

September 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**

***No general meeting  
this month.***

Grace Lutheran  
Church  
617 W Orangeburg  
Ave, Modesto, CA  
95350

## *President's Message*

Here we are in September already. Before long we will be in the best part of the fishing year. I'm looking forward to fall fishing. It's been so hot and the air quality so poor that I haven't been out at all this month. I hear the air is a little better in the high Sierras. Barry Kutz posted a report from the Kennedy Meadows area and reports much less smoke in that area as well as good fishing. If you've been fishing anywhere near or far, send us a picture or two and a report we can publish in the newsletter.

We did have a socially-distanced board meeting recently and started working on a couple of issues. First is the Rivers of Recovery auction. This online event will be the major fundraiser this year. I'm asking for our membership to help out by donating an auction item if you can and to bid during the live auction October 20th through the 24th. If you open the link:

<http://ror.givesmart.com/>

and register, you can then view the items currently up for bid as well as maybe get an idea for a donation. If you chose to donate, let Mike Hewitt or I know and we will ensure it is posted on the site and our club will handle shipping to the winning bidder. As I'm shamelessly asking for help with this, let me also ask that you decide on how you can help and let us know very soon so we can help build this auction and generate the interest it deserves. Remember, this is all about helping our

wounded veterans in their recoveries from physical and psychological wounds received from protecting our freedoms.

I mentioned we were working on a couple of issues, the second being an outings plan. Bob Bullock is working on the Little Truckee outing and a Crowley Lake outing. Please check out the info provided for these two trips and let Bob know if you have questions, or better yet, whether you can attend one or both. These outings will be managed to maintain COVID-19 precautions as well as provide some fun fishing and club camaraderie

Pat Roe is a veteran of the Little Truckee outing and is showing us how to tie a very productive fly for fall on the Little Truckee. If you decide to attend the Little Truckee outing, Bob or Pat can recommend tackle and flies for the trip. Personally, I'd wait for Pat to leave his fly box laying out, and I'd prow through it for just the right fly. But that's just me!

Please pitch in and help out with Rivers of Recovery fundraiser. It's a tough year for fundraising due to the Coronavirus and this organization needs our help.

Give some thought to our outings and plan to attend one or both. Let's generate some actual fly fishing out of this fly fishing club. Let us know if you have an idea for an outing and we will see what we can do to organize it.

In the meantime, stay safe and get out there and wet a line.

*~ 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.



Like us on Facebook 

**We're on the Web!**



## Club News

Club Treasurer and Membership Director Dennis Stambaugh sent a brief fishing report that didn't make it into last month's newsletter, but better late than never, so here's his quick run down. "My son Jerry and I were able to get in 4 days of fishing on the eastern slope two weeks ago. Thursday fished the Owens from the north end fence down without a bite. Friday fished Rock Creek with little success. Saturday fished with guide Pat Yeager on the San Joaquin and both of us had a 20+ fish day. Pat had us using Tenkara rods (a first for both of us)." A man of few words, but with some pictures of a happy time.



Jerry, Pat, Colorado and Dennis

You can find more of Dennis' pics at the end of this newsletter.

### **Fly Fishing Film Tour/Rivers of Recovery Update**

It should not come as a surprise, but as a result of Covid-19 the F3T event at The State Theater has been canceled for this year, We'll try again in the spring of 2021.

## Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2019 Board of Directors

President – Jim Bowen  
Vice-President – Pat Roe  
Treasurer/Membership –  
Dennis Stambaugh  
Secretary/Webmaster –  
Michael Hewitt  
Outings – Bob Bullock  
Raffles – Jim Goodwin  
Webmaster – Mike Hewitt  
At-Large – Bud Heintz  
At-Large – Jeff Bakker

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

## Club News (cont.)

In lieu of our local Rivers of Recovery fundraiser, we urge you to take advantage of RoR's upcoming online auction, either by donating prizes or bidding, or even better, by both. Details were mailed to all recipients of our newsletter, but in case you missed it, they are included at the bottom of this month's newsletter. Even though we don't get to hold our local event, let's show our support for our combat disabled veterans by helping to make this a successful auction and fundraiser. Every little bit helps! if you have any questions, please contact either Mike Hewitt at [mdhewitt@pacbell.net](mailto:mdhewitt@pacbell.net) or Jim Bowen at [jim.viv@charter.net](mailto:jim.viv@charter.net). The auction will run from October 20th through October 24.

### **Pat's Fly Box**

#### **PMD Soft Hackle**

This month's featured fly is Nick's  
Soft Hackle PMD Emerger.

Nick Nicklas worked for Blue Ribbon Flies in Montana for over thirty years and developed this fly there. However, that being said, it is an effective fly on the Little Truckee. One of our local club experts on the LT, Jeff Bakker, swears by them even in the fall when the fish are keying on big streamers and egg patterns.

I know it looks shiny, but Jeff ties them with gold holographic tinsel and in size 18 for the LT. You can also substitute the ostrich with dubbing to match.

One afternoon on our first club outing to the LT, we hit a PMD hatch in the late afternoon with a pod of huge trout at the chow line. Some of us were lucky enough to get hooked up with PMD imitations. All in all, you have to be prepared for anything at any given time when you are on the water.

Good luck out there and stay safe.



Hook: 14-18 curved nymph  
(e.g., 280 Dairiki)  
Thread: Pale yellow or cream  
Tail: Yellow-dyed mallard or  
wood duck  
Body: Gold mylar  
Thorax: PMD gold or yellow  
ostrich (or dubbing)  
Hackle: Hungarian partridge



## Upcoming Outings and Events

**Little Truckee Outing** - September 26-27, 2020

**Lake Crowley Outing** - October 17-18, 2020

Outing information [\*here\*](#).

### Membership Information

Membership Dues (\$40) for 2020 were due January 1st. 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](#)

## Comics



"Sorry, pal. Illiteracy is no excuse for breaking the law."

## Conservation Notes

### **Pebble Mine Rears Its Ugly Head Again**

Phil Monahan / August 13, 2020

The past couple weeks have been full of important developments in the fight to stop the proposed Pebble Mine, which would endanger important, pristine wildlife habitat in Alaska's Bristol Bay. Especially threatened would be the world largest wild-sockeye-salmon run, which depends on clean water and undisturbed streams in the region. [More ...](#)

### **Saving the Greenback Cutthroat Trout**

Phil Monahan / August 14, 2020

Although the greenback cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki stomias* has been the focus of conservation efforts for more than half a century—starting when the once-lost species was “rediscovered” in a remote part of Rocky Mountain National Park—a series of genetic studies in the 2000's produced some blockbuster findings that threw all previous work into question. It turns out that many of the fish that both state biologists and anglers had considered greenbacks were, in fact, not greenbacks at all. [More ...](#)

### **Keep Fish Wet – Now a Nonprofit with the Same Passion, New Name, and New Program**

Moldy Chum / August 4, 2020

Announcing [Keep Fish Wet](#), nonprofit (501c3) status, and rebranding for the organization formerly known as Keepemwet Fishing. Keep Fish Wet will continue the strong social media heritage, and education and outreach initiatives to create an accurate, consistent, and persistent message about science-based best practices for catch-and-release fishing. As a nonprofit, Keep Fish Wet now has additional capacity to work with anglers and the fish we all care about. The new Advocate program offers anglers a fast and direct opportunity to make a positive impact on recreational fisheries and implement conservation. [More ...](#)

### **An Assessment of Urban Water Demand Forecasts in California**

Pacific Institute / August 2020

In California, urban per capita water demand has declined dramatically over the past several decades, driven in part by greater uptake of water-efficient devices. These reductions have important implications for estimating future water demand. However, failure to account for the long-term trend of declining per capita water demand has led to routine overestimation of future water demand. This can lead to unnecessary and costly investment in unneeded infrastructure and new sources of supply, higher costs, and adverse environmental impacts. [More ...](#)

## **DELTA FLOWS: Is the Delta Conveyance Project a Good Bet?**

Restore the Delta / August 18, 2020

Just how realistic is this Delta Conveyance Project in 2020? Will this star-crossed project be another COVID-19 victim?

The Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) appears to have even less support than former Governor Jerry Brown's California WaterFix. The Sacramento News & Review reported in recent weeks that Kathryn Mallon, the executive director of both the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority and the Delta Construction Finance Authority, earns twice the salary as Governor Gavin Newsom—and Newsom is earning his (by comparison) with having to prepare a new state budget and oversee the state's response to the pandemic. [More...](#)

### **Suggested Reading**

#### **The Dirty Fisherman**

Troutbitten / March 22, 2018

I walked around the bend and saw his blue truck, but I couldn't see Gabe until the lean man sat up. He stretched and slid slowly off the tailgate, onto his feet and into his sandals. The climbing sun made the blue paint of his pickup bed too hot, and when the shadows were gone, the dirty fisherman's rest was finished. [More ...](#)

#### **Fish Plants Continue in Eastern Sierra Waters**

California Department of Fish & Wildlife / August 12, 2020

After a massive loss of fish at three hatchery facilities in the eastern Sierra and Southern California this summer, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has implemented an updated stocking plan to continue putting trout into waters that are popular with anglers. [More ...](#)

#### **Swinging Streamers on Big Water**

Gink & Gasoline / August 20, 2020

Most streamer fisherman out there would agree that pounding the river banks with a streamer will catch trout just about anywhere.

If you're willing to put in the time and hard work eventually you'll be rewarded with a big fish. During high water flows on rivers where habitat is insufficient out in the main river, many trout will relocate to the banks where they can use the irregular banks and it's abundant cover to shelter themselves out of the excessive current. Their next move, once they've gotten to the banks, is to find prime ambush spots where they can easily pick off prey moving by. This is why casting to the bank and ripping streamers back to the boat is so effective. You're repeatedly putting your streamer right in the kitchen where good numbers of fish will be feeding. [More ...](#)

## **Video Links** (Click on title for link)

### **Advanced Stillwater Fly Fishing | Orvis Guide to Fly Fishing**

Tom Rosenbauer joins stillwater expert Phil Rowley to discuss advanced tactics for catching trout on lakes. From important details on boat positioning to understanding uses of different fly lines, this 50 minute video is full of critical information for any angler who wants to improve their stillwater game for trout!

### **Fly Fishing Small Streams**

Small streams are secluded and pristine homes for trout. Anglers love them as they usually offer both challenging fishing with wondrous natural beauty. In this video, host Tom Rosenbauer travels to small streams across America to show us the essentials of getting started in small stream fly fishing. From stealth to presentations, Tom covers it all in this detailed video!

### **AWARD WINNING WILDERNESS EXPEDITION FILM | "BIG LAND" | Brook Trout Fishing In The Heart Of Labrador**

Four friends embark on the adventure of a lifetime in search of a wilderness seldom found in the urban sprawl of the Anthropocene. In an effort to better understand America's first sport fish, and the eastern seaboard's only native trout, filmmakers Chase and Aimee Bartee lead a canoe expedition into North America's last great and unexplored frontier; Labrador. There's only one problem, they've never even paddled a canoe before.

### **Surviving: The Story of the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout**

The Pyramid Lake Lahontan Cutthroat Trout was declared extinct in the 1940's as a result of a badly planned diversion dam on the Truckee River. Built with no consideration of the downstream Indigenous Peoples of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and their cherished homeland, the dam desiccated the lake and destroyed the habitat of its native fish. However, the fish made a near impossible return, aided by the efforts of biologists, tribal litigators, and a carpenter.

This documentary was completed as part of a graduate study in media innovation at the University of Nevada, Reno. It premiered at the Wild and Scenic Film Festival in Nevada City, California in January of 2019.

### **Understanding Caddis, Mayfly, Midge & Stonefly Hatches**

This fascinating video explores the details of insect hatches and their importance to trout as a source of food. The four key hatches Tom Rosenbauer discusses are: Mayflies, Midge, Caddis and Stoneflies.



## Club News (continued)



Dennis and son, Jerry



14"+ trout



Dennis' first fish of the day



# Northern California Council Fly Fishers International News

## Northern California Council, FFI September 2020 Report to Clubs

### Mark Rockwell, President

I am hoping that all of you are safe after this terrible fire month. As I write much of the North State is on fire, including near our old home, Grass Valley. These are tough times!



The picture at left is from last year when I took a group to visit Senator Feinstein's staff in Los Angeles to discuss water management in Calif. We discussed the importance of protecting watersheds, not sending more water south, and protecting the Bay-Delta from added diversions. We left documentation showing the Bay-Delta needs more flows not less. NCCFFI has the ability to communicate with elected officials on behalf of our clubs and members.

**Happy hour Zoom meeting** - August 27 we pulled together club Presidents in a Zoom call to talk about the impacts to clubs of COVID-19. How are clubs coping and sharing ideas on ways to help members stay connected with each other, and have fun. As I write this we have not had the meeting, but we are all looking forward to sharing, and I'm sure all members will benefit from this effort.

**Communication News:** NCCFFI is working with Fly Fishers International and Brickhouse Creative to develop a new website platform for our council, and possibly FFI itself. We are in process now, and Brickhouse is now working on the prototype that will be shared with us soon. It is our hope to have a new website up and running before the end of the year. It will be more informative, have added features, and be more user friendly and have current information available to clubs and members. It will also link to the our Facebook page, and will carry our Council documents that can be accessed by members. Letters we've written and sign onto will be stored and can be accessed. We will notify everyone when it is up and running. We have worked most of this year to evaluate our communication and to develop new and better methods to communicate with clubs and members.

**Conservation:** We are working on two very important issues. 1) Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification below federally licensed dams. This relates to all major rivers in California. The state and some NGOs have filed suit in federal court to block the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from waiving the need to meet state water quality standards when dams are relicensed for the next 40-50 years. We are working with the NGO community and the State on this suit. Meeting State water quality standards is a must for healthy fisheries in the rivers and in the Delta. 2) We are working with Flycasters of San Jose to move forward on an agreement started in 2003 to recover and stabilize the fishery in 3 streams in Santa Clara Valley, south of San Jose. We are working with partners at Cal Trout, Trout Unlimited, PCFFA and Santa Clara Valley Water to move the recovery along. Negotiations on supportive legislation is in progress to help with funding.

**Education:** A real benefit of membership with FFI for clubs is the opportunity for funding help via conservation and education grants. Flycasters of San Jose is starting up a new effort to do Trout in the Classroom in its region, and needed funding to help them with a \$5,500 2 year project to up-grade equipment and other needs to get the program going. Flycasters did the request, the NCCFFI Board voted to support. It went to FFI and was reviewed by the Education committee. Result: Flycasters has received a \$3,000 grant for their project.

I sincerely hope September is a month of no fires and good fishing for all!

## More Club News - Rivers of Recovery Fundraiser

### Special Online Auction to Benefit Rivers of Recovery A Letter from Amy Simon, Executive Director of Rivers of Recovery

Hello All,

First, THANK YOU for being willing to help Rivers of Recovery this year! We are going to need it!

As we all know 2020 has been a strange year for everyone. I am often asked how Covid-19 is affecting Rivers of Recovery. Besides our veteran community being at a higher risk, we as an organization have had to cancel most of our trips and all of our fundraisers. Soooo...

In an effort to keep our families and friends healthy, we have made the decision to move ALL of our canceled in-person events into what will hopefully be our biggest fundraiser ever. A virtual fundraiser that will allow THE AUCTION TO GO ON...LINE!

This auction will run for 5 days: October 20th-24th. We will have larger 'featured' items throughout the week, smaller items running constantly and some creative items that will involve our event participants. All bidding is done via text message and makes for a fun and interactive competition. For example: if I bid on some baseball tickets and you outbid me...I am immediately sent a text message with a link back to the tickets so I can outbid you.

HOWEVER...what we need NOW are AUCTION ITEMS. Here is where YOU come in. The beauty of an online event is ANYONE can participate...your neighbors, friends, family, hairdresser, fishing buddy, anyone you know located anywhere in the USA! These same people can also donate auction items for our event.

Please forward this email to your friends, colleagues and family members.

**HOW IT WORKS:** Please go to <http://ror.givesmart.com/> THEN CLICK ON "Donate an item Now"

- Fill out the form indicating the item you wish to donate
- You can submit one form per item
- Upon submission you will be sent an email for your tax records
- You will also be sent a text message welcoming you to our auction
- Once you have submitted your item: you will be given the option to create an account.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to bid during the event!

**WHAT WE ARE IN NEED OF:** Please see below for more auction information.

**Deadline for auction item donation:** September 10, 2020.

#### Where to send your Item:

Rivers of Recovery  
P.O. Box 22326  
Eagan, MN 55122

Online items can be emailed to: [amy@riversofrecovery.org](mailto:amy@riversofrecovery.org)

Again, THANK YOU for your help in making this event a huge success! We can not wait to get our veterans on the water!

Best, Amy

Amy Simon  
Executive Director [www.riversofrecovery.org](http://www.riversofrecovery.org)

\*Rivers of Recovery is a 501(c)(3) organization, making your donation tax deductible.

\*Tax ID: 26-2260491

\*Rivers of Recovery provides rehabilitation to physically and psychologically injured U.S. combat veterans using innovative, outdoor-based therapies and pioneering research.



## WHAT WE ARE NEED OF:

Premier item ideas:

Do you or anyone you know have a vacation house?

Do you have a connection to a vacation package or getaway? Tickets to a live taping of a tv show?

Anyone who can donate an iPhone, iPad, etc?

Think items that require little or no shipping:

Universal Gift Cards (examples):

Guided fishing trip gift certificate

Dave and Busters

Red Lobster

Chili'sIHOP

Dunkin Donuts

Dairy Queen

Visa giftcard

Walmart

Unique items (example):

Disney Gift Card

Outback Steakhouse

Olive Garden

Buffalo Wild Wings

Denny's

Starbucks

Chewy.com

Target

Amazon gift card

Scratch off lottery tickets that can be made into a basket of money! "Try your luck with this basket full of \$215 worth of lottery tickets that could be worth SO MUCH MORE!"

Items that can be redeemed online (examples):

Wine club:

<https://www.winc.com/gifts/gift-cards/>

Book of the month club:

<https://www.bookofthemonth.com/gift>

The movies:

<https://www.fandango.com/fandango-gift-cards>

A ride:

<https://www.lyft.com/gift>

Creativity:

Do you know of some good online ideas that would make a great auction item? Please surprise us!

# Save The Date



RIVERS OF RECOVERY

October 20th-October 24th, 2020

[www.ror.givesmart.com](http://www.ror.givesmart.com)

**Support our military heroes  
at the Rivers of Recovery on-line auction.  
All proceeds directly benefit Rivers of Recovery  
programs.**

## Online Auction and Event

### *Our Mission*

Rivers of Recovery is dedicated to providing rehabilitation to physically and psychologically injured combat veterans through innovative, outdoor-based therapies and pioneering research. We strive to provide our participants with therapeutic programs which result in measurable and sustainable improvement.

Our programs are designed to re-enable and re-energize participants and provide the support and self-confidence necessary to maximize long-term recovery.

[www.riversofrecovery.org](http://www.riversofrecovery.org)

### *Show Your Support*

**SPONSORSHIPS** are immediately available at the following levels:  
\$25,000 • \$15,000 • \$10,000 • \$5,000

If you or your company can donate goods or services to the auction please send an email to Amy Simon at [amy@riversofrecovery.org](mailto:amy@riversofrecovery.org)

Rivers of Recovery specializes in the rehabilitation of combat veterans suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), minor Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI), stress, anxiety and depression.

Our program, which combines outdoor recreational activities with instruction on the self-treatment of symptoms of stress, depression and anxiety, empowers veterans to live a life that is no longer restricted by psychological or physical disabilities.



## More Club News - Outings

### From Outings Director Bob Bullock:

Fishing outings for Club Members:

#### **Little Truckee River - Weekend of September 26th and 27th.**

This is great trout fly fishing, wet or dry. The location is somewhat rural, with easy vehicle access. If you wish to stay overnight at the meeting site campground, there are no hookups, just vault toilets and a few picnic tables for an \$8 fee per night. Advise smaller RV's, trailers or tents, otherwise you are on your own to find lodging in the neighboring towns about 15+ miles out. You are to supply your own food and water. Further discussion later. **Please notify of attendance through email for the "Little Truckee" outing by September 19th**



**Little Truckee River info [here](#).**

#### **Lake Crowley - Weekend of October 17th and 18th.**

If you are into big fish, they're here. The lake is best fished from a float craft or tubes, etc. Also available is the upper Owens River where it is said that this time of year the big fish run upstream to spawn. You are responsible for your own lodging and food. There are camp sites available nearby; BLM sites with no hookups for \$8 per night, RV parks with full hookups \$38 night, or Mammoth 20 miles out. **Please notify of attendance through email for the "Lake Crowley" outing by October 10th.**



**Lake Crowley info [here](#).**

More information will come as interest is received. I can answer question through email at: [bbullock@charter.net](mailto:bbullock@charter.net), and for "Lake Crowley" outing by October 10th.

Let's get out and go fishing!  
Bob