



## President's Message

July 1, 2023

How did everyone enjoy dinner? I did, though I was busy and did not get much of a chance to talk. To me it seemed a success, nice to see some new faces! Much thanks to my fellow chef, Paul Wallace, he did 2 amazing dishes! I got to take some home, yummy leftovers! I have to admit I have a case of cast-iron envy! Did you see the size of his Camp Oven? WOW!! I need to borrow that thing!!

July seems to be the doldrums month, especially this year. I REALLY want to get on a river, just ain't happening. Stillwater is the place to be, I just don't seem to be able to devote the time, too many other pressing matters. Falling down fences, garden exploding, trying to get my shtuff together, all seeming to conspire to keep me off the water. I guess that is life, does not always work in favor of fishing all the time!

Something I am very pleased to report, our outreach efforts are working! Our time at the Fish Expo, Modesto, Turlock and Newman Farmers Markets have garnered new recruits! WOW! This is amazing! Thank You to all who have put in time to attend these events and get out name out there! Let's continue the trend! If any members would like to participate, please contact any Board member. And to all who have expressed an interest, Welcome!

Book Report: Something I will start doing on an irregular basis! I have been reading / listening to a lot of fly-fishing related books lately, I will share my recommendations! First up, the classic that spawned The Movie that changed the fly-fishing world, A River Runs Through It (and other stories) by Norman Maclean.

I had not read this in quite a few years, probably not since the movie came out (1992). Great read! If you have seen the movie (which is a great movie IMHO), read the book also. It is a great story and a time capsule to a different time and place. Highly recommended read.

As always, I hope to have a large turnout at the meeting (July 11), because what do we need at the meetings?

YOU! Yeah YOU, the person reading this! Plus, anyone you can bring. Your friends, your neighbor, your spouse, the kid from down the block. We need new members, old members, prospective members, everybody we can get. How do we do that? We need participation by ALL members. Come to the meetings, invite your friends, participate in the Club! Grab some flyers to hand out (ask any Board member), be passionate about your sport! And for the record, it is working! We are seeing new faces, getting interest at outreach events, BRAVO!!

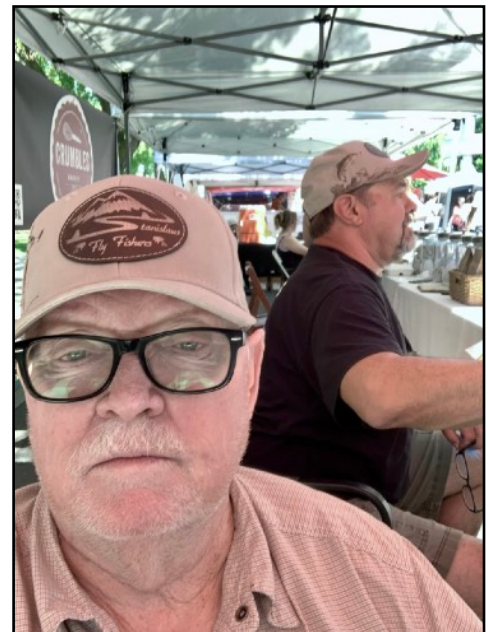
I am looking forward to seeing everyone not only at the meetings, but out on the water in 2023!

Tight Lines!

~ Link

## Club News

The SFF has recently initiated an outreach program to increase awareness of our club and stimulate more membership. So far we have set up information booths at street fairs and farmers' markets in Newman, Turlock, and Modesto, as well as a fishing expo in Modesto. The booths at the Turlock and Modesto FMs were particularly fruitful with more than three dozen new signups for the newsletter and expressing interest in attending meetings. In the upcoming weeks we will also have an info booth at the Ripon FM, which will include casting and fly tying demonstrations. Board members Gus Link, Bob Bullock, Mike Hewitt, John Driver, and Paul Wallace have been sharing duties manning the info booths, but we'd welcome the presence of non-board members to participate in this outreach effort.



Our June Family Dinner Meeting was also deemed successful as several potential new members attended along with regular members and wives. Dinner was provided by President Gus Link and Community Director Paul Wallace. Paul whipped up a batch of delicious chicken cacciatore as well as clam chowder in his mega camp Dutch oven (see President Link's note about Dutch oven envy), and Gus fired up several camp ovens to cook up mouth-watering corn bread and berry cobblers. Salad was added by Bob Bullock and his Mrs. The meal was outstanding! We expect this to be an annual event! The evening included some casting instruction for the newcomers, as well as a chance to sit and visit with friends old and new.







## July General Meeting - Tuesday 7/13/23

Our featured speaker for the July meeting will be Jason Guignard, Field Activities Director/ Fisheries Biologist for FishBio, “a fisheries and environmental consulting company dedicated to advancing the research, monitoring, and conservation of fishes around the world and addressing challenges in natural resource management.”

“From our offices in California, FISHBIO supports long-term fisheries projects from the Central Valley to the Central Coast, and provides services across the United States and Canada. Our experience spans the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its tributaries, San Francisco Bay, coastal lagoons, urban waterways, and remote headwaters.”

As usual, casting fun begins at 5:00 pm with the formal meeting starting at 6:00.



To better understand *O. mykiss* behavior at different stages of its life history, FISHBIO conducted a survey of migration rates and survival on the Calaveras River, which is designated as critical habitat for California steelhead. Read more about this project here: <https://fishbio.com/projects/o-mykiss-life-history-evaluation>

## Upcoming Outings

Outings Director John Driver is busy planning several outings in the upcoming months. Details about each will be presented as they get fully developed, but the early schedule looks like this:

- Bagby @ McClure - Sept/Oct
- Fall River - Sept 22-23
- Heenan Lake- Oct 13-14
- Salt Spring Reservoir - Nov

Stay tuned for more information on these as it gets developed.

## Trip Report

Club secretary Mike Hewitt just returned from a week-long trip to Wildhorse Reservoir. Activity on the lake was unusually quiet, perhaps due to a heavy algae bloom. There were a few fly fishers on the lake, mostly located in the cove area southeast of the boat ramp, but the catch seemed to be moderate to light. Adding to the challenge of the algae bloom was an abundance of Mormon crickets which were in full migration and especially heavy at the north end of the lake and up into the arm leading to the dam. There were literally thousands of them floating on the water. Fish taken and cleaned by boaters revealed a stomachful of crickets!



## NCCFFI Monthly Report - Mark Rockwell

### Yuba Fest 2023 is Coming September 30th Mark your Calendars!

It is with great pleasure I announce that the Northern California Council, FFI will be having Yuba Fest on Saturday, September 30th at Sycamore Ranch Park on the Lower Yuba River. It's the same location as last year, and it will be more fun!



We will be starting a bit earlier - 9 a.m. and running until 6:30 p.m. the agenda for the day includes:

- Great casting instruction by Russ Carpenter & Sarah Trenchel and their team from Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club. Fly Casting Skills instruction & testing will be done, as well as beginner & above teaching.
- Clay Hash will teach 2 courses - Fly Fishing 101 and how to fish the Lower Yuba River. Something for the beginner as well as seasoned angler.
- We'll have Gary Bard teaching fly fishing knots for kids and fishers.
- We'll have a rigging table to learn how to rig all the different set-ups for different fishing situations.
- Raffle & silent auction of great fly fishing equipment & flies
- Fly Fishing Learning Center - What makes rivers and fish tick!
- Several local guides will attend to answer questions and set up trips. Pick their brains on fishing and our rivers.

- Entomology By Ken Davis and Laurie Banks. We're hoping they will do a 1-2 hour presentation on bugs and their activities so it will be easier to catch the fish that feed on them.
- We'll have many conservation groups attending to both inform and talk about fishery restoration in our Northern California region
- We'll have some of the best fly tyers in our region to both demonstrate & teach
- Great BBQ lunch available as well as many types of drinks
- Women Connect will have a booth and we invite all clubs to have their women's groups attend. Anne-Marie Bakker & Penelope Gadd-Coster will host.

**Starting around 4 p.m. we'll have "The Gathering of the Clan!"  
It's party Time!**

- **Live music**
- **Good food & drinks** (BYOB for alcohol)
- **Great social time** - meet fly fishers from all over our North State.
- **Talk about fishing** local and distant places and what works and doesn't
- **Have a really fun time together** with people who like what you like & do what you do.
- **Announce winners** of the auction & raffle

**Our purpose is to bring fly fishers together just to spend some quality time talking about our sport, and the fun we have doing it. We'll finish in time to get home (if you don't stay over) at a decent hour.**

Camping is available on site:

[https://www.yuba.org/departments/community\\_development/parks\\_&\\_campground.php](https://www.yuba.org/departments/community_development/parks_&_campground.php)

**It will be like no other event all year. Please plan to attend and support NCCFFI and fly fishing.**



**STANISLAUS FLY FISHERS IS A CHARTER CLUB OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL AND MEMBER OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL**



## Caught Fishing ...



Outings Director John Driver climbed aboard with the fellows from Delta Bass Bugs for a day at Tulloch Lake. This fish-eye view shows what can happen when a spotted bass puts up a good fight. John displays a nice bluegill that decided to grab his fly. The float and fly technique that DBB demonstrated at one of our spring meetings can definitely produce fish.

Member Pat Roe shared some jig flies he recently tied for some float and fly action.



### SFF 2023 Board of Directors

President: Gus Link • Vice-President: Bob Bullock

Treasurer/Membership: Dennis Stambaugh • Secretary/Webmaster: Michael Hewitt

Outings: John Driver • Community: Paul Wallace • At-Large: Bud Heintz

### SFF Membership Information

Membership fees for 2023, currently \$45, are now due. For your convenience, we can now accept a credit card for your dues for an additional fee of \$1.00 to cover the cost of the transaction. All SFF memberships are “Family Membership” status; spouses, significant others, and/or children must also be Fly Fishers International members to be official SFF members. FFI General Memberships include you, your spouse or co-habiting partner, and children under 18.

Reminder: Club dues **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! Remember to list the Stanislaus Fly Fishers as your Affiliated Club. This is important due to our Charter Club status as that links you to us on their roster. The online application for FFI membership is linked below. Standard annual FFI dues range from \$20-\$35 based on status (general, senior, veteran, youth).

Mail Membership Dues to: Dennis Stambaugh  
3833 Blue Bird Drive  
Modesto, CA, 95356

[SFF Membership Form](#)

[FFI Membership Link](#)

### Directions to Tuolumne River Lodge Tuolumne River Lodge 2429 River Rd, Modesto, CA

From 99 take Hatch Rd east to Central.  
Left on Central to River Rd. Right on River Rd.

From Mitchell Rd take Hatch Rd west  
to Moffett Rd. Right on Moffett to River Rd.  
Left on River Rd.

[Google Map](#)

