

December 2020

# 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

## General Meeting

Tuesday,  
January 14, 2020  
6:00 p.m.

## Location

Grace Lutheran Church  
617 W Orangeburg Ave,  
Modesto, CA

## President's Message

Happy New Year! Hope your 2020 has started with a bang and a fishing trip. I'm up fishing the Oregon south coast for steelhead and plan to be here until the end of February. Fishing has been slow with low clear water and a few 1/2-pounder steelhead. We are currently getting a heavy dose of rain which should improve chances of a good winter fish.

***We are in a new year and that means it's time to pay club membership dues. \$40 for the Stanislaus Fly Fishers and then please go on Fly Fishers International's site and pay those dues. We need to be at 100% membership with the FFI as that gives us a charter club rating and consequently provides several benefits including reasonable insurance coverage for club events.***

Our club meeting this

coming Tuesday will be hosted by Pat Roe and Bud Heintz and be a Tying and Lying session. Pat and Bud will be tying a Gray Hackle Peacock and will have material for those who need it. Feel free to bring materials for any other fly you'd like to tie and get coaching and help from our Buzz Buzeck award winning tyer, Bud Heintz.

Please bring ideas to help us increase meeting attendance. Let us know what we can do to get you to our monthly general meeting. We would also value ideas for fishing outings. Where should we go near or far that would interest you in attending an outing.

By the way, the Pyramid outing is April 2nd and 3rd so check your calendars and plan to attend. We always have a great time on that trip. Well, once again, Happy New Year and tight lines.

~ Jim

# Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Membership dues are \$40 per year for members.

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

## SPONSOR



## WE SUPPORT



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## We're on the Web!



## Club News

### Monthly Meeting: *Tying and Lying with Pat Roe and Bud Heinz*

January's meeting will feature Pat and Bud showing members how to tie the Gray Hackle Peacock and Prince Nymph flies.

From the *Fly Fishing the Sierra* website:

"The Gray Hackle Peacock is a soft hackle wet fly that was one of the earliest flies tied. It originated sometime in the 1700's. The fly resembles emerging caddis pupa.

Some patterns will withhold a thorax section and will substitute the Partridge for Grizzly Hen Hackle. By using a partridge hackle, a dubbed thorax will assist in supporting the hackle in an upright position. Partridge, having less web than the Grizzly Hen Hackle, will give the fly better movement within the current drift.

"Mainly fished on slow drifts in streams where the fly is swung up and across the stream and allowed to drift with the current. The rod tip should follow the fly's position. The fly will reach the end of the line and swing in an arc towards the side of the caster. Strikes will often occur during the beginning of the swing. Short, slow strips give the fly the appearance of an emerging insect. Strip up-current until it is recast. On faster water, the cast will have to be at an angle downstream. Constant mending will need to be used to slow the swing of the fly. Since the fly is being retrieved upstream, it is easy to pull the hook away from the trout's mouth. Try to keep the hook sharp and use a slip strike to set the hook. Bring the rod tip to the side rather than straight up when setting the hook."

Pat and Bud will also be prepared to teach you to tie a Prince Nymph and/or assist you in tying another fly you may want help with. They will have materials for tying the Gray and the Prince.

Gray Hackle Peacock



Prince Nymph





## Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2019 Board of Directors

President – Jim Bowen  
Vice-President – Pat Roe  
Treasurer – Dennis Stambaugh  
Secretary – Michael Hewitt  
Membership – Dennis  
Stambaugh  
Conservation – Open  
Raffles – Jim Goodwin  
Webmaster – Mike Hewitt  
At-Large – Bud Heintz

*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.)*

### Raffle News

#### 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.

#### LARGE RAFFLE (52 Playing Cards + 2 Jokers)

There is no current large raffle.



### Membership Information

Membership Dues (\$40) for 2020 are now due and payable. 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

**Sacramento International Sportsmen's Expo** - January 16-19, 2020

**Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show** - February 21-23, 2020

**Pyramid Lake Outing** - April 2-5 2020 (2nd-3rd are guided)

## Tundra Comics



## Conservation Notes

Trout Unlimited: Coldwater Fishery Issues

### **Challenges to our Fish and our Fishing**

From coast to coast, Trout Unlimited works to address serious threats to our country's trout and salmon fisheries, and our ability to pursue them. From fracking in the Marcellus Shale region of the Eastern Seaboard to a proposal to construct the continent's largest open-pit mine in the headwaters of Alaska's greatest salmon streams, there are many significant challenges facing America's trout and salmon and our angling opportunity:

Those Issues include:

**Climate change:** TU's own science team has conducted extensive studies on climate change and its impact on trout and salmon in North America. The data is alarming—we could lose as much as half of our viable trout and salmon habitat by mid-century—but there is some good news, too. The work TU does to reconnect and restore coldwater fisheries will help arm our trout and salmon for a warming world.

**Roads and Development:** The best remaining trout and salmon habitat left in the United States is contained within large swaths of unmarred backcountry. Constructing roads into roadless lands and bringing development into quality habitat obviously takes a toll on our prized fisheries. Roads contribute silt and sediment, and industrial development introduces threats of pollution and degradation to our prized backcountry habitat.

**Poor Water and Land Use:** All over the country, TU works with farmers, ranchers and irrigators to make better use of limited water resources, and to put in place the best agricultural practices that protect our trout and salmon. Centuries of poor water and land use across the country have left significant scars, but we've proven over time that these scars can be healed.

**Invasive species:** From microscopic whirling disease spores to large mats of invasive rock snot, our trout and salmon are facing very real threats from invasive species. These attackers either go directly after the fish themselves, such as non-native fish species that eat our native trout, or they work to make habitat unsuitable. TU is working with our volunteers to educate and mobilize anglers against the introduction and spread of invasive species.

**Irresponsible logging:** Trout and salmon depend on cold, clean water for survival, and trees in our forested lands do a remarkable job of keeping water habitable for our prized fish. Unfortunately, logging operations around streams have not always been conducted with trout and salmon in mind—streamside buffers have been eliminated, making it possible for streams to suffer from sedimentation and erosion, making spawning and rearing difficult.



**Dams:** Existing dams are well-documented barriers to fish migration, and threats of new and unnecessary dams exist all over America. TU works with local communities, state and federal agencies and its volunteer base to decommission and remove outdated dams and to fight poorly conceived dam proposals that would be harmful to our trout and salmon.

**Irresponsible energy development:** Across the nation, the search for oil and gas, when rushed and poorly planned, has left hundreds of thousands of acres of public land scarred and degraded. Fracking in places like the Marcellus Shale region of the East Coast is stressing water resources and wild and native trout habitat. TU works with industry, agencies and sportsmen to ensure responsible energy development in places where the impacts would be greatest to our trout and salmon.

**Irresponsible mining:** Threats from poorly-conceived mining are two-fold. First, about 40 percent of the West's headwater streams are impacted in one fashion or another by abandoned mines and their toxic runoff. Second, new mining proposals are often in places where the mere construction of a mine would trash irreplaceable trout and salmon habitat. TU works with the industry, local communities, agencies and our volunteers to clean up abandoned mines and ensure new mining operations are done thoughtfully, with our long-term, above-ground resources in mind.

## Suggested Reading

- [Why Knots Work and Some Don't](#)
- [Limit False Casting to Improve Your Casting Stroke](#)
- [Worm Fly Patterns That Consistently Catch Fish](#)
- [A Guide to Fly Fishing for Cold Water Trout](#)
- [Six Best Fly Patterns for Winter Trout](#)

## Video Links

- [Fire on the Mountain](#)
- [Eighty-Five – A Life On The River](#)
- [Chehalis: A Watershed Moment](#)
- [Browns on the Rise](#)
- [River Fishing Fight - Whose to Blame for Declining Salmon Stocks](#)



**JAN 16-19, 2020**  
**SACRAMENTO** Cal Expo  
**SportsExpos.com**



**Dates:**

February 21, 22, & 23 2020

**Time**

Friday: 10am – 6pm  
Saturday: 9am – 5:30pm  
Sunday: 9am – 4:30pm

**Location:**

Alameda County Fairgrounds  
4501 Pleasanton Avenue  
Pleasanton, CA, 94566