

GOLD COUNTRY FLYFISHERS

June 2008

President's Message



By Mike Conner

GCFF is undergoing some changes regarding our newsletter. After several years of dedicated work as our newsletter editor, Vicki Valente has become just too busy to continue in that capacity. Vicki is adding some responsibilities to her already busy personal schedule, and the amount of time required to put out the newsletter, for what is now a pretty large club, is considerable. On behalf of the club, I will take this opportunity to publicly thank Vicki for her efforts not only as newsletter editor, but also for the many other things she does for our club.

Rick Aeschliman has stepped up and volunteered to serve as newsletter editor. Those of you who have been in the club for several years will remember that Rick has done that job in the past, and I am looking forward to his newsletters. Thanks to Rick for taking on the job.

This change offers an opportunity for the club to take another step into the electronic age. If you have a valid email address on file with the club, your first newsletter from Rick will come to you in two formats: a hard copy in the mail as in the past, and an electronic version that you receive by email. After the June letter, you will receive the electronic version only. If you

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need a hard copy, simply print it out. Working with Terry Hobart, we also plan to get the newsletter on the club website, so that you can find it there as well. Hard copy will continue to be sent to members who do not have e-mail or access to the internet to view the newsletter on the website.

There are several advantages to the electronic format: you get it quicker, it requires less time and labor for a club member volunteer to produce, and it saves the club money which can be used for other programs. The amount of money saved is substantial, as it costs over a dollar per newsletter per month. That's \$12 to \$15 per member for the year. The annual saving will easily exceed \$1,000.

Don't worry if your download speed is too slow, Rick has assured me that even members on "dial-up" will be able to download the newsletter without an unreasonable wait. If the e-mail or web versions of the newsletter simply will not work for you then you can continue to receive the newsletter in the mail by sending an e-mail to Rick at raaccounting@theunion.net. I am hoping, however, that a majority of our members will elect to receive their newsletters electronically. I think that will provide them better service at less cost to the club.

Meeting & Program Announcement

The next meeting of the Gold Country Flyfishers will be Wednesday June 4th at Seaman's Lodge at Pioneer Park in Nevada City. The Board & Conservation meetings start at 6:00pm and the General meeting begins at 7:00pm.

The June program will feature "South Tahoe area fly fishing opportunities" with Michael Weir

Programs

By Trent Pridemore

June's program will feature Fish Eye Video's Michael Weir who operates his world wide adventure films out of South Tahoe. In the winter he is a professional snowboarder. We are customizing a presentation for the club that will feature some South Tahoe area fly fishing possibilities as well as a glimpse at some of his adventures. I've viewed "Trout Bums" that was sponsored by Patagonia. It made me head south. In May at the Rollin Hills Clear Creek club outing, after a day of fighting wind, bass, bluegills and giant trout, we watched clips from his Taiman fishing in Mongolia. Some of his e-mails came from that neck of the woods as he has been back filming. He is a dynamic, extremely passionate fly fisherman and you will get excited watching his presentation.

For July's meeting we will have a special BBQ. (See page 4 of this Newsletter for details.)

August will bring a fly tying evening that is combined with a swap meet. We are working on a video camera to project through our digital projector so the tying can be viewed in magnification.

Nancy Foley, head Warden of Fish and Game's Law Enforcement Division will be our September speaker. I have been fortunate in being at a number of hearings where Nancy spoke during the Truckee River Regulation Proposal Change hearings and was impressed with the dedication, the complexity and challenge of our warden's jobs. They are truly our "thin green line" protecting our resource. This will be a blockbuster informative evening! Those wishing can join us at Dos Banditos for a meal before the program.

Other programs in the planning stage are a Steelhead presentation, an Argentina report, a Delta Striper presentation, dry fly Yuba clinic and a mystery guest. Fall looks good!

Fishouts

By Ed Stember

Here is the Schedule for our Fishouts through July. If you have suggestions for other locations please feel free to let me know. I am always looking for new places for the club to go. Thanks in advance for your input. To attend club sanctioned trips you will need to have a signed waiver on file.

| Date | Location | Leader | Phone # | E-mail Address |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------|--|
| June 5 (Thurs.) | Sacramento River: Shad | Bob Alvares | 478-9643 | balvares@theunion.net |
| June 12 (Thurs) | Truckee River | Neal Brunckhorst | 432-0673 | nbrunk@sbcglobal.net |
| June 20 (Friday) | Independence Lake | Mike Williams | 265-3589 | river-angler@att.net |
| July 11-12 (Thurs & Fri) | Davis Lake | Norm Sauer | 478-1679 | normsauer@aol.com |
| July 18 (Thurs) | North Yuba River (Dry Fly Clinic) | Frank Rinella | 878-8708 | sierraguide@sbcglobal.net |

Fly Tying and Casting

Flytying Exchange Keep the Fly Exchange going. Bring seven flies this month so one from each fly-tyer can go in the raffle. The flytying exchange is open to all tyers. Tie flies and bring them to the meeting. They will be pooled and divided up by Trent Pridemore. Each participant will take home a selection of flies.

Flytying session – Tuesday June 10th If you want to learn or improve your skill at “spinning hair” don’t miss the monthly flytying session at Sam Higginbotham house on Tuesday June 10th. The flytying session starts at 6:00pm and go to 8:00pm. For directions, call Sam at 477-7537.

June Flycasting clinic – Saturday June 7th Certified casting instructor, Sam Higginbotham will be at Lyons Lake (fairgrounds –gate 4) from 10 am - 12 noon on June 7th to help club members master the art of flycasting. This clinic is open to all levels.

Local fishing forecast for June

By Rick Aeschliman

Fuller Lake Fishing is currently good to excellent. The lake was planted with brown trout in early May and again with rainbows on Friday May 23rd. In my experience, June is the best month to fish Fuller Lake since there are lots of fish from the roadside planting, bugs are active and the water is still relatively cool. This is a best bet for good fishing close to home!

Lower Yuba Fishing is fair to good based on current reports. Contact Tony at the fly shop for the latest information. In June and July I enjoy fishing this river in the evening as it is cooler and the caddis hatches can be very impressive just before dark.

North Yuba Fishing is currently a challenge due to high water conditions. Look for good fishing to begin in the last two weeks of June as the water level normalizes. Stimulators and Adams would be good fly choices. Don’t overlook the tributaries and the other creeks above Bassett’s Station.

Grouse Ridge By mid-June lakes in the Grouse Ridge area will be fishing well. Focus on lakes that are off the trail or cannot be readily seen from the trails. Also, look for lakes that are at least 10 ft deep as the shallower lakes freeze over and are subject to winter fish kill. I like Adams, black ants, and black Woolly buggers for successful June fishing. You will achieve better success if you pack in a float tube or small raft.

Gold Lakes Basin Sardine and Salmon lakes will start to fish well by mid June after a few fish plants by the DFG. Noteworthy “hike-to” lakes in the area include Deer, Round, Long, Smith, Coburn, Saxsonia and Deadman Lakes.

Davis Lake is currently fishing poor to fair. A bit early for bug hatches. Fish were planted last week but have yet to acclimate to the surroundings. Fishing should improve in the next few weeks when insect activity increases and DFG plants more fish. This is not really a “local” fishing hole but worth mentioning as it will be VERY heavily planted throughout the summer.

Special Events

Gourmet BBQ – Wednesday July 2nd!



For the July meeting of the Gold Country Flyfishers, members will be treated to a free BBQ featuring mesquite fired tri tip and Peruvian chicken. We are asking club members to provide your favorite *home made* appetizers, salads, side dishes, and deserts to share with the club. The club will provide paper plates, utensils, cups, water and soft drinks but you will need to BYOB and a side dish. The fun starts at 6:00pm at Seaman's lodge in Nevada City.

The BBQ is free if you send an RSVP to trentpridemore@dishmail.net. Or call 274-8770. **Please RSVP by June 13th or you may be asked to pay a \$5 fee.**

We also will need volunteers to help with cooking and the rod tuning. Remember this is a volunteer organization so we need folks to pitch-in to make this a successful event! I have a large charcoal barbecue reserved, but would like to find a trailer with a grill that can be elevated....any resource ideas from club members will be welcome?

In addition to the BBQ we will have rod and line tuning on the lawn area. The club will have on hand line weights 3-12 for you to try on your rod. Often a change will improve the performance of your rod. It's a way to try out lines without buying and regretting. Recently a Rio Grande which weighs in at 5 ½ brought out all the potential in a new rod. Many of us over-line a rod for shorter casts like bass bugging, wind and indicator fishing. Here's a chance to find out what works on your rods! Also, we will have full length line cleaning on the lawn. Don't forget those clear intermediates...they need cleaning with a detergent, not line cleaner which makes them float. We will also have shooting heads available.

Conservation Corner

By Allen Gere

Flyfishing Merit Badge

What a rewarding experience it was! A beautiful sunny day, fly lines whistling through the air, an occasional cry of "got one," and excited happy faces glowing in triumph. The scouts completed their third fly-fishing clinic instructed by GCFF members. Their goal was to attain the esteemed fly-fishing merit badge. Club members provided instructors in fly tying, casting, basic equipment, water safety, knot tying, conservation, basic entomology and the catch and release of a fish and the catch, clean and consume a different species of fish

So many club members gave of their time and energy to make this community outreach program work. The scouts have a foundation in a hobby they can pursue for life and a greater understanding of the watershed resources. As Chair, I would like to thank the following members. Sam Higginbotham, Don Steffa, Sue Colbert, Ace Emmerling, Don Hess, Tim Colbert, Jim Richards, Steve Allen, Mike Connors, Bob Alvares, Rich Miller, Ed Tom, Frank Rinella, Tim Ackerman, Mark Rockwell, David Baer, Frank Edwards, Howard Wilson and Tom Simms.

Fishing without Limits

A date to be remembered.... Sunday, April 27, Lyons Lake, Club members were busy baiting hooks, rigging spin outfits, helping with casting, bringing in fish, offering encouragement to enthusiastic children with special needs. I have received many thanks and feedback from the parent coordinators that the day was a huge success. The children had a wonderful time, and our assistance made it all possible. We have been asked to participate next year in this worthy event.

Special thanks to: Steve Allen, Sam Higginbotham, Jim Richards, Len Valente, Ed Tom, John Kusanovich, Don Hess, Dennis Monax, Doug Evans, Dick Fay, Mike Williams, Bob Alvares, Frank Rinella, David Baer, Karen Rinella, Mike Connors, Ted Cohrt, Rick Aeschliman and **special sponsor, Dennis Peirce.**

Board Meeting Minutes – May 2008

By Gary Smith

- Minutes of the previous meeting approved and accepted by the Board.
- The Treasurers report was presented, a \$6,436 balance as of 4/30/08, April expenses of \$2172. This reflects the up front costs for the upcoming fishouts for which the club will be reimbursed. A budget projection was also given, with a 2008 ending balance of \$3656, figures accepted and approved.
- The Clear Creek fishout will break even at 10 anglers, we have 6 at the meeting time, and Frank will follow up. Fall River needs 10 also, we have 5 at this time, and Mark will follow up.
- Our July BBQ and gear clinic was discussed. This will be a first class BBQ with Trent Pridemore chairing the event. This will happen at our present meeting location with a June RSVP needed. The Board approved \$300 for a large BBQ rental and supplies.
- A new meeting location was discussed again and Mike reported the progress. The best possibility at this time is the NC Vet's hall where we had the one emergency meeting this year. The fee would increase to \$100 per month, from \$50. The meeting day would be the same and a few details would need to be worked out. There are two more church locations being investigated.
- Director's nametags were distributed.
- Our newsletter editor is too busy and needs to retire from that task. The Board appreciates Vicki's efforts and is looking for a new editor. Mike has a few leads and will take care of this quickly. The Board approved using a printer like Staples to print, collate, and staple the newsletter for the new editor.

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

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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

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