

# GOLD COUNTRY FLYFISHERS

December 2008

## President's Message



By Mike Connor

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Meeting & Program Announcement	1
Programs	2
Fishout Schedule	2
Fishout Report	3
Conservation Corner	4
2009 Officers	5
November Board Meeting Minutes	5
Classified	6

As my year as club president ends, I will take this opportunity to review the past year a bit, and thank some of the active members who helped the club to accomplish what it did in 2008.

Membership is now up to 124, substantially more than even last year's total, which was a big increase over previous years. We managed to keep from spending last year's budget surplus and will probably add to the surplus a bit at the end of 2008. We were an active club all year, and here is where I should start thanking people.

Ed Stember organized the fishouts as he had for several years. When he moved from the area, Mike Williams took over, and fishouts have remained a very active part of the club. Thanks, too, to those fish meisters who led the outings. Trent Pridemore kept good programs coming, and many were not very expensive, helping out the budget. Our list of conservation activities rivals most fly fishing clubs thanks to the leadership of Allan Gere and Steve Allen.

Rick Aeschliman produced a professional looking newsletter better than any newsletter that I have seen

from other clubs. We went electronic with our newsletter and other club communications, albeit with a few early glitches, and that, too, helped the budget considerably. Frank Herwatt made sure that hard copies of the newsletter got to those who needed it. Terry Hobart got our web site up to date.

Thanks to Vicki and Len Valente who do so many things for the club. Len packed our library in and out for every meeting. Thanks to Joe Abrell and Dave Lugar for making sure we have refreshments at each meeting and Tim Colbert for running the raffle. Thanks also to Sam Higginbotham for many fly casting and tying sessions. Frank Rinella represents the club with several organizations and is dedicated to the success of GCFF.

I mentioned that our conservation activities rival those of most clubs, and I am sure our financial records exceed any fly fishing clubs. Thanks to Neal Brunckhorst for watching our finances.

I think we have a great club. It is due to the commitment of the folks I just mentioned and those who I unfortunately forgot to include here. I have enjoyed being your president.

### Meeting & Program Announcement

The next meeting of the Gold Country Flyfishers will be **Wednesday January 7th** at Seaman's Lodge at Pioneer Park in Nevada City. The Board & Conservation meeting start at 6:00pm and the General Meeting starts at 7:00pm

**Program:** December - Holiday Party

## Programs

By Trent Pridemore

January's speaker is Dr. Greg Pasternack from U. C. Davis. Dr. Pasternack will talk on river hydrology, targeting research on the Yuba and other interesting stuff.

February is open.

March will be the long awaited Argentina presentation and April brings the dynamic David Lass from Trout Unlimited.

## Fishout Schedule



By Mike Williams

Here is the Schedule for December's fishouts.

Date	Location	Leader	Phone#	E-Mail Address
12/13	Yuba River UC Davis	Mike Connor	432-3236	jmconnor@ucdavis.edu
TBD	Collins Lake	Need Volunteer		
TBD	Rollins Lake	Need Volunteer		

As of the newsletter deadline, I'm not prepared to set any dates for these fishouts until we do more research on accessibility, water conditions and find volunteers. As of this morning (November 21st) the water at Collins is continuing to drop as well as cool down, and local reports indicate that fish are feeding in the top 10 ft of water. If that pattern continues then that will be good for us. By the time you read this the conditions will probably have changed again.

Rollins Lake can be an excellent choice for those wishing to fish local. That's not a bad idea for those who want to stay home around the holidays. Fishing can be good if we can figure out when the Pond Smelt arrive in the creek inlets. The Greenhorn access is a good choice for launching when the water conditions are right. Again we will need to do more research regarding accessibility and water conditions before venturing out.

I know that the more lead time we can give everyone the better it is for planning purposes. This time of year with water and weather conditions changing daily its difficult to time any bite or predict fishing too far out. We will do our best to schedule these events in a reasonable manner. In the future if we don't have a date set by meeting time I will do a group e-mail to everyone for a sign up. If you don't have e-mail then you need to let me know and I'll make sure that I call you with the info. There is no reason that anyone should be left out. Also I would appreciate any comments, suggestions, etc. on how we can improve this process. Remember that I'm new at this too.

## Fishout Report

By Mike Williams

At the November meeting we had 11 members sign up for the November 7th Feather River Steelhead outing. Two groups attended with one group of 5 meeting our fish-master, Roger Bevers in Oroville and the others going on their own. Each group fished in different areas and did catch some fish from both ends of the wildlife area. Ed Tom reported to me that his group did catch Steelhead as well as some smaller trout. The Suckers were feeding too. The fish were holding in the tail-out of the riffles. Roger Bevers told me that his group did not catch that many fish but one Salmon was hooked and released. I think that everyone had fun and learned something about Steelhead fishing. Some went back that next week and did even better. There is no doubt that fishing the Feather River is a low light affair. Get out early before the sun hits the water.

Friday November 14th was the date for our Boca Reservoir / Little Truckee River Fishout. We had 9 sign up with 7 members attending. We all fished the Boca inlet in the morning with one or two fish per person. The fishing was slow but the few fish we did catch were in the 14" to 16" in range. They were all fat, well fed planters. Later in the morning the group split up with some going to the Little Truckee River. Those that stayed at Boca did catch more fish that afternoon with a better bite. I had two fish on that were larger than 16" that I did not land. We caught no Browns that day, only Rainbows.

The group on the LTR did find some big fish working but had trouble getting takes. Trent lipped one 20" Rainbow and caught one 19" Brown on a streamer pattern. Trent did perhaps see the largest fish he's ever seen on the LTR when Mike Connor accidentally spooked one that went by. It was a Brown that looked to be over ten pounds with a turned up snout. Thanks Trent for taking the time to lead this outing. We had fun.

On Thursday November 20th two separate groups fished Davis and Frenchman's. John Kusanovich led one group to Davis but because of high winds, decided to go to Frenchman's, and the other group led by Todd Williams, fished Davis. Regarding Frenchman's, I spoke with Ed Tom and he reported excellent results for Rainbows 15 to 20 fish each all in the 15" to 20" range. There were bigger fish, up to 24" hooked and lost in the weed-beds. Ed told me that Don Liljeblad had one of the best day results with a very large Rainbow with a significant girth. They used Leech patterns such as the Henrys Lake, Midnight Cowboy and the Mink Leech.

Todd told me that Davis was windy but those conditions did change throughout the day and that the winds did subside somewhat in the afternoon. They caught fish from 16" to 19" using Sheeps Creek Specials and Jay Fairs Wiggly Tail nymphs in rust color. The water temperature on the surface was 45 degrees. It was a tough bite on Davis that day.



Don and Ed show off a few of the smaller trout that they caught at the Frenchman Lake Fishout

## Conservation Corner

By Allen Gere



### **ANNUAL TRASH BASH A HUGE SUCCESS!!! GOLD COUNTRY FLY FISHERS CONTRIBUTES BIG TIME!!!!!!**

On a beautiful Saturday morning in September, 30 GCFF members joined ranks with 628 volunteers from Nevada County to pick up more than 16,000 pounds of trash from the Yuba River, Deer Creek, and Bear River. There were 34 sites covered and 92 miles of watershed. Led by our own Frank Rinella, our club members put their gloves on, bent their backs to the task and picked clean the Lower Yuba section below Parks Bridge west to Harmon Grove.

Spirits were high as the task was well done and a celebration of lunch with festivities was enjoyed at Pioneer Park. Among the "treasures" collected were the usual cigarette butts, aluminum cans, bottles, food wrappers, plastic bags lids, and caps..... Well, how about 10 bus seats!!! Abandoned kittens at Oregon Creek....an old ditch creek pillar below Deer Creek Falls, a love seat sofa at Dog Bar... We were part of the 24th annual Coastal Clean-up with 60,000 volunteers collecting debris at 750 sites. AND this is a world-wide event.

Thank you, Miriam Limov, of SYRCL for coordinating the local day. Thank you, club members for your time and effort. A job well-done!!

### **AN INVITATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Our club is making a difference in the community in which we live. We are sponsoring the highly successful "Trout In the Classroom" program in local schools. 51 scouts have received a well-deserved fly fishing merit badge with the skills taught to them by volunteer club members. "Fishing without Limits", a fishing day for children with physical handicaps, was an event in which we provided fishing assistance to these children. This event was a gratifying experience for children, parents, and members.

Several club members serve as river monitors at SYRCL and some members are monitors at Deer Creek through Friends of Deer Creek. We have posted regulation signs, educational signs regarding the invasive mud snail. . GCFF has stepped up when DFG needs fish surveys, when Friends of Deer Creek needs to assess mercury levels in fish. We have helped remove invasive plants species from Lower Deer Creek. We have representatives to the FERC meetings, the Yuba Bear Watershed, and Nevada County Fish and Game.

Taking action with SYRCL and Friends of Deer Creek with watershed restoration projects in 2009 is possible. These projects should improve and increase fish spawning habitat. FDC will be embarking on the community Tribute Trail project where we can join in to improve stream canopy and conditions along Deer Creek. Our club could volunteer to serve as "river keepers" and educate the public as well participate in the watershed rehabilitation process.

It is a new year and I am inviting you to join our Conservation Council and be on the planning team for these exciting projects. Our meeting time is 6:00p.m, before the General Meeting.

## Congratulations to the newly elected Club Officers and Committee Chairs for 2009!

### Officers and Board Members

President – Mark Rockwell  
Vice President – Steve Allen  
Secretary – Stan Sanderson  
Treasurer – Neal Brunckhorst  
Director – Gary Anderson (2008-2009)  
Director – Frank Rinella (2008-2009)  
Director – Barbara Driscoll  
Director – David Bear  
Past President – Mike Connor

### Committee Chairpersons

Conservation – Allan Gere  
Newsletter editor – David Bear  
Programs – Trent Pridemore and Frank Rinella  
Fish Outs – Mike Williams  
Refreshments – Dave Lugar and Joe Abrell  
Librarian – Len Valente  
Raffle – Tim Colbert

## November Board Meeting Minutes

- Treasurers Report: \$4,554.12 balance as of 10-31-08
- Sierra Nevada Alliance to hold conference call. Available for members input
- Membership stands at 122.
- Any person joining in August on later will be charged \$20.
- Trent has programs lined up until well into next year.
- Board discussed possible move to Senior Center at NC Fairgrounds for future meetings. Meeting would be 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month (excluding august). Cost \$80.00/month. Better parking. We decided to have general membership vote. Board passed motion to move to new site 9-0.
- Board discussed Christmas party (12-13-08) 6:00 PM  
Proposed cost \$1114.50 based on 100 people. To collect money as people sign up (\$10/person). Raffle – rods, possible use of cabin, etc. Need volunteers for set up and take down.
- Board discussed yearly club awards and possible nominees. Conservation award, Outstanding New Member, President's Award



Long Lake (Eastern Sierra)

*Rick Aeschliman photo*

**Gold Country Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 2988  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

#### **Officers and Board Members**

President: Mike Connor

Vice President: Mark Rockwell

Secretary: Gary Smith

Treasurer: Neal Brunckhorst

Board Member: Frank Rinella

Board Member: Barbara Driscoll

Board Member: Ed Stember

Board Member: Trent Pridemore

Board Member: David Bear

#### **Committees**

FFF: Mark Rockwell

Mentoring: Frank Rinella & Ed Stember

Conservation: Allan Gere & Steve Allen

Programs: Trent Pridemore

Fishouts: Ed Stember

Raffle: Tim & Sue Colbert, Ann Sanderson & Barbara Driscoll

Gear: Steve Allen & Tim Ackerman

## Financial supporters of the Gold Country Flyfishers

(Hold down Ctrl key and click to see websites)

### **Wine & Roses Bed & Breakfast**

*Rose gardens & vineyard, elegant Tea Room and Victorian event Pavilion*

Victoria Valente

(530) 432-4982

[elegantrentals@aol.com](mailto:elegantrentals@aol.com)

### **C.A.S.E Contracting, Inc.**

*Quality electrical installations since 1984*

Tim Colbert

(530) 271-2208

### **Nevada City Anglers**

*Full service fly shop and guide service*

Tony Dumont

(530) 478-9301

[www.nevadacityanglers.com](http://www.nevadacityanglers.com)

### **Angling On The Fly**

*Your getaway to the world's most unique fishing destinations*

Keith Kaneko

(916) 539-3474

[www.anglingonthefly.com](http://www.anglingonthefly.com)

# Gold Country Flyfishers

## *Purpose and Objectives*

Support the “catch and release” ethic

To promote flyfishing 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 flyfishing

Publicize and promote flyfishing, flycasting, flytying, and other related topics

To represent flyfishers through liaison with sports and conservation organizations

---

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.gcff.org](http://www.gcff.org)

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

