

GOLD COUNTRY FLYFISHERS

October 2008

President's Message



By Mike Connor

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The club is losing a great member in Ed Stember, who is changing jobs and moving to Washington State. It works out well for Ed who will be moving close to his grand children, but the club will certainly miss his efforts on behalf of GCFF. Ed has been chairman in charge of fishouts for several years, and what a great job he has done. We have averaged over three fishouts per month this year, more than any other fishing club that I am aware of. Chances are Ed will have already moved by the time of our October meeting.

Ed worked quietly at whatever the club needed. He was also in charge of sending requests for donations for Christmas raffle items. He has 28 equipment vendors, manufacturers and outfitters on his request list. Recall that we have been having expanded raffles at the club Christmas party.

The interest level in this club is so good that we already have someone to take on Ed's tasks. Mike Williams has stepped up to serve as fishouts chairman, and Wally Holton will be in charge of contacting donors for the Christmas raffle.

I would like to thank Mike and Wally for agreeing to take on these assignments, many thanks to Ed for his years of work on behalf of the club, and best wishes to Ed in his new location.



Meeting & Program Announcement

The next meeting of the Gold Country Flyfishers will be **Wednesday October 1st** 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: October will feature a "Mystery Program"

Programs

By Trent Pridemore

Since my speaker has not confirmed we plan a Mystery Program for October. I will be traveling. Mike will send out an e-mail when things are clarified. Count on one of the following three venues; a presentation on Feather River Fisheries and Access, a presentation on Stream Hydrology and Restoration, particularly the Yuba or a dynamic showing of a commercial video on our fabulous screen.

David Lass of Trout Unlimited just agreed to be here for our November Meeting. He's a very dynamic young man and could combine his presentation with some Conservation updates that evening.

I've worked with him and really like his approach. It has educated about Trout Unlimited activities. He has done lots of stream keeper and restoration activities and pro trout lobbying in Washington and state level for us. He is very active on the Truckee watershed.

Going into the Holidays we have the Christmas dinner. For the New Year is a presentation on Argentina opportunities and or Largemouth/Smallmouth/ Spots/ Bluegill, Crappie and the Guadalupe Bass. Not to be forgotten is a special fly tying evening with guest celebrities tying new stuff in front of a video camera that will project on the big screen. We will combine this with a swap meet and some refreshment.

We also want to have a member night where you bring a maximum of ten digital images (less is OK), and get ten minutes to talk about a trip, favorite place that no one else knows about or an underutilized nearby fishery like golf course ponds. I promise not to put it in the magazine and Dennis won't talk about it on the radio show! I will help with the technology. Start thinking and burning your images. Reply to my e-mail about your thoughts: trentpridemore@dishmail.net

As the weather gets better next spring we will repeat the successful free hamburger night.

If you are interested in helping out on Truckee River Day on October 19, give me a ring. I will be driving up to shovel spawning gravel.

Congratulations to the Bennett boy from GV who won the Forest Wood (Ranger Boats) Classic. Few win a million bucks living their dream and crank-baits are almost a good as using a fly.

Fishout Schedule

Here is the schedule for our fishouts for the remainder of 2008. To attend club sanctioned trips you will need to have a signed waiver on file.

Date	Location	Leader	Phone #	E-mail Address
October (TBA at Oct. meeting)	North Yuba Clinic	Ralph Wood		
October (TBA at Oct. meeting)	Little Grass Valley Res.	Frank Herwatt		
November (TBD)	Lake Amador	John Kusanovich		
December 13th	Yuba River (UC Davis)	Mike Connor		

Special Events

Northern California Council, Federation of Flyfishers presents

A Festival of Fly Fishing Conclave '08

October 10 -12th, 2008

- Dan Blanton – The Keynote Speaker
- Casting Instruction by Mel Krieger, Al Kyte, Guy Manning & Floyd Dean
- Friday Evening Wine Tasting, Hot Dog and Chili Feed
- Saturday Evening Dinner Banquet and Live Auction
- Youth programs including fly casting, fly tying and entomology
- Premier Fly Tiers: Over 40 will show you tips and short cuts on tying flies.
- Exhibitors Including: Manufacturers, guides, wildlife artists and lodges.
- Beginning to advanced fly tying instruction and programs
- Rod building instruction
- Guides will tell you some of their favorite out of the way places to fish.
- Silent auction and general raffle

Conclave will be held at Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, California

<http://www.nccff.org/conclave/conclave.html>

Lower Yuba River Fishing Clinic

***How to fish for Steelhead with little or no impact on the Spawning Salmon and their Redds
Oct, 23rd 2008 5:00pm, Hammond Grove Park***

By Frank Rinella

For many of us who enjoy sight fishing for steelhead and trout that hold behind spawning Salmon, there are a few new rules that we all need to learn. This year again we will have very few Salmon in our river systems, so we all need to learn how to protect them and their beds. Fishing for or targeting Salmon in our rivers is now against the law, so we all need to be extra careful while fishing on the river. In this clinic, we will show you how to spot the spawning Salmon and their beds and fish and stand far enough away as not to disturb them.

The first part of the clinic will cover tackle, set up, and choices for egg patterns. This class is not for a first time fly fisher, you should be able to cast a nymph rig with an indicator and split shot with some accuracy. Accuracy is the key word for this class; we need to keep our lines away from the Salmon. If you have the fundamentals for this that's fine, we will help you with the accuracy part. You must have a valid DFG license with a Bay Delta Stamp and a Steelhead Report Card. There will be a sign up at the October 1st meeting.

Flytying and casting

Fly Exchange - Bring seven flies....six for the exchange and one for the raffle pot. We like a recipe and brief description of usage.

Flycasting – Tuesday October 14th. Sam Higginbotham will conduct Fly Casting instruction at the Discovery way pond on Tuesday Sept 9. Session starts at 9:00 AM and runs until 11:00 AM. Call 477 7537 before you come. All are welcome!

Bass Fishout in Penn Valley - September 15

By Mike Connor

Club members met on the evening of September 15 to fish for bass at “Lake Moreno” in Penn Valley. This was a “pay-to play” deal at \$25 per person. Eight members signed up at the September meeting for the fishout at the three acre lake. Don Lilgeblad and I led the outing, but didn’t fish because the owner wanted to limit it to eight rods.

Everybody caught fish, both bass and bluegill, both on the surface and on retrieved wooly buggers and streamers. The biggest fish hooked, at four to five pounds, hit Stan Sanderson’s popper almost at Stan’s feet. The fish earned an early release when it got tangled in some weeds. Stan landed a few bass up to 18”.

Tim Ackerman caught about ten nice bass, but no four pounders. Fishing started about 5:30 pm and continued past dark. Tim and Jerry Devlin, among others, caught a few by moonlight, but the fish quit biting about 8:30.

Owner Tom Moreno has a nice covered dock over the lake, and when the fish quit biting we retired to the dock to enjoy the beautiful evening and some cold drinks.



Tim caught this nice bass



Ace Emmerling caught a bunch of bluegill.

Tom Moreno has a very nice cabin on the property which he rents for \$120 per night with advance reservation. It has a covered deck and barbecue and carries fishing privileges. It sounds like a good site for a future club outing, perhaps in the spring. If you are interested in it for yourself or friends, call Tom at 432-3236.

Conservation Corner

By Allen Gere

A Win-Win for all

For the last four years, our club has entered into a very successful, gratifying partnership with Boy Scouts of America, Federation of Fly Fishers and local scout troops. The mutual goal is to implement a fly fishing merit badge and our club more than took on the challenge. In the past 4 years, over 51 scouts have attained their fly fishing merit badge with instruction in basic skills from GGFF members. For many scouts it is a step towards a life time hobby, for some it is the purchase of an outfit with dad at Nevada City Anglers with their dad (talk about bonding) and then there is always a better understanding of the ecology of a watershed, its delicate relationships and fragility. This program would not be successful without members stepping up when asked to instruct the boys in the basics of fly tying, knots, casting, conservation stream first aid, entomology and catching two species of fish. Quite a list!!!

This program would not be feasible without abundant water, space, and fish. We needed space to back-cast, water that can provide two species of fish to catch, habitat that scouts can net and observe the water world of damsel fly and dragon fly nymphs, mosquito fish, pond weed, algae, snails and even "what the heck is that!" mystery critters. I am so appreciative to my Mt Lakes Estates Homeowners residents who have allowed us usage of their private ponds. It was time to reciprocate so I offered an opportunity for homeowners to participate in a series of basic fly fishing clinics and those residents that have come out have truly enjoyed themselves

I want to thank the following members who have come out and given their time to instruct my neighbors. Sam Higginbotham, Ed Tom, Jim Richards, Don Hess, Ace Emmerling.

Water Woes

As of Labor Day this was the water readings at some of the major reservoirs: Trinity Lake (53 percent full, Shasta (36%) Oroville (33%) Folsom 32%) San Luis Reservoir 14%... We need rain this fall and lots of the white stuff this winter.

Fishing for Science

It is not too late to sign up to fish water that is part of the Yuba-Bear Watershed Your fishing results would be given to a FERC study team that is assessing fishing viability in these waters as part of the FERC re licensing process. Results could lead to increased water flows, better temperature, improved canopy and perhaps a new place to fish! Contact Frank Rinella at 906- 4116 or e-mail sierraguide@sbcglobal.net

Friends of Deer Creek

Members, be ready as FDC is waiting for approval of agency permits to begin construction of the Tribute Trail. There will be a need for club volunteers for weeding of invasive species, plantings for erosion control and education. I will put the word out when our help is needed

The Great Yuba Clean up a Great Success

By Frank Rinella

This past Saturday morning we had 29 of our members show up at the Lower Yuba River for the annual clean up. Our members covered about 8 miles of the river and our total haul of trash and recyclables came to 1450 lbs. My thanks to all of you who showed up and helped. You all worked hard. My thanks also go to the seven other leaders who's teams covered the river from a half mile above Parks Bar to the bottom of Sycamore Ranch on both sides of the river, Mike Connor, Don Liljeblad, Norm Sauer, Allan Gere, Tim Colbert, Ed Tom, and Steve Allan. At the end of the morning, it was great to see all the cars and trucks come back to the meet point and have everyone jump in to unload and pile up all the trash. Some of our best finds were a \$5.00 bill, a new red teddy bear, a poacher's fishing rod and bait (heavy mono line wrapped around a plastic water bottle, two barbed hooks, heavy lead weight, and another plastic bottle tied on for a float and a box of night crawlers all in the closed area above the bridge.) For those of you who were unable to make it, we hope to see you next year. The clean up is one of the best ways I know to show your stewardship for one of our home waters.

Free Entry and Lunch at Sportsmen's Expo

By Mike Connor

The International Sportsmen's Exposition is coming to Cal Expo January 15 through the 18th. How would you like to get in free with free lunch and drinks?

I am organizing a club outing on January 17 for up to twelve club members. We car pool to Cal Expo where we each spend two hours helping kids cast a line to plastic fish in a pool. If the kids do it right they hook a fish and win a prize. The kids get excited and we have a good time. Then we spend a few hours enjoying the ISE and eating our free lunch.

Floyd Dean is organizing this and has asked our club to help. We would work in pairs for two hours each. If we can get twelve people to sign up we can cover Saturday for him. I would like to get three carloads to go; we could stagger our times so we don't have to stay there all day if we don't want to.

Floyd is doing casting demonstrations at the show, and I think we can get him to come participate in one of GCFF's future casting clinics.

The tickets to the show are \$12.50. Three bottles of water would cost \$6 at the show and lunch might be \$6 or more for just a hot dog. That's a grand total of \$24.50 we save so you could say that we are making \$12.25 an hour. Hey, that's better than minimum wage! Plus it's fun to work with the kids and watch their smiling faces as they land those plastic fish. And, we are welcome to promote our club with club brochures.

We will have a sign up at the October and later meetings.

Classified

For sale: 1 folding boat and 3 hp electric motor 9ft long 4ft wide 16in deep folds to 4in thick Includes oar locks.
Price is \$350.00. If interested call 477-7537 and ask to speak to Sam.



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
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Programs: Trent Pridemore
Fishouts: Ed Stember
Raffle: Tim & Sue Colbert, Ann Sanderson & Barbara Driscoll
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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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