

March 2023

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

February Meeting

Tuesday, March 14,
2023

6:00pm

Tuolumne River
Lodge

2429 River Rd,
Modesto, CA

See map in newsletter.

President's Message

March 1, 2023

How about this weather? As I type this, there is snow in Escalon! The good news is the California snowpack is great! Bad news is that all my favorite small streams will be raging into July. However, that should make for some great fall fishing! And I do love the fall in the mountains! Small stream dry fly, OH YEAH!!

Hope everyone got out to the Pleasanton Fly Fishing show! Always a great place to meet folks and see what is going on in the Fly-Fishing World. I spent most of Saturday helping Delta Fly Fishers help scouts with the Fly-Fishing Merit Badge. I am a sucker for anything scouting, I volunteer a LOT for scouting.

Seems we have a universally positive opinion on our new meeting place; that is music to my ears! Again, Thank you to Bob Bullock for all your hard work getting this place set up for the club!

I am getting more invites from other clubs to participate in their meetings. I think this is a great thing and very likely will help our club survive. I ran into two guys from the Fresno Club at 2 Mile Bar, traded emails, and they invited us to a Zoom presentation. I know it was last minute, but I hope a few of our members attended. I thought it was a good presentation.

Kistler date is set, Saturday May 6th. I hope to see everyone out on the water! Hopefully, it will not be the inaugural launching of my new pontoon boat; regardless, I will be out there early and rowing about!

Stanislaus Fly Fishers Membership Information

Currently, membership fees are \$40 per year.

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 Notes

I hope everyone enjoyed Pat and Bud tying at the last meeting! For me it as always great to learn from both of those gentlemen!

The March meeting will be Brian Pultz from Delta Bass Bugs talking about Float and Fly. We hope to have a large turnout at the meeting, 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 to have people at the meetings! 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!

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

Tight Lines!

~ Link

Club News

General Meeting

March 14, 2023 6:00 pm

Tuolumne River Lodge

2429 River Road, Modesto, CA

Program: "Float & Fly with Delta Bass Bugs"

Want to hear more about the float & fly rigs? How well they work? The proper setup? Join us as Brian Pultz from DBB gives us the lowdown at the March meeting. We're giving away a float tube as a door prize so you won't want to miss this one. Last month's winner walked away with a fly box of hand tied flies from Bud Heintz and Pat Roe! Good things happen when you show up! 😊



Stanislaus Fly Fishers 2023 Board of Directors

President: Gus Link • Vice-President: Bob Bullock
Treasurer/Membership: Dennis Stambaugh • Secretary/Webmaster: Michael Hewitt
At large: Jim Bowen • At-Large: Bud Heintz



You could be the lucky recipient of this Browning float tube! All you need to do is show up at the March meeting, get your door prize ticket, and keep your fingers crossed!

The Fly Box - “Float & Fly Baitfish”

This month’s fly goes along with the scheduled presentation of our March general meeting. This basic pattern can be adapted both in size and colors. Float & Fly has become a very popular technique for fishing lakes and reservoirs for both bass and trout. Brian Pultz from Delta Bass Bugs will be giving you all the information you need to get started at our March meeting. You won’t want to miss it! Matt with Loon Outdoors will take you step by step through tying one in the accompanying video.

Click on the image to go to the YouTube link

[here.](#)

Favorite fly pattern to share? Drop me a line [here.](#)



FLOAT & FLY
Baitfish Pattern



Hook: Firehole 570
Thread: Veevus GSP 100D
Bead: 4.5mm White Tungsten
Tail: White Marabou
Body: Mini Flat Braid Chartreuse
UV Colored Fly Finish Hot Blue
Underbody: Barred Marabou

Upperbody: Senyo’s Laser Hair - Light Olive
Senyo's Laser Hair - Dark Olive
Throat: Red Schlappen
Ice Dub Minnow Belly
Head: UV Colored Fly Finish Smoke
UV Clear Fly Finish Thin

Upcoming Outings and Events

March 14, 2023 - General Meeting: "Float & Fly" w/Delta Bass Bugs

April 11, 2023 - General Meeting: "Fishing Patagonia" w/John Driver

May 6, 2023 - Kistler Ranch Outing

May 9, 2023 - General Meeting: DF&W "Heritage Trout Program"

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 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 as that links you to us on their roster. The online application for FFI membership is linked below.

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

[SFF Membership Form](#)

[FFI Membership Link](#)

Comics



As we move into the end of winter, and with the Fly Fishing Show behind us, I wanted to let everyone know what activities we will be engaged in for the rest of 2023. **We have many learning activities and events planed, and these will be held around our region to make it easier for many of you to participate.** Here is a shorthand listing of the events, locations and dates. We will be doing outreach around each of these, but we wanted to give you the info so you can note them in your calendar.

Fly Casting & Fly Casting Skills Development (FCSD) Events

- **'Teach the Teachers' Zoom, April 27th** - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - for workshop in Sacramento on 5/20/2023.
 - Casting instruction in **Sacramento, May 20th**, 10-4 p.m. FCSD site lay-out & teaching instruction for 'Teach the Teachers' starts at 1 p.m.
- **'Teach the Teachers' Zoom, May 24th** - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. for workshop in San Jose on 6/24/2023.
 - Casting instruction in **San Jose, June 24th**, 10-4 p.m. FCSD site lay-out & teaching instruction for 'Teach the Teachers' starts at 1 p.m.
- **'Teach the Teachers' Zoom, August 31st** - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. for workshop at Yuba Fest, September 30th.
 - Casting instruction at **Yuba Fest, Sept 30th**, 10-4 p.m.. FCSD site lay-out & teaching instruction for 'Teach the Teachers' starts at 1 p.m.

Proposed NCCFFI Skills Clinics - Clay Hash, Fly Fishing Traditions

- **Euro Nymphing Clinic - May 13th**, 9 - 4 p.m. Browns Valley, Lower Yuba River
- **NCCFFI Introduction to Fly Fishing - Sunday May 21st**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sacramento or Grass Valley.
- **Fishing Technical Waters Workshop - Saturday June 17th**, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Lower Yuba River, Browns Valley, CA
- **NCCFFI Introduction to Fly Fishing - Sunday June 25th**, 9. a.m. - 4 p.m., San Jose, CA.
- **Fly Fishing the Lower Yuba River - Saturday August 19th**, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sycamore Ranch on the Lower Yuba River,
- **NCCFFI Introduction to Fly Fishing - Sunday October 1**, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sycamore Ranch on the Lower Yuba River.
- **Spey Fishing Workshop - swinging & soft Hackle - Trout spey, Saturday November 18th**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Lower Yuba River, Browns Valley.

All of these Teaching programs are offered by **Sarah Trenchel & Russ Carpenter**, Certified Casting instructors of GGACC for casting events, or **Clay Hash of Fly Fishing Traditions** in Grass Valley, CA. **Mark Your Calendars!**

COMMERCIAL ANGLERS, OCEAN PASSENGER FLEET, AND INLAND RIVER GUIDES CALL FOR 2023 SALMON SEASON CLOSURE AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE FUNDING

CLOSURE OF THE 2023 SALMON SEASON

Press Release | Friday, March 3, 2023 | Sacramento, CA

Today, leadership of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the Golden Gate Fisherman's Association, and the Northern California Guides and Sportsmen's Association are calling for an immediate closure of the 2023 salmon season and requesting the Governor Newsom, the State Legislature, and state agencies seek Federal and State disaster assistance funding for affected ocean and inland commercial operators.

On March 1, 2023, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife held their annual pre-season briefing and reported some of the worst fisheries numbers in the history of the state. These numbers follow years of drought, poor water management decisions by Federal and State managers, occasional failure to meet hatchery egg mitigation goals, inaccurate season modeling, and the inability of fisheries managers to meet their own mandated escapement goals.

"Unfortunately we have gotten to a point that we have been warning was coming; another collapse of our iconic salmon fisheries", said George Bradshaw, President of PCFFA. "The harvest models, escapement goals and model inaccuracies show there is no warranted opportunity to harvest Chinook Salmon in the state of California in 2023. Our organization is asking Federal and State managers to take the required steps to ensure the survival of the resource and close the fishery. We demand we work towards future sustainable solutions so we can once again have robust salmon runs and thriving fisheries. Our coastal communities and generational fisherman deeply rely on the proper management. Therefore this requires our Federal and State leaders lead the effort to secure disaster assistance until we all get through these foreseeable hard times."

"Inland recreational salmon anglers and salmon fishing guides are the last user group to access the resource every year when salmon return to their natal, spawning grounds and hatcheries", said James Stone, Executive Director of NCGASA. "We have seen historic low runs in the Sacramento Valley since 2015, with 75% of the last 8 years falling short of the required conservation objective of 122,000 spawning adult fall run salmon. Current salmon management policy and poor water management, without proper hatchery mitigation, has got us to this point of full collapse. Our small rural communities throughout the Delta and upper Sacramento river systems that rely on salmon for food, recreation, sport, and industry have been drastically affected. We need to enact immediate conservation measures and close the fishery in all sectors ocean and inland, coupled with a complete overhaul of our salmon management models and policies that have led to this scenario."

“After several consecutive years of poor river conditions fishery managers have forecasted near record low salmon returns to the Sacramento and Klamath Rivers”, said Rick Powers, President of GGFA. “With low returns we feel it would be irresponsible to participate in a 2023 season. While we make our living fishing for salmon, we are willing to make a short-term sacrifice to ensure a return of robust salmon populations that our families depend on. Therefore, we suggest that this year’s salmon season be suspended to protect the salmon runs that are vital to California Coastal Communities, and we call for Governor Newsom and state leaders to fight for disaster assistance funding for our communities immediately.” (Full article [here](#))

This and That ...

Volunteers needed! Teaching Fly Fishing for Scouts

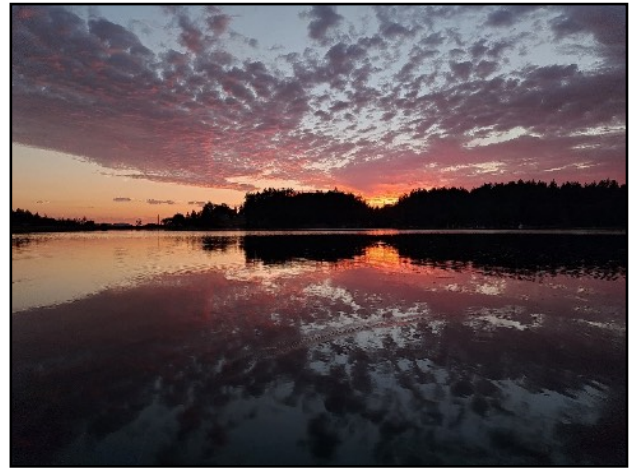
Wente Scout Reservation invites you to volunteer to teach fly fishing for one week between June 18 thru August 3, 2023

The teaching sessions are at the Wente Scout Reservation. There are 7 weekly sessions 6-18 thru 8-3-23. Teaching days are Sunday thru Thursday of each session. Staff tent is provided as well as all your meals. Classes are two hours in the morning and two in the afternoon. Scouting is coed and at times space permitting adults take the instruction.

Wente Scout Reservation is located 140 miles north of Oakland and 6 miles east of Willets The lake is called Winawa and has a healthy population of largemouth bass and bluegill.

Fly Fishing Instructors have full access to the lake after classes and dinner. You can bring your own watercraft or use the rowboats or canoes made available to those who would like to use them.

If interested email Gus Link at flylink48@gmail.com and he can answer questions or send a link to the Sign Up Genius site.



Directions to Tuolumne River Lodge

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.

Click on map for link to Google Map.

