

October 2022

# 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

## October Meeting

Tuesday,  
October 11th  
6:00 pm Round Table  
Pizza  
(Save Mart Center)  
Pelandale Ave.  
Modesto, CA

## President's Message

Fall is here! My favorite season of the year! Cool mornings, warm afternoons, it just doesn't get better. Not to mention that fishing may be as good as it gets. Steelhead are in the coastal rivers, stripers are in the delta, and our streams and foothill reservoirs are fishing good for trout and bass. It's time to fish hard before winter arrives.

Speaking of trout, Bob Bullock and several club members will be fishing the little Truckee next weekend the 7th and 8th. The guys have a couple of camp sites reserved at Boyington Mill campground on the LT. Bob will be hosting dinner one evening. Feel free to join the guys and get in on some great fishing. Contact Bob for details.

Vivian and I recently returned from a great trip to the northeast where we toured several states and had the opportunity to see a beautiful part of our great country. Among the highlights we walked the Freedom Trail in Boston, saw a game at Fenway, visited the Orvis flagship store in Manchester, Vermont, and the American Museum of Fly Fishing. Of course, my personal highlight was fishing for false albacore and stripers out of Westport, Massachusetts with captain Parker Mauck. I did not catch any false albacore, but fishing for them was extremely exciting. We did catch stripers. The best part of that was that we caught them on top water flies. Primarily smaller "gurglers" than we would use here in the Delta. Another fishery I hope to visit again.

This will be my final call for items to donate to the Rivers of Recovery auction. The auction will be held later this month so get

# 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!



## President's Message (cont.)

your donations in soon. The more items there are in the auction, the more money will be raised for this organization that does so much for our veterans. See Mike's write up below and feel free to contact me with questions or for help with donations. Also take a look at the items already listed in the auction for ideas. This is a great way to give back so please help us out and donate and or bid.

There will be a general club meeting on Tuesday, October 11th at 6:00pm at the Round Table Pizza on Pelandale. That might be a good opportunity to drop off auction items to a club board member as we will ship donated items to the winning bidders. Of course, this is just a good time to have a slice and a beer and talk fishing so plan to come by and share a fishing story.

Please plan to donate and then bid on your favorite item in the upcoming Rivers of Recovery auction. Thank You!

Tight lines,  
Jim



## Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2022 Board of Directors

President – Jim Bowen

Vice-President – Gus Link

Treasurer/Membership –  
Dennis Stambaugh

Secretary/Webmaster –  
Michael Hewitt

Outings – Bob Bullock

At-Large – Bud Heintz

At-Large - Pat Roe

## Club News

### General Meeting

Tuesday, October 11th, 6:00 pm  
Round Table Pizza, Pelandale Ave., Modesto  
(Save Mart Center)

**Join us for Pizza & Beer!**  
(or your beverage of your choice)

Our monthly meeting will be held at the same time and same place. As summer winds down and we shift to fall, it's a good time to get together and discuss fall fishing options and relate tales of summer fishing successes and not-so-successes. Bob Bullock and others will have returned from the Little Truckee outing and should have a report for us. Also, the annual Knight's Ferry Salmon Festival is back after a Covid hiatus. Save the date! November 12th! Rivers of Recovery auction is happening very, very soon. Details below. Sign up now!!

### The Fly Box - "Micro Minnow"

Another video that speaks for itself this month. Click on the image to the right and the YouTube video will load. Materials list Thanks, Pat Roe, for the suggestion.

Hook: Fulling Mill 32500 Bonio Barbless  
Carp Hook - #10

Gut Sack: Polar Flash - 2033 - Mirage  
Opal

Tail : UV2 Select Bucktail - White #027

Tail (Alternate): Large Northern Bucktail - White

Body: Ripple Ice Dub - Mother of Pearl

Eyes: Fish Skull Living Eyes - 3mm - Ice (Silver)

Resin: Solarez UV Cure Resin - Medium Hard 1/2 oz

Marker: Chartpak Fly Tying Markers - Delta Brown (Dark Brown)

Glue: Loctite Gel Control Super Glue

# MICRO MINNOW



## For the Pickiest Fish

## Upcoming Outings and Events

### Knights' Ferry Salmon Festival - November 12th, 2022

Based on the current Covid transmission status of Stanislaus County (Low), USF&W has decided that festival is on. However, should the transmission rate return to High, the festival will be canceled.

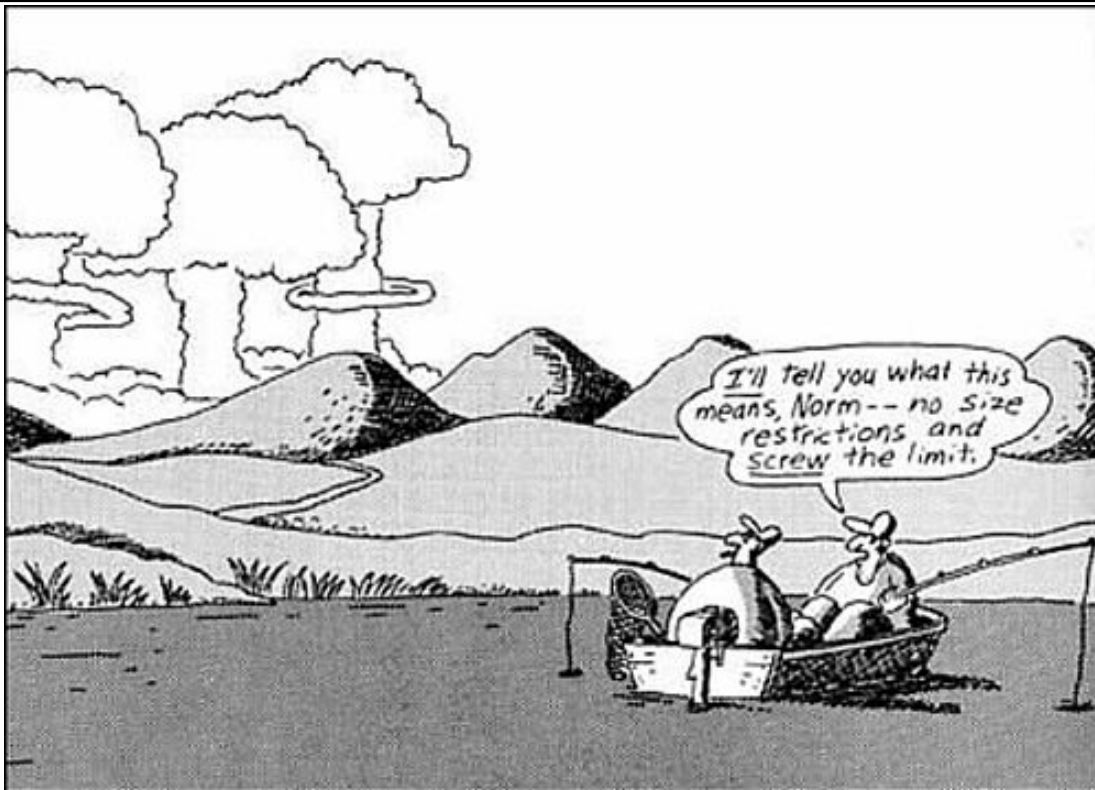
#### Membership Information

Membership Dues are suspended for the rest of 2022. 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 FFI 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. The online application for FFI membership is linked below.

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

## Comics



## Rivers of Recovery Auction

As most of you already know, the Stanislaus Fly Fishers has been a supporter of Rivers of Recovery since 2008 when we first formed. Over the years we co-hosted an annual event at The State Theater in Modesto, The Fly Fishing Film Tour, which was our major fundraiser for RoR. Somewhere upwards of \$750,000 was raised over those years to send our combat disabled veterans on weekend-long fly fishing adventures as part of their outdoor recreational therapy.

Unfortunately, when Covid hit, our local fundraising event, along with everything else, came to a screeching halt. Since then we have shifted our efforts to supporting the annual RoR online auction.

The auction runs from October 22-29, 2022. How can you participate? First, raffle prize donations are currently being accepted. The more raffle prizes that get donated, the more bids that will be made and the more money that will be raised. Info on donating raffle prizes is on the next page.

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### **2022 Rivers of Recovery Online Auction is scheduled for October 22-29.**

Here are some ways you can help ensure it's another success:

#### **Gift Cards**

Gift cards are an easy way to support our veterans because they are popular auction items that raise more than their face value. That means YOUR dollar stretches even further to help a veteran!

You can mail gift cards to Rivers of Recovery, PO Box 22326, Eagan, MN 55122 or email [amy@riversofrecovery.org](mailto:amy@riversofrecovery.org).

#### **Do you own a business or know someone who can offer a service?**

Some popular ideas: guided fishing trips, vacation homes/destinations, fishing/hunting gear, jewelry, spa packages, small items for a gift basket, flies to "match the hatch" in your area, golf and so much more!

Other donations can be mailed to Rivers of Recovery, PO Box 22326, Eagan, MN 55122.

**THANK YOU** in advance for your contribution. Watch for our official invite!

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The second thing you can do is **BID!** Check out the selection of items on the auction site. There are some fantastic items already there and more to come! And while you're browsing the auction list, click that register button and get signed up. You'll want to be

ready when the auction starts. Let's all do our part and remember what this is all for ... providing for our injured combat veterans.

Auction Link: <https://go.charityauctionstoday.com/bid/rorauction2022#>

For more detailed info on Rivers of Recovery, check out their website here:

<http://riversofrecovery.org>



*Club members wishing to donate prizes, you can bring them to our meeting and the club will take care of shipping them to prize winners. This will save you and RoR the cost of shipping. As a reminder, we will have a meeting at the Round Table Pizza on Pelandale, Tuesday, October 11 @ 6:00pm. Bring your donations and stop by!*

Here are some of the prizes some of the members are donating or have arranged for:

Flies tied by Pat Roe



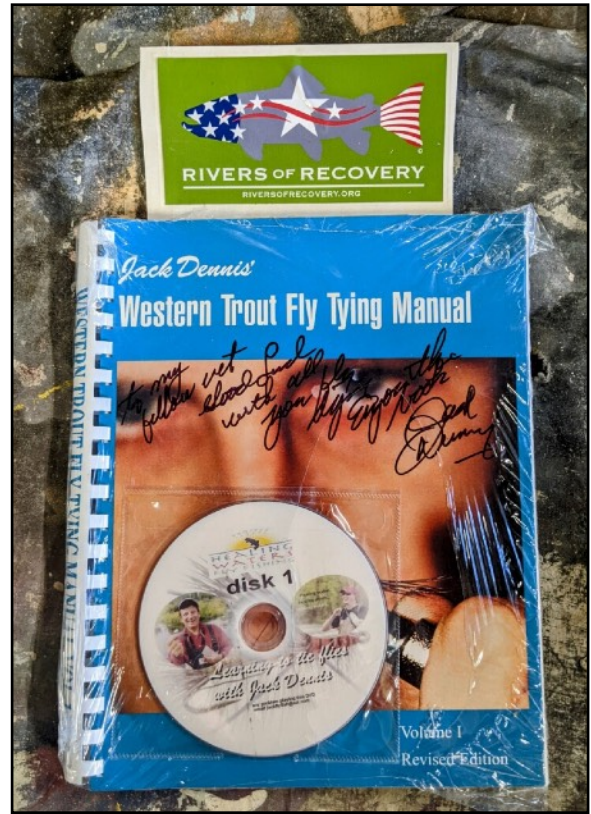
Flies tied by Bud Heintz



**Autographed box of flies tied by Jack Dennis plus a set of 10 tying CDs**



**Tying Manual signed by Jack Dennis Donated by Gerald Ng**



### **Custom Handcrafted Sage X 590-4 5wt 9'0'**

The X rod's all-new fast action taper built with KonneticHD Technology delivers greater blank recovery and a crisper tip stop - creating tighter, more efficient loops throughout all ranges of casting styles. This taper allows you to dig deeper into the rod and access the lower sections, shifting power closer to the angler. Decreased lateral and medial movement and vibrations in the blank result in a more accurate and efficient presentation, resulting in a performance driven, forgiving fast action blank - refining the synergy between angler, rod, line, and fly.

**Donated by the Stanislaus Fly Fishers**



## NCCFFI Report to Clubs - October 2022

*By Mark Rockwell, President & VP Conservation, NCCFFI*

### **Update on the progress on the Klamath River - Dam Removal is near!**

I've been reporting on and participating in negotiations to remove and restore the Klamath River and its watershed for 20 years. We are now on the verge of actually taking out 4 barrier dams on the river. NCCFFI is pleased that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) released its final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the Klamath River Renewal project. This is a huge win for the fishery, Tribal Nations, conservation groups and the public in general.

FERC staff recommended approval of the proposed license surrender, decommissioning, and removal of the project with staff modifications and mandatory conditions. The final EIS notes that, "Project removal and implementation of mitigation measures proposed in management plans would protect environmental resources, restore project lands, minimize adverse effects, maximize benefits to protected fish, and restore the landscape of the areas that are currently impounded within the project reach to a more natural state."



Where do we go from here? 1) we need to have the commissioners vote to agree with the state position - typically not a problem. They meet in the 1st week of October, and we expect the final EIR to be released. 2) the principles (California, Oregon, pacifiCorp, contractors) to meet & finalize the costs of the project & ensure the money is available. 3) The License needs to be formally transferred to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation & the states of California & Oregon. We expect all of this to be completed before early November, 2022. A few other procedural activities are left for

the winter, 2023, and preparation will begin in Spring of that year to begin pre-construction and ready the dams for decommissioning.

It is impossible for me to convey the sense of satisfaction and relief I feel with where we are today. After many ups and downs, those of us who have been working for this from the start can barely believe this is about to happen!



Let's remember, in 2005 the 4 Tribes involved in partnership with the conservation community, of which NCCFFI was a part, suggested we make the effort to take the dams off the river. It was the federal law that gave this opportunity as it requires that when a dam is relicensed it must be upgraded to current environmental standards. That meant fish passage through or around the 4 lower dams on the Klamath.



This legal requirement started a multi-year process of negotiations with PacifiCorp, the owner of the dams. At first they said “No way are we taking out the dams”. We spent 2 years discussing with them that the river could no longer be used to pulse water flows to increase sales of electricity during peak periods. They’d have to operate the river at “run-of-the-river” flows. Then they said the cost of fish passage would not be too high. However, our experts stated it would cost at least \$350 million in 2005 dollars, and likely more.

Once PacifiCorp came around to agreeing they would “talk” about dam removal, it took another 2 years to convince them that their project was not worth \$300 million as they claimed. They were asking those of us who wanted the dams out to pay that claim. In the end, they not only did not receive money for the infrastructure, they put in \$250 million for removal costs. The state of California agreed to add another \$200 million, for \$450 million for removal. That was in the 2010 original agreement we all signed. In 2015, the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement failed to get through Congress, and it ended. It was a stand-alone from the hydropower agreement. The hydropower agreement was renegotiated and signed in 2015, and it has led to today’s final. California, Oregon and PacifiCorp have added an additional \$15 million each in case it is required before completion.

Pre-construction starts in summer 2023, and includes Copco #2 being removed. Full dam removal starts January 2024, with completion of all by October 2023. Hallelujah!

## Gathering the Clan - Yuba Fest 2022 Join the fun! Registration Required!



Yuba Fest is back for 2022! It is about fun, music, learning, protecting our rivers and fish, and protecting our watersheds. Yuba Fest is dedicated to and celebrates the life of Yuba River Guide Jon Baiocchi. The event also supports the future of the Northern California Council, Fly Fishers International.

The theme of the event is "**Gathering the Clan**" and **the Yuba Fest Clan** is made up of people who enjoy, recreate and work to protect the Yuba and other river like it in California. **Come join our friends** and families!

The event is a two day event - Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16, and takes place at Sycamore Ranch

County Park, located about 8 miles east of Marysville on Highway 20 (5390 Hwy 20, Browns Valley, CA, 0.3 miles east of Marysville Rd).

The event promises to be the best celebration yet. The Yuba Fest Committee has done a lot of work and planning to make this a memorable event. Here is a taste of what you can expect on Saturday:

### **Saturday, October 15th Events:**

#### **Fly Fishing Related Activities - You Can Participate!**

- ◆ ***Fly Casting Skills Development*** course where FFI certified Fly Casting instructors can help you with fly casting whether you are a beginner or experienced. This will take place throughout the day. Free event.
  - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ ***Introduction to Fly Cas:ng*** throughout the day where even if you have never had a fly rod in your hand, you will learn how to cast it. Free Event
  - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ ***Fly Fishing Skill Stations*** where you can interact with guide level fly fishers and learn about knots & rigging, fly tying, and knots. Free Event
  - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ ***Introduction to Fly Fishing*** workshops - 3 hours of learning the basics of fly fishing. Two opportunities for this workshop - one morning, one afternoon. You must sign up on the NCCFFI website. See QR code below. Free!
  - 10:00 am to 1:00pm or 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
- ◆ Learn tips on ***How to Fly Fish the Lower Yuba River*** with Fly Fishing Traditions as your teacher. This is a 2-1/2 hour presentation where you will learn about the Lower Yuba River, its seasons, and the tactics and flies to be successful. You must sign up on the NCCFFI website. See QR code below. Free Event
  - 12:30 am to 3:00 pm

- ◆ **Special Workshop for Fly Club Leaders** - a VIP workshop to show you new NCCFFI Educational Products that can be utilize with your club. An NCCFFI ambassador will contact your club with details about this workshop. Free Event
  - 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

### **River Related Learning Opportunities**

- ◆ We will have 8 **Conservation groups** attending – Four local watershed groups who focus on Northern California fishery & water-related issues. They will present information at scheduled talks in the morning & afternoon, and you can stop at their booths for in-depth discussions.
- ◆ **Learn About Entomology** - the study of and importance of “bugs.” Two bug specialists will teach you about the bugs of the river and why they are so important to fish & the people fishing for them. They will present to the group in the morning & afternoon.
- ◆ Visit with our river Partner - **South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL)** - the true stewards of the Yuba Watershed - Top to Bottom. Learn what is needed to care for and protect a large river watershed and all the benefits it provides to Northern California.

### **Other Fun Activities during Saturday**

- ◆ Music - There will be a band in the afternoon to liven us up. **The Harmony Grove Band** will perform in the afternoon. In the evening around dinner, you will be entertained by **Karrie O'Neill**, singer/songwriter from Reno who sings and plays guitar. You will love it all.
- ◆ There will be a **Raffle & Silent Auction** during the day of cool fishing and non-fishing items
- ◆ We will also have a small **Live Auction** in the evening after dinner. There will be special items here to bid on. Do not miss it.

### **Food & Drinks - Day & Evening - Available for purchase**

- ◆ **Lunch:** BBQ gourmet sausages, hot dogs, condiments, and chips.
  - 12:00 pm to 2 pm
- ◆ **Evening Dinner** at 6 p.m. - BBQ Items, Vegetarian Lasagna with side dishes and desert. Must sign up and pay on the NCCFFI website. See QR code below
  - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- ◆ **Drinks & Sierra Nevada beer** available all day for purchase

## Sunday, October 16th Events:

### Fly Fishing Related Activities - You Can Participate!

The events on Sunday are fee based that require advance registration and payment. There are dynamic educational and adventurous activities

#### Sunday for Fee Opportunities

- Mike Pease, a Lower Yuba River, and the Lost Sierra Feather River guide, will be auctioning off on Saturday a **Half Day Walk and Wade Guide Trip** on the Lower Yuba for a Sunday fishing opportunity. This trip is for one or two anglers.
- Tom Page of the Reel Anglers Fly Shop in Grass Valley will be auctioning off on Saturday a **Full Day Float Trip on the Lower Yuba** for a Sunday fishing opportunity. This is a trip for one or two anglers
- Clay Hash of Fly Fishing Traditions will be providing a **Fishing Technical Waters** workshop on Sunday. This will be a 6-hour class that will cover guide tricks and wisdom for fishing technical waters. This workshop requires advance registration and payment to attend - \$75 per person.
- Larry Strauss from the Gold Country Fly Fishers and Mark Rockwell, President of the NCCFFI, will be teaching an **Introduction to Fly Fishing Class** on Sunday. This class will get you started with your adventure into fly fishing. This workshop requires advance registration and payment to attend - \$75 per person.
- South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) is offering guided **River Raft Salmon Tours** on Sunday. This is an approximately 5-hour raft trip down the Lower Yuba River. You will be traveling with a docent to learn about the salmon, trout, and steelhead in the river and about river restoration projects. This workshop requires advance registration and payment to attend - \$65 per person.

### Sunday Free Opportunities

Yuba Fest is providing free fly fishing related opportunities on Sunday

- The FFI's **Fly Casting Skills Development** program will be available on Sunday to work on your casting techniques. This opportunity is from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- **Woman's Connect** will be hos:ng fly fishing opportunities on Sunday. You can learn more about Woman's Connect and sign up for fishing opportunities at their booth on Saturday.

QR code to make reservations, pay, or get information.



**Website link:** <https://www.nccffi.org/yubafest>

*Everyone needs to register on the website to ensure you get what you want to do. Some classes are limited in size, and dinner is also limited.*

## ***Last Minute Steelhead Opportunity!***

Noted from Jim Bowen:

I'm passing on the word on a great opportunity to swing for steelhead in British Columbia the steelhead dream location.

Rick Anderson of Fly Fishing Specialties has two cancellations for their BC Steelhead trips. One opening is for October 9th through the 16th and one opening for October 16th through 23rd. Because these are last minute cancellations Rick is offering them at one half the price of the normal cost of this trip. If you are interested, call Rick at Fly Fishing Specialties 916-722-1055. These are first come first served opportunities, so if swinging flies for steelhead in British Columbia is on your bucket list, you'll never see a better deal.