

Hogan guides for bass, trout, stripers, carp and a few other species in Northern California.



By Trent Pridemore

Gold Country Fly Fishers Programs

Thanks to everyone who attended the August BBQ and brought all the high quality food. We raise the bar higher each year. I calculated that each meal cost the club \$3.78. Not Bad! Thanks to the PIT Crew for their help and your support of this fun event. A loose head count suggested that we had 90 plus in attendance if we count the camp followers and ne'er-do-well's. Congratulations!!!

Our Fall Season starts on **September 7** with local boy done good....Hogan Brown. Hogan guides bass, trout, stripers, carp and a few other species in Northern California. He is working on a book, is a big time fly designer, has made videos and will present his new program on Entomology to us. Start the season with a good turnout. We blow speakers away with 85 or 90 in the room and that makes them want to return.

October brings Mark Rockwell with one of the most comprehensive updates on California's water situation that is around. Remember that there is an important Bond Measure on the November ballot. Maybe this will help us be intelligent in our choices. If you've ever fished or ridden with Mark to an outing, you know the vastness of his knowledge. He is a Past President of Gold Country, works for The Endangered Species Coalition and has been the Conservation Chairman for the Northern California Council of Fly Fishing Clubs. This is an interesting and a fascinating subject.

November brings writer and angler John Gantner from Redding. John and I go way back as he knew and did business with my father in his earlier tire business life. John publishes in a number of magazines and is hot on the circuit this year. He will be speaking on bass and winter trout and salmon fishing with a fly rod at Lake Shasta...for big puppies. We are 3 hours away and most of us are missing out on some high quality angling. I shifted a week on the coast so I can be here for John's presentation.

Trent

13th Annual Greater Yuba Clean up and Restoration Day September 25th 2010

Gold Country Fly Fishers and its members has been an active sponsor and volunteer base for this annual event and this year is no exception, we need your help. Our designated area for cleanup is our home fishing waters of the Lower Yuba River. This is one of those times that we can be good stewards and pay back the river for all the enjoyment it has given us. This event is headed up by (SYRCL) South Yuba River Citizens League, so we all must sign in on their online registration form at www.syrcl.org. On the online form enter GCFF as your (Group) and Parks Bar as your (Site location). The web site will list all basic information you need to know and what to bring. I will also need you to sign up with me and the next club meeting or drop me an email so I can keep track of our group. The meeting place will be the Parks Bar parking area on the Marysville side on the Hwy.20 Bridge. The date is Sept.25th from 8:45 am till noon. There will be a party and free lunch for all the volunteers after the clean up. Last year we had 30 volunteers, covered 8 miles of river and pick up the most trash in weight of any other group.

Frank Rinella
sierraguide@sbcglobal.net



Fishout Schedule for 2010

By Mike Williams

Date	Location	Fish	Fishmaster	Comments
September 9/10	Frenchman's Lake	Trout	Wayne Holloway	This will be a 2 night camp out, with Davis Lake as an option
September 25-30	Eastern Sierra	Trout	Dave Bear	Five night – six day outing in the Mammoth Lakes area, with room for 12 members in condos – others are encouraged to sign up even if they are providing their own lodging. Condo beds are all taken, but contact Dave Bear if you want to be on a waiting list in case of a cancellation. Note: there is a good possibility that we will have one cancellation as of 8/28/10. Call if you're interested.
October 7/8	Upper Sacramento River (with a two night stay)	Trout	Wayne Holloway	This will be held in the Dunsmuir area,
October 15/16	Henderson Springs	Trout	Wayne Holloway	
October TBA	Lower Yuba River	Dry Fly Clinic	Frank Rinella	
October TBA	North Yuba River Possible BBQ	Trout	Ralph Wood	
December 18	Lower Yuba UC Davis	Trout	Mike Connor	This outing will be from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, all depending on the weather
December TBA	Trinity/Klamath River	Steelhead	Need Volunteer	

FYI: 2010 DMV Schedule for Aerial Fingerling Trout Planting in Our Area

Reported by Rick Aeschliman

After responding to lawsuits and performing Pre-Stocking Evaluation Protocol on most California lakes, the DFG has resumed aerial stocking of fingerling trout on some local waters. Below is a list of lakes that were on the 2010 list for stocking in our area. In June, I visited one of the lakes on this list and can confirm that indeed, the traditional aerial stocking program is alive and well.

Nevada County

Island Lakes, Lindsey Lakes, Lola Montez Lake, Long Lake, Meadow Lake, Milk Lake, Rock Lakes, Sawmill Lake, Spaulding Reservoir, Tollhouse Lake, Bowman Lake, Bullpen Lake, Carr Lake, Culbertson Lake, Eileen Lake, Feeley Lake, Fordyce Lake

Plumas County

Frenchman Reservoir, Smith Lake

Sierra County

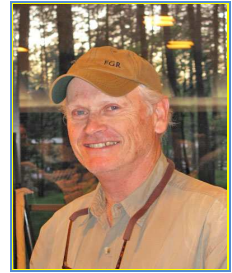
Deadman Lake, Deer Lakes, Hawley Lake, Salmon Lake, Sardine Lake, Saxonia Lake, Spencer Lake, Volcano Lake, Young America Lake



By Mike Williams

Fishout Report

Note: Don Steffa assists Mike Williams with coordination of Fishouts.



Don Steffa

If you haven't been to one of our club outings where Len and Vicki Valente BBQ for us, then you really are missing out. This past month at both the Fuller Lake and Lower Yuba UC Davis outings Len and Vicki did the cooking. Fishing this time of year can be slow. I attended both of these outings for the food and was not disappointed. Thanks Len and Vicki for putting on a fantastic spread.

Both of our outings this past month were well attended. Thanks go out to both Mike Connor for the UC Davis outing and to Len Valente for leading the Fuller Lake Family Picnic and fishout. This was the first year that I've seen so many families attend the picnic.

For September refer to the fishout schedule as we have 2 great outings planned. Talk to David Bear or Wayne Holloway if you want to participate. Also refer to the schedule for activities related to October. Don and I will have more information available for these at the upcoming meeting.

Mike

Report on Lower Yuba Fishout on August 21, 2010

The cool breeze off the Yuba River, the shade provided by the pavilion on the UC property, and the nice view of the Yuba all made for a perfect setting for the club fishout on August 21. Add to that the great lunch with brats and all the fixings, including appetizers, provided by Len and Vicki and you have a fine outing for the 18 club members that attended.

Of course, any relatively true fishing story that stresses the good weather and scenery finally admits that the fishing was a little tough. And so it is for this fishout. One fish landed seemed to be about the limit for most of the participants. Terry Reeve managed to get lots of hits and landed a fish on an X-caddis fishing off the rocks in the difficult slick water above the picnic table. Same for Jim Marchio in the side channel on a green and black dropper. Ed Tom had some success (of course) below the picnic table. Several of us hooked a fish at the foundation hole, but we were all sporting enough to provide them an early release.

The long-awaited hatch appeared at about two minutes before dark, but most of us were back at the pavilion enjoying companionship, a cool beverage, and the almost-full moon by then.

Contributed by Mike Connor



Lower Yuba Fly Fishing is a challenge



Lunch at the USD Site Pavilion



The lunch was sure good!

SPECIAL ARTICLE BY NORM SAUER

CHINOOK*(The Rhythm of the Centuries)*

This is the story of Chinook, a female king salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) born wild in the Yuba River, and the supreme climax of a life lived through its full cycle to its logical end.

From the dark ocean, Chinook, bright and silver, made her way through the Golden Gate and into San Francisco Bay. Chinook spent a month in the estuary undergoing physical changes to adjust to the fresh water. Homing instinct led her to ascend the Sacramento and Feather Rivers, then the cobbled Yuba River to where she had been born five years earlier. Her atavistic urge to ascend higher in the river was thwarted by the Englebright Dam, so Chinook sought suitable habitat in the river above the Park's Bar Bridge.

Chinook was of the largest of the Pacific salmon, which averaged 15 to 25 pounds. She was anadromous, being spawned in fresh water but living in the salt. Before the gold rush, it is believed a million king salmon a year entered the Sacramento watershed to spawn. Despite hatcheries, those numbers are now much depleted due to habitat degradation and dams that deprived many salmon of clean water and clean gravel essential to their survival. The Lower Yuba River is the exception.

For four years Chinook had roamed far and wide in the Pacific Ocean gorging on sand lances, candlefish, herring and anchovies. She had evaded seals, sea lions and killer whales. Once she entered fresh water she did not eat, but she nevertheless remained vital. She reached reproductive readiness as her gonads ripened and her eggs swelled. Meanwhile, her male counterparts underwent more dramatic changes by developing canine teeth, humped backs, and runnels of blackish pigmentation.

It was now late October. Chinook had been ten days in the shallow, swift, oxygenated water of the fantail of a large pool situated below a huge rock formation on the top of which was the old foundation of a 49er's cabin. In the fantail were many light patches of rocks and stones cleaned of their algal growth by the powerful tails of the spawning female salmon. Chinook was near the north bank from which one could see her dark grey shape over the upstream portion of her redd, or egg laying pit. Chinook's tail was frayed and worn from digging. She had lost much of her vitality from covering ten nests of a thousand eggs each, but she persisted.

Nearly spent, Chinook turned sharply on her side and quivered. The vibratory motion sent sand and stones over the beds of eggs that were now 14 to 18 inches below in the bottom of the redd. Chinook slowly returned to the top of her redd. She was joined by a large male salmon that had chased away two smaller males. The large male slid against Chinook, his head at her pectoral fin. Chinook lifted her head and touched her anal fin to the bottom of the depression. She and the male opened their mouths and trembled. Pink eggs spilled from Chinook into the depression, and whirling around them was the male's white milt. Then a small male from behind the redd shot up and squirted his milt on the eggs. Chinook then swam above the new nest and until exhausted quivered to move sand and gravel over the eggs.

Chinook became passive and began to drift with the current. Fungal spots covered her head and back. Soon Chinook expired. Her individual existence which started with the fall of an egg nearly five years ago was over.

But, Chinook's treasure was more than the eggs she laid. The eggs would hatch in 50 days in 50 degree F. water. Chinook's corpse and those of her brothers and sisters in their massive and simultaneous expiration would feed carnivores of every kind, and their rot and decay would nourish the stream and the land beside it. Chinook had done her part in continuing the rhythm of the centuries.

Norm Sauer is a resident of Nevada City. He is an avid fly fisherman and currently the Chairman of the Board and President of the Yuba River Preservation Foundation committed to the preservation and enhancement of the habitat of the lower Yuba River.

Note: If you have photos from a recent trip, please email them to your Newsletter Editor, David Bear and I will be happy to include them in the next edition. Photos don't have to be of fish but should show what you enjoy about the whole fly fishing experience.



Conservation Corner



By Gery Anderson

South Yuba Clean Up Day

Mark your calendars for September 25 to be part of the annual Yuba River Clean Up Day. Every year in partnership with the California Coastal Commission's Cleanup Day, SYRCL along with GCFF and other organizations puts on a river clean up day. Our club has been and is an active participant. We meet on the Marysville side of the River at the Highway 20 Bridge. We must sign in on line. Refer to Frank Rinella's article on page 2 of this newsletter for all the details.

Wounded Warriors Event

The Wounded Warriors event has been moved from the week of October 4th to October 11 through October 14th. Horseshoe Bar Fish and Game Preserve will be hosting seriously wounded veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. Last year's event covered three days and this year the event will take place over 4 days. The overwhelming expression of appreciation by the Veterans has been noted as one of the most humbling experiences of the hosts. These young people have high spirits in spite of the disabilities and suffering they have received protecting our safety and freedom. For those of us who may be able to help, there will be more information forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Gery



GCFF BBQ Aug 3rd Norm Sauer & Master Chef Trent Pridemore



GCFF BBQ August 3rd Jim Marchio – One of the Volunteer Cooks



GCFF Aug 3rd BBQ Attendees



Clear Creek Fishout – Jeff Ellis with a good Rainbow



Clear Creek Fishout - Dave Streeter with a nice Rainbow



Clear Creek Fishout Coordinator Frank Rinella with Dave Streeter



By Stan Sanderson

Minutes from the Gold Country Fly Fishers Board Meeting

(No board meeting was held last month, due to the annual club barbecue)



Karen Rinella and Guide Chris King with A super Trinity River Steelhead



Wayne Holloway picked up a good Sawmill Lake Rainbow



Keith Scott's beautiful Yuba River Rainbow

FOR SALE:

Coleman Crawdad Fly Fishing Boat

Great car-top fly fishing boat for two anglers.
Made of indestructible Ram-X material.
Always garage kept. Includes oars, anchors,
seat cushions and boat loader. \$250
call Rick Aeschliman



FLY TYING and FLY CASTING

Fly Tying: Wednesday September 8th 6:00 to 8:00 PM at 13837 Seven Cedars Dr. Grass Valley
Call Sam before you come.

Fly of the month: *Birdsnest*

Hook	Daiichi 1710 1X or 2X long heavy wire	Abdomen	natural grayish Australian opossum or Buggy nymph dubbing #16
Thread	tan 8/0 or 6/0	Wing	dark elk hair
Weight	lead wire (optional)	Head	amber goat dubbing
Tail	mallard or teal-flank natural bronze or dyed bronze	Hackle	mallard or teal flank-feather fiber bronze
Rib	small copper wire		

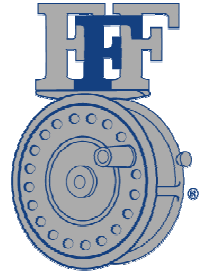


By Sam Higginbotham

Fly Casting:

No fly casting this month

Northern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers



JOIN US
Sportsman's
Outdoor Expo

DON'T MISS

Our Saturday night BBQ

The evening begins with a no host bar from 5 to 6 PM dinner for only \$30.00. The evening events will include a raffle and auction



El Dorado Fairgrounds
Placerville CA
October 1-3, 2010

Featuring

“The Learning Center”

Certified Casting instructors will be on hand along with some of California's best fly tiers.

For more information about the BBQ go to: www.nccfff.org



Jim Lynch & Friends, with SF Bay Halibut



Marvin Toles , with a 20 inch Rainbow,
Branscom, MO



Keith Scott, with a great Yuba River Rainbow



Pat Wood, with a Copper River/Iliamna
Sockeye Salmon



Ralph Wood sent this picture of a Copper
River Brown Bear feeding on
Salmon



Great shot of a Dall Sheep Ram from Ralph &
Pat Woods' Denali, Alaska Trip

Refreshment Report September 7, 2010 Meeting

Grapes, Cantaloupe & Strawberries
Bread and Spinach Dip
Crackers and Assorted Cheeses

Pinwheels
Mini Quiches
Assorted Cookies

Coffee & Hot Teas
Fruit Water

Vicki

Lost & Found

If you accidentally left a **two pronged stainless fork** at the BBQ at Condon Park on August 3rd, check with Trent Pridemore.

Fly Casting Competition

By Ace Emmerling

The following is a correction and update from my last article on tournament casting:

Correction: Steve Rajeff is 53 years old and since winning his first national all around championship at age 16 has lost once (to Chris Korich) and tied twice (not once as previously reported). Chris Korich and Henry Mittel, both of the San Francisco bay area have tied with Steve.

Update: As a surprise to no one, Steve Rajeff again won the National Grand All Around championship a couple of weeks ago at Lexington, Kentucky.

Ace

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 or Trent Pridemore

Note: The fly exchange will take place at each monthly meeting, including the September 7th meeting

Raffle for September 7th Meeting

Door Prize: LED Multi Tool

Regular Raffle: Hat with LED Clip Lite
5X Rio Tippet
Assorted Flies in Fly Box
Assorted Fly Tying Tools
First AID Kit
Pin on Reel Retractor
Fly Tackle Kit
6 PK. Trout Slayer Beer
Fly Exchange Flies Assorted
Red Wine with Cheese and Crackers
Stream Thermometer

Big Ticket: \$ 5.00 per ticket – 20 tickets needed
Albright 9.0' 5/6 WT Fly Rod & Reel With
Extra spool, Rio 5 wt. floating line,
5x & 6x tippet & 5x tapered leader.

Vicki Valente

Gold Country Fly Fishers

P.O. Box 2988
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Officers and Board Members

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Treasurer: Neal Brunckhorst

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Director: Tim Ackerman

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FFF: Mark Rockwell

Mentoring: Frank Rinella

Conservation: Gery Anderson & Mike Connor

Programs: Trent Pridemore

Fishouts: Mike Williams & Don Steffa

Raffle: Vicki Valente

Meeting Snacks: Vicki Valente

Library: Len Valente

Casting/Fly Tying: Sam Higginbotham

Webmaster: Terry Hobart

Newsletter: David Bear



Ralph Wood's Grayling, from the Gibraltar River, Lake Iliamna, Alaska

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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

