

August 2017

# Headwaters

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
STANISLAUS FLY FISHERS

Stanislaus  
Fly Fishers

**A CHARTER CLUB  
OF FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL**

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

**August 2017  
General Meeting**

**TUESDAY  
AUGUST 8, 2017  
5:00 p.m. Tying/Casting  
6:15 p.m. Dinner  
6:45 p.m. Program**

**New Location!**

Grace Lutheran Church  
617 W. Orangeburg  
Modesto, CA

Sometimes it is just a matter of sitting down in front of the computer and writing. So here it goes. A couple of items that I saw in the past month that have been on my mind: An article about the California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) considering going to a 12-month hunting & fishing license as opposed to a calendar year license. Sounds, at first, like it would generate more licenses being purchased and thus more money for the department. Would someone be more likely to purchase a license that would be good for a year as compared to a person maybe taking a chance if they are fishing/hunting with only a month or two left in the calendar year with no license? California is the only state that I have purchased an annual license good for a calendar year. Montana, Idaho, Alaska and others are good for a year from the date of purchase. Now that we have automated licensing, why sell calendar year licenses?

The other thing that has been on my mind is dam removal. The Carmel River last year had a dam removed that impeded steelhead migration. The dam served no purpose and, once removed, with the original stream channel restored, steelhead were migrating

past the old dam location within days. A family friend, Brodie Hegg, was part of the landscaping company that had gotten the contract to replace non-native plants with native plants where the dam once stood. He told me that once all the work was done and they were planting along the new stream, he saw steelhead moving up the river. What an exciting time to see fish which once were blocked, now back migrating into native waters. I have heard of other dams along coastal waters that also serve no purpose other than blocking steelhead from native spawning water that should be removed. Stanford University has one that should be removed, and I'm sure there are others that serve no purpose.

While out running last month along San Luis Obispo Creek near Avila Beach, I saw steelhead heading out to sea. There were informational markers along the trail indicating native plants and trees as well as steelhead spawning beds. This is also another stream that has a barrier preventing steelhead from moving farther up the stream. Why is there a barrier? Isn't it too close to the ocean for flood control? In low tide, the stream becomes a frog pond. Maybe it's there to keep the stream looking

**Continued on last page**

# Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Membership dues are \$36 per year for members.

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

## SPONSOR



## WE SUPPORT



Like us on Facebook 

## We're on the Web!



## Club News

### Program

#### Jay Murakoshi — "Surf Perch"



Being raised around the salt water environment most of my life, I naturally took up fishing the beaches and rocky shore lines. It all started back in 1973 when I started my fly tying business Flies Unlimited. Forty three years later the business is still in operation. I started tying flies from a store bought kit and went weekly to the sports shop to watch them tie flies. I never realized the following year I would be the teaching the fly tying class. From there, I started tying flies commercially and 4+ decades later I'm still doing it. My first commercial account was Orvis in which I tied

dozens and dozens size 14 Adams. After that I started tying flies commercially for a number of shops in California. Today, I can honestly say that I have tied for most of the shops in CA. Most of them have shut their doors but there are a few still in business. Some of my notable shops were The Fly Hutch located in Sacramento. Two shops were located in the town of Burney, CA. Hat Creek Anglers owned by Bob Quigley and right across the street was Spring Creek Anglers, the owner was Bob Brink. Another shop was in Southern California and the name of that shop was Dale's Hackle and Tackle (which is now called Marriotts Fly Shop). I have also tied for notables such as Lefty Kreh and Trey Combs.

I now run a fly fishing travel business and travel to destinations such as Belize, Christmas Island, Baja Mexcio, and will be adding New Zealand and Aitutaki (Cook Islands) to the list. I'm on the regional advisory staff for TFO, pro staff for RIO, Hatch Reels, Renzetti Fly Tying Vises, Gamakatsu Hooks, Daiichi Hooks, Simms and Harelaine Dubbin. I have spoken to over 10,000 people at most sports shows like the International Sportsmans Exposition, Fly Fishing Show, New Mexico Trout, a number of fly shops and sports shops. I also do speaking engagements for fly fishing clubs throughout the state.

#### Contact Information:

Phone: (831) 809-4221

Email: [jaysflies@me.com](mailto:jaysflies@me.com)

Website: [www.fliesunlimited.com/contact.html](http://www.fliesunlimited.com/contact.html)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/jay.murakoshi](http://www.facebook.com/jay.murakoshi)

## Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2017 Board of Directors

President – Jim Goodwin  
Vice-President – Jeff Bakker  
Secretary – Michael Hewitt  
Treasurer – Bob Ramos  
Outings – Volker Kropp  
Membership – Lonnie Moore  
                    – Rick Allen  
Past-President – Jim Bowen  
At-Large – Bud Heintz  
At-Large – Pat Roe  
At-Large – Bob Nakagawa

*Board Meetings are held  
on the fourth Tuesday of the  
month at 5:00 p.m. at Me & Ed's  
Pizza on Pelandale Ave. in  
Modesto. All members are  
welcome to attend.*

## Club News *(cont.)*

Dinner available at the club meetings for the first 25 members. **Suggested \$7.00 donation!**

### ***Dinner***

#### **SMALL RAFFLE**

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 (52 Playing Cards + 2 Jokers)**

The current large raffle features a ½ day guided trip with Fish Habit Outfitters, a fly reel, a chest pack, and a tying tools kit, plus others.. \$10 per chance. Raffle held when all cards are sold.

## ***Raffle News***

### **Membership Information**

Membership Dues (\$36) for 2017 are due. 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 FFI dues.** FFI dues are paid directly to the FFI and must be maintained regularly since the SFF is an FFI Charter Club. If you are not an FFI 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 FFI membership is linked below.

FFI Membership [Application](#)

## Upcoming Outings and Events

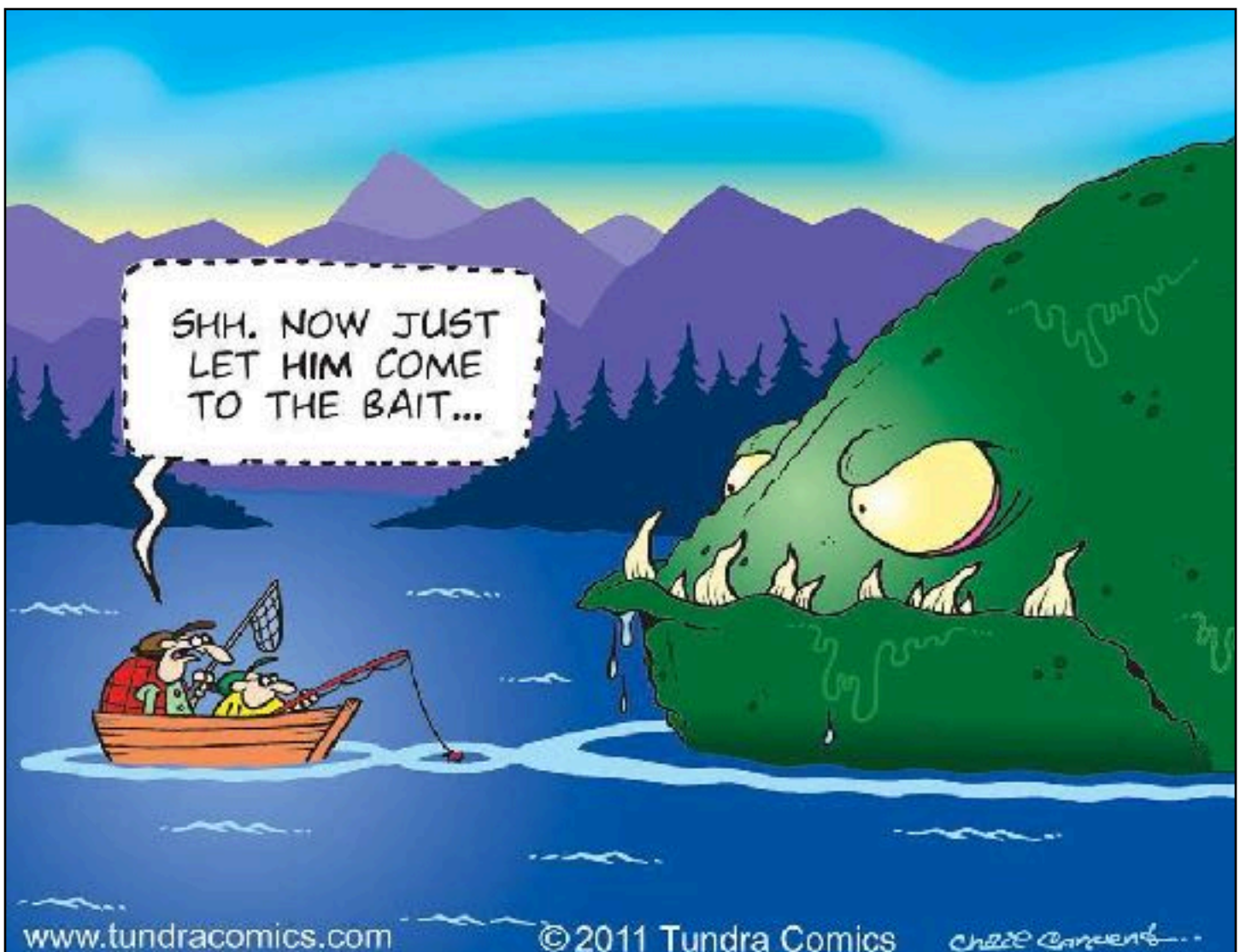
**SALMON FESTIVAL 2017** – November 11, 2017; 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**HOLIDAY DINNER 2017** – TBA

Have a suggestion for an outing?

Share your ideas with the board!

## Tundra Comics



## Tips and Tricks

### *The Reach Cast ...*

**The reach cast can be the difference between catching fish and not.**

All too often you find yourself casting across fast water to a rising trout on the far bank. It's a classic set up and one that can make you crazy. You land your fly in the exact spot, only to have it dragged away as the faster current midstream pulls a belly in your line.

Your best shot at hooking a fish in this scenario is to make a reach cast. The reach cast builds a mend into your line before it touches the water. It can buy you a perfect drift long enough to fool a sipping trout.

Make your normal cast and after you stop your rod tip to form the loop, move the rod tip upstream as the loop unrolls. The movement is perpendicular to the angle of the cast so the tension stays in the line and keeps it energized and on course. Once you know how to make this cast, you'll wonder how you ever fished without it.

## TIPS TRICKS & HOW TO SERIES

[Click here for video!](http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-tips-technique/the-reach-cast-video-2/)

Reprinted from: <http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-tips-technique/the-reach-cast-video-2/>

## Conservation



### **Keystone Initiative: Sierra Headwaters Meadows**

| Restoring 30,000 Acres By 2030

Sierra Nevada headwaters provide roughly 60% of California's domestic water supplies, are home to the majority of California's inland native trout species and are critical to supporting local and downstream economic livelihoods. However, Sierra Nevada headwater areas are also one of the most degraded regions throughout this vast landscape, threatening California's way of life and precious biodiversity. California's future and well-being depends on healthy headwaters, particularly given uncertainty associated with a changing climate.

With this keystone project CalTrout is working to restore hydrologic functionality to meadow systems and headwater habitats throughout the Sierra Nevada and southern Cascades to increase overall ecological resilience and specifically, increase meadow carbon and other greenhouse gases sequestration rates, flow reliability, groundwater recharge and storage, riparian cover and wetlands vegetation, and recovery of

**Continued on next page**

native fish populations. A particular focus of this work has been driving the development of a Sierra-wide “Meadows Strategy” with the goal being to create alignment and leverage expertise and funding among state and federal agencies, academia, NGOs, practitioners and others. This effort is expected to serve as the foundation for increasing the pace and scale of meadow restoration throughout the region with a target of 30,000 acres by 2030.

### **Sierra Meadows Initiative Video**

### **Sierra Headwaters Meadow Restoration Video**

## **Photos**

**Dennis Stambaugh**  
**Crane Prairie Reservoir**  
**Bend, OR**



### **President’s Message – Continued from Page 1**

good as it flows through the golf course?

For the farmers out there, I’m not talking about irrigation dams, like Don Pedro, New Melonies, etc. But, we (Californians) seem to have many dams that do nothing other than prevent salmon/steelhead migration into historical spawning areas.

I know in my lifetime I will never see salmon jumping over the barrier at the 9th Street bridge like I once did. There were times when I just took things for granted and thought they would always be there. Years ago, salmon migrating in the Tuolumne River in large numbers was a given. Pheasants running across the road in the fall as I was out driving in the country was also another gift of years past. Let’s work together to recreate those memories for our children and grandchildren.