

March 2013

# Headwaters

Newsletter of the  
Stanislaus Fly Fishers

## Stanislaus Fly Fishers

Member of the  
Northern California  
Council of Federation  
of Fly Fishers.

### March 2013 General Meeting

Tuesday, March 12,  
2013 6:00 PM

Mill Creek Church,  
147 Auto Center Court  
Modesto

Click [here](#) for a map.

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## President's Message

By Buzz Natzke

### Our Purpose

While each of us may have his own reasons for attending and participation, as a club, the Stanislaus Fly Fishers represents a vast reservoir of knowledge and experience, invested in, by, and through the membership. In this, we have a unique opportunity to be to others what each of us need (or once needed) ourselves. There are many aspects to both the sport of fly fishing and to the conservation and preservation of the sport as a whole and the waters that we fish.

Because of this, at the founding of the club, through an agreement with the Federation of Fly Fishers, we established six purposes for our organization:

1. To provide members with a forum for education and resource stewardship through the sport of fly fishing.
2. To promote fly fishing through education as the most enjoyable and

sporting method of fishing, and the method most consistent with the preservation of conservation – wise use – of our fishing waters and game fish.

3. To provide assistance, advice, and suggestions to other angling groups to help them become more important and effective in their areas.
4. To publicize the best practices and techniques of fly fishing, fly tying, casting, and other related subjects.
5. To be the local voice for organized fly fishers as part of the Federation, maintaining liaison with other conservation and sporting organizations, and with governmental agencies involved in so many aspects of our sport.
6. To carry out the objectives and purposes of the Federation in their respective localities.

With these things in mind as we move forward as a club, look for more opportunities to be involved, in both fun and challenging activities. We seek to improve both our own and others' enjoyment of the sport, but future enjoyment as well, through the sharing of our knowledge and experience.

# Club News

## Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Membership dues are \$71 per year for first time members (includes \$35.00 annual dues for the [Federation of Fly Fishers](#) membership).

Renewing members \$36.00 and will be billed by the FFF for their dues.

Visit our  
[Club Forum](#)

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:  
[stanislausflyfishers.org](http://stanislausflyfishers.org)

## March Program

Jana Leiran of the California Department of Fish & Wildlife will be discussing the upcoming Trout Fest at the Moccasin Fish Hatchery. The goal of the event is to educate about California's watersheds and to give people the knowledge skills and confidence to fish on their own.

Our club will participate in this event by providing casting and fly tying demonstrations and lessons. The event last year was outstanding and all of the club members who participated had a great time, and were able to share some of their knowledge and joy in the sport with kids from 6 through 60.



## Potluck Dinner

We will be providing the fixings for Meatball Sandwiches at the meeting and we kindly request that members bring items to share in a potluck.

Drinks will be provided.

There is a \$6 suggested donation.

# Club News

## Upcoming Outings

*by Pat Roe*

### PYRAMID LAKE

April 5, 6, 7

As in previous years we have reserved a couple of trailers at Crosby's Lodge and will be staying, eating, fishing, etc. all together. This is a great outing. For more details check out the postings on the club forum (link below) for this year and previous year's outings.

### TROUTFEST

at Moccasin Creek Fish Hatchery Saturday, April 13, 2013 10am - 3pm

### KISTLER RANCH

Saturday April 20 - 6:00am - Fishing, Picnic, Fundraiser

Club member Dave Moreno has graciously provided funds to pay for the food for this outing. This is a fundraiser for our club, so plan on being there! As a way of saying thanks, call Dave if you ever need A/C or Heater servicing.



### FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

Thursday April 25th at the State Theatre, Modesto



### ADDITIONAL OUTINGS

Beardsley Lake - July

Bridgeport Area – June 21-23

Mineral King – September 27-29

Davis Lake – October 12-13

## Raffle

The Raffle board is almost full. Purchase your raffle tickets at the upcoming meeting. Once all squares are sold we will hold the raffle the night of the club meeting. Raffle prizes include:

**Custom fly box by Roger Ringsted**

**It's Not About the Fish by Bryan McMurray (book)**

**Orvis 20-Fly Selection**

**6 hand-ties flies (Pat Roe)**

**3 2013 Calendars` Rainbow trout wall decoration**

*And many more*

**Fishpond molded fly box**

**2 Sees Gift Certificates (Dave Moreno)**

**4 bottles of wine**

**2 Federation of Fly Fishers travel mugs**

# Articles

## DFG Game Change

*by James Holden*



While we fly fishers have been busily trying to perfect our art, the California Legislature has busied itself enacting legislation that is certain to result in a dramatic change in our fishing experiences in future years. From my own perspective, the changes that DFG is mandated to implement are monumentally flawed; others will disagree. SB1148, signed into law in September, 2012, reads in pertinent part, as follows:

“The bill would require the department to give priority to stocking native hatchery-produced species in California's waters where stocking is determined to be appropriate by the department. The bill would require the department to ensure that all trout stocked in waters of the state for recreational purposes, except as provided, are unable to reproduce through triploidy or other means.”

In other words, DFG will no longer stock California waters with brown or brook trout unless they have been genetically altered to prevent them from propagating through spawning. The same is true for rainbow trout in

much of the eastern Sierra where they are not indigenous.

As the non-native species of trout that are currently capable of spawning die out, that will effectively signal the end of fishing for trophy brookies in Kirman Lake or monster browns and rainbows in Crowley Lake, among many other places. It may also mean that the much-anticipated fall trips to stalk trophy-sized trout migrating from lakes to spawning beds in streams will no longer be worth the effort. It is possible that my alarmist fears are exaggerated, and that the the legislature actually knows what it is doing.

Although I am dismayed by these new regulations, many of our fly fishing brethren are not. In fact, the legislation was sponsored and supported by both Caltrout and Trout Unlimited, reportedly as an effort to improve steelhead fisheries. For that reason, I am prepared to listen to experts explain the rationale for eliminating, or greatly depleting the numbers of non-native fish from California waters.

Those interested in this issue may want to log on to the [Sierra Drifters](#) web site and select the tab for “Fishin' Conditions” to read the comments of Tom Loe, a long-time guide in the eastern Sierra. While on his web site, you will also want to view the “snow 'bows” on the Upper Owens displayed in his reports for December through February to appreciate the magnitude of the potential loss.

## Video Tips (click on picture to watch on YouTube)



Steve Rajeff on Fly Casting



How to tie the Perfection Loop