

January 2017

Headwaters

Newsletter of the
Stanislaus Fly Fishers

Stanislaus
Fly Fishers

**A CHARTER CLUB
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS**

**MEMBER OF THE
NORTHERN
CALIFORNIA
COUNCIL OF THE
FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS**

**January 2017
General Meeting**

**January 10, 2017
6:00 PM**

**Mill Creek Church,
147 Auto Center
Court
Modesto, CA**

Click [here](#) for a map



RIVERS OF RECOVERY

<http://riversofrecovery.org>

President's Message

By Jim Bowen

Is this month going to be the drought buster we have been hoping for? Maybe not according to the powers that be, but it sure isn't going to hurt our water storage situation anyway. I'm looking forward to our foothill impoundments being closer to full pool and wouldn't it be great if McClure was a lake up at Bagby in November. What a blast to drag a woolly bugger around up there in early November when the conditions are right.

I'm anxiously watching the river level reports for the Eel, Smith, Mad and Mattole as Vivian and I are planning to get up there for some steelhead fishing. Of course, as you all know it seems to end up being more casting practice than catching for me, but I am determined to solve the riddle and post a hero picture one of these days.

We have a new year in front of us and of course that means all of our fishing options are starting over again. Stripers and steelhead now. Bass in the spring. Trout in the summer and not to get ahead of myself but fall fishing will come around again before you know it.

With that said Volker Kropp

has volunteered to be our outings coordinator this year. Let's all help him out with suggestions for club outing. Everyone has someplace they think would be a fun outing, whether it's a day outing or a weekend multi-day event.

And in the nature of New Year resolutions let's all let the membership know via the Facebook page if we are going out for the day locally so anyone who might be interested can join in.

Speaking of outings, we have our Yuba River outing coming up on February 18th on the University of California, Davis property. This is always a club favorite. We will have a signup at the meeting, and I expect we will have a \$10.00 fee to cover club expenses.

We also have the Pyramid outing on the calendar for Thursday and Friday April 6th and 7th. Please plan to make a payment of \$190.00 if you plan to fish with our host Rob Anderson. I will need full payment no later than the March meeting, but you can make payment at this meeting if you are going to attend.

(Continued on Page 5)

Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Membership dues are \$36 per year for members.

Members must also join the International Federation of Fly Fishers. Dues vary, but do not exceed \$35 for a single, one-year membership.

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stanislausflyfishers/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
stanislausflyfishers.org

Club News

January Program: Jon Baiocchi *Baiocchi's Troutfitters*



For January's meeting we welcome back one of our favorite presenters, master guide Jon Baiocchi of Baiocchi's Troutfitters. Jon has been fly fishing and tying flies since 1972, and is a California licensed fly fishing guide, published author, educator, innovative tier, and an award winning public speaker giving fly fishing presentations to clubs and expos across the state of California, and Nevada. Jon owns and operates Baiocchi's Troutfitters guide service in Northern California where he has been guiding for the last 20 years.

His locations for guiding include Lake Davis, the Wild & Scenic Middle Fork Feather River, Frenchman's Reservoir, the North Fork Yuba River, The Big & Little Truckee Rivers, The Lower Yuba River, and many secluded creeks in Eastern Plumas County. Jon's philosophy on fly fishing is to keep it simple, be confident in your presentation, and have fun. His favorite game is stalking and sight fishing to large trout in shallow water whether it is a river, or a still water.

Jon has an all-new PowerPoint program that was especially created for numerous fly clubs looking for a more technical program on fishing the dry. "Mastering the Dry Fly – a Visual Experience" entails a brief history of the dry fly, simple to complex presentations, understanding rise forms, approaching water structure, tips & tricks, and Jon's favorite patterns for eager to educated trout. Beautiful images and new detailed animated slides provide the audience with clear and concise information for future endeavors on the water. This will be a program you do not want to miss!

Contact Information:

On the Web: <http://www.baiocchistroutfitters.com/>

Phone: (530) 228-0487

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/jon.baiocchi>

Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2016 Board of Directors

President – Jim Bowen
Vice-President –
Secretary – Michael Hewitt
Treasurer – Arvis Haskins
Outings –
Membership –
Conservation –
At-Large – Jeff Baker
At-Large – Mark Pieczarka
At-Large – Jim Goodwin
At-Large – Bob Nakagawa
At-Large – Bud Heintz

Board Meetings are usually held two weeks before a General Meeting. Wish to attend a Board Meeting? Contact any board member for time and location.

Club News (Cont.)

Dinner

Dinner will be available at the club meeting for the first 23 members. **Suggested \$7.00 donation!**

Raffle News

When held, the small item raffle is \$5 per ticket or 3/\$10 and only for members in attendance the night of the meeting. The items will be on display and the raffle tickets sold prior to the meeting. The raffle will be held at the end of the meeting time.

DOOR PRIZE

The monthly door prize is for members only. When you arrive and sign in at the meeting, you will receive a ticket for the door prize raffle of a half-dozen flies tied by one of our members. ***Members who donate flies for the door-prize drawing, will receive two regular raffle tickets.***

LARGE RAFFLE

We are starting a new raffle with the main prize to be a ½-day guided trip with Fish Habit Outfitters. Additional prizes to be announced as they are acquired. Chances are \$10 each as usual. Drawing held when all cards have been sold.

Membership

Membership Dues (\$36) for 2017 are due in February. For your convenience, we can now accept a credit card for your dues, but there will be an additional fee of \$1.00 to cover the cost of the transaction.

All memberships are “Family Membership” status. Spouses, significant others and children are now all included in every membership.

Reminder: These are the club dues and DO NOT include IFFF dues. IFFF dues are paid directly to the IFFF and must be maintained regularly since the SFF is an IFFF Charter Club. If you are not an IFFF Life Member, or do not pay for three years at a time, **you must renew your membership yearly!** Also, remember to list the Stanislaus Fly Fishers as your **Affiliated Club**. This is important due to our Charter Club status. The online application for IFFF membership is linked below.

IFFF Membership Application: <https://fedflyfishers.org/SignUp/tabid/369/Default.aspx>

Upcoming Outings

YUBA RIVER OUTING

Saturday, February 18, 2017

PLEASANTON FLY SHOW

Friday-Sunday, February 24-26, 2017

PYRAMID LAKE OUTING

Friday-Sunday, April 6-8, 2017

\$190 per/person, includes guide service.

Full payment needed by March meeting.

Spots limited and on first come basis.

EARTH DAY @ GRACEADA PARK

Saturday, April 22, 2017

KISTLER RANCH

Sunday, April 23, 2017

FLY FISHING FILM TOUR/ RIVERS OF RECOVERY FUNDRAISER

May 4, 2017 – State Theater

Officer Elections

As per the bylaws, which are taken from IFFF's recommendations, we need four elected officers. Our club elects a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. And, as usual, volunteers and nominees did not pour out of the woodwork. So far, the current elected offices are:

President – Jim Bowen (last year's VP)

Vice-President – **Open**

Secretary – Mike Hewitt (last year's Membership)

Treasurer – Arvis Haskins (last year's as well)

The other board positions needed and that are always open to volunteers:

Membership – **Open**

Programs – **Open**

Outings – **Open**

Conservation – **Open**

Raffles – **Open**

At-Large – **Open**

Hospitality – **Open**

You'll notice that there are a lot of jobs to do and few people doing them. For the most part, we've been relying on the same core group of guys for the last eight years to keep the club running, and as much fun as it is, it begins to wear on them after awhile. We need new blood at the helm if we're going to continue to be a vital, healthy organization. **Please, please, please consider running for an elected position or volunteering for one of the other appointed positions.** If everyone would step up periodically and take a leadership role, it would help prevent leadership burn out. It's **YOUR** club! What can **YOU** do to help keep it alive?

President's Message (continued)

We also need feedback on your preferences for lodging so those details can be confirmed and reservations made.

We don't currently have a March outing in the works so if you have ideas please get with Volker and share those ideas.

We will have our old friend Jon Baiocchi doing a new presentation at this meeting. Jon has put together a new presentation on dry flies that has received good reviews. Jon plans to be at the meeting early so if you want to get there and pump him on info about the Yuba, North Fork Yuba, Davis Lake, Feather River or any other of the waters Jon knows so well this is your chance.

Bud Heintz and other tiers will be there at 5:00 as well. Come early and take advantage of their knowledge. Bring a vise and join in! It's a great opportunity for novice tiers to improve their skills and seasoned tiers to share their experience and expertise.

Bob Nakagawa has graciously agreed to provide dinner. Come prepared to sample an amazing culinary creation and remember we only plan to feed the first 23 folks.

Well guys, let's hope for rain and snow and good fishing, and I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting Tuesday evening. Tight Lines!

Quit your bellyaching and restore the San Joaquin River

BY WALT SHUBIN

Special to The Bee

Like other farmers in the San Joaquin Valley, I paid close attention last fall when the State Water Resources Control Board released a proposal that more freshwater flow from the Sierra stay in the San Joaquin River system on its journey to the Delta.

The water board is proposing that a mere 40 percent of the flow in rivers feeding the San Joaquin – the Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus – make it to the Delta. Board Chair Felicia Marcus said action was long overdue to reverse loss of water quality and salmon runs.

It's no surprise to me that Central Valley water districts, and parts of the Bay Area that get their water from the Tuolumne, raised a great hue and cry over this small step toward rational water use. But not every farmer thinks the board went too far. In fact, this lifelong Valley farmer knows it hasn't gone far enough to restore the balance and save the river.

Growing up in the Fresno area, I witnessed the unparalleled destruction of the San Joaquin River. I'm old enough to remember seeing San Joaquin spring-run Chinook salmon – once the largest run in the state – come up the river before dams were built and water diversion wiped out these amazing creatures.

I watched for decades as Friant Dam took every last drop of water from the San Joaquin upstream of its confluence with the Merced and left many miles of the state's second-largest river completely dry. And I saw how farm runoff polluted with fertilizers and pesticides replaced the diverted water, representing the lion's share of the river's flow for long periods of the year.

These conditions led to the San Joaquin being named America's Most Endangered River in 2014.

It's not too late to revive the San Joaquin, her tributaries and their fisheries, but it will take more than returning 40 percent of the flow, which isn't enough of a change from the status quo – only a third of the water now reaches the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Scientists from fish and wildlife agencies,

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conservation groups and the water board agree that it will take between 50 and 60 percent of the river's flow to do the job.

Residents of the San Joaquin Valley and the Bay Area, quit your bellyaching!

It's clear that we are living beyond the limits set by Mother Nature. The same insatiable greed for water that devastated Valley rivers, water quality and salmon runs has led us to mine groundwater so intensely that some communities have trouble getting water, and the earth's surface is rapidly subsiding. Requiring more water to remain in rivers will recharge our aquifers and make farming more sustainable in the long run.

In my younger days, I farmed 200 acres along the San Joaquin River, and I still farm 20 acres of organic raisins 4 miles from the river. I know from experience that water levels in my well and my neighbors' wells rise when there's more water in the river.

Everyone who uses the San Joaquin must play a part in repairing it. My fellow farmers must recognize that living in our area's semi-arid climate imposes limits on how much we can irrigate. Bay Area residents and businesses that used money and smarts to reduce water use by more than 30 percent during the drought must recognize they can do even more by recycling water and storing it underground.

We Californians pride ourselves on being good environmental stewards. What better test of our commitment than to follow the science, learn to live within nature's limits and make the San Joaquin a great river again?

Walt Shubin, acting chairman of a Fresno nonprofit [Revive the San Joaquin](#), is an 86-year-old farmer in Kerman and a lifelong advocate for the river. He can be reached at HighTech1930@gmail.com

Original article here:

<http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/california-forum/article124836509.html>

Tundra Comics



Photos

