



President's Message

Man, I thought November went fast! December went by at a ludicrous speed! (May the Schwartz be with you!!) Welcome to 2024! I hope we all can get out and fish a LOT this year!

I am looking forward to outings this year. I really need to hit some small water this year, catch some trout and camp! I need a good fire, some stew, and some good beer at the end of the day! We want to do some camp outings, probably up 108, lots of great water up there! We are starting to plan for the year ahead, please, if you have any input, let us know. Also, if you want to coordinate an outing, let us know! We would be happy to help!

Still no Book Report, I have been on a Lord of the Rings re-visit, I do love Tolkien! I do have a couple of books in the queue, and hopefully I will get back to that. Cold, rainy weather is conducive to comfy chairs, warm blankets and a cat in your lap! Cats are weird, but they do grow on you!

As always, I hope to have a large turnout at the meeting (January 9), because what do we need at the meetings? YOU! Yeah YOU, the person reading this! 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!

Do you have any suggestions? Anything that you would like to see happen at the meetings? Or anything that you would like to see happen with the Club? Please, feel free to reach out to me, or any Board Member, and tell us. We welcome any and all questions, suggestions and feedback. After all, it is not my Club, it is everyone's Club. The more participation we get, the more successful the Club can be.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone not only at the meetings, but out on the water in 2024!

Tight Lines!

~ Link

Club News

... January General Meeting - Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Our first meeting of the year will involve electing officers for 2024. We are also scheduled to have Jake Rennert, Fish Biologist, California Central Valley Office, NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region, talk about their efforts for the Merced and Tuolumne Salmonid Reintroduction and our club signing on to support a Memorandum of Understanding regarding their efforts.

“To summarize, the MOU is specific to the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers focusing on supporting reintroduction and conservation of anadromous salmonids. The MOU is focused on acknowledging the challenges that salmon and steelhead are currently faced with in the Central Valley, specifically climate change, a warming valley floor, and lack of passage to historical habitats in the high elevation Sierra Nevada. The MOU will create a neutral platform for organizations, agencies, Tribes, and NGOs to have early conversations about what reintroduction into the upper watershed may look like and if it is feasible in either or both of the two rivers. “



... The Fly Fishing Show

The club is going to have an information booth at the Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton this year! We hope to use the opportunity to promote our club to any and all area attendees, as well as promote the Fly Fishing Film Tour which will be held this coming spring. There is an opportunity for members to work the booth and get a free pass to the event. This year's event runs February 23-25, 2024.



... GGA&C Club Free Casting Clinic

Just a reminder that the free casting clinic is held the second Saturday of every month from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm at Golden Gate Park. Saturday, January 13th is the next session. A carpool group is a fantastic way to attend if you're free that weekend. It's a great experience and the folks who run it are really nice. The event is held rain or shine.

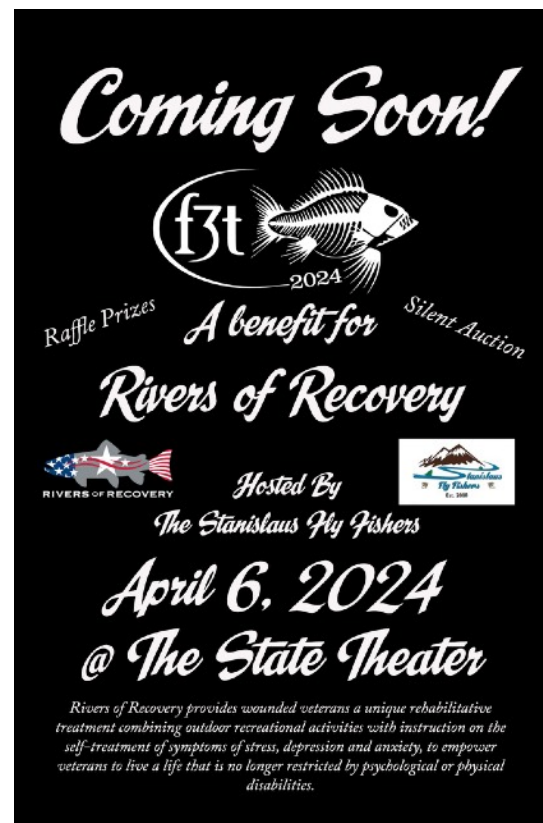
... 2023 F3T Film Showing

We had a decent turnout last month for our showing of the 2023 F3T film from this past year at the Prospect Theater Project, but it was just a warmup for the main event next spring when we host the 2024 3FT at the State Theater! And about that ...

... Fly Fishing Film Tour Returns!

Speaking of the 2024 Fly Fishing Film Tour, the date has been set for April 6, 2024 @ The State Theater in Modesto from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm. We'll present more details as they get solidified. In the meantime, please be thinking about how you can make this a fantastic fundraising event for Rivers of Recovery. For those that don't know, The SFF has been involved in promoting the F3T event at The State since its inception, which I believe dates back to 2009. The local event was suspended due to the Covid lockdown in 2020, but it's time we brought it back bigger and stronger than ever. We not only will need member support in running things the day of the event, but also in arranging the donation of raffle prizes. There'll be more on that in the upcoming months.

All proceeds from the raffle and profits from the event will be donated to [Rivers of Recovery](#), an NPO that provides recreational, outdoor rehabilitative therapy for combat disabled veterans.



... Delta Fly Fishers Annual Dinner

Delta Fly Fishers would like to invite our SFF membership to join them at their Annual Dinner in Stockton on January 27. Meet old or new friends at our neighboring club, get introduced to their officers, enjoy a nice meal, and take part in a huge raffle and silent auction. The raffle and silent auction this year will have a value exceeding \$8,000 and several grand prizes such as a pontoon boat with a stainless steel frame, a fly tying roll top desk fully loaded with thousands of dollars in fly tying supplies, and an eight-foot pram complete with fish finder, oars, an electric trolling motor, and battery. This is DFF's biggest fundraiser of the year. Tickets are \$38, advance purchase only!

<https://deltaflyfishers.com>



ANNUAL DINNER

Delta Fly Fishers welcome you to attend our
2024 Annual Officers Installation Dinner.
Enjoy a delicious dinner of your choice and
take advantage of the biggest raffle and silent
auction of the year.

January 27, 2024

Tickets \$38 (must be purchased in advance)

Elks Lodge, 8900 Thornton Rd, Stockton

Doors 6:00 Dinner 7:00 Program 8:00

<https://deltaflyfishers.com/>



... Outings and Events

As the new year begins it's time to start thinking about club-based outings. This is always a challenge due to the complexity of trying to meet the needs of as many club members as possible. So many things to consider: one-day vs multi-day, nearby vs travel, lodging vs camping, stream vs stillwater, beginner vs accomplished fly fisher, etc. The outing director tries to provide for a variety of possibilities, but it's important to provide your input when asked!

Northern Calif. Council, Fly Fishers International January, 2024 Report to Clubs

The Nor Calif. Council, FFI, wishes all of you a very happy and prosperous New Year for 2024! It is our mission to work with and provide benefit to all the member clubs of Fly Fishers International, and that includes all club members who enjoy club activities, and fishing the waters of Northern California. Our Council Board is working on your behalf, and it is our goal to create and make available great learning programs on fly fishing, fly tying, and casting to all of you in our member clubs. We'll once again be working to bring the new Fly Casting Skills program to you, and hoping that it makes your casting skills and fishing more productive this year.

Additionally, we will be working on ground breaking conservation



projects like dam removal on the Klamath River. For 20 years we have been the fly fishing voice in the negotiations to remove four dams on the river, and we have finally reached success with the first dam - Copco 2 - removed in 2023, and the remaining 3 dams - Iron Gate, Copco 1, & J.C. Boyle slated to be removed by October, 2024.

This is the beginning of the largest dam removal and river restoration project in U.S. history. As you can see with the removal of Copco 2, a free flowing river is beautiful. By October, 2024, the remaining 3 dams will be out of the river, providing access to more than 400 miles of the upper Klamath watershed to spawning and rearing salmon and steelhead.



Here's a recent T.V. news video on the impacts of this restoration given by our partners in this project - the Yurok and Klamath Tribes.

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/native-american-tribes-impacted-by-demolition-of-dams-on-klamath-river/3391125/>

In addition to this effort, we are now working with other partners on the Eel River, and removal of 2 dams on the middle fork. PG&E has released it's plan to terminate use and a removal schedule for the dams, and we are working with local partners and our conservation partners - Cal Trout and Trout Unlimited - on completing this effort soon. The Eel River was once the third largest salmon and steelhead producing river in California. We hope that will return once the dams are out.

Fly Fishing Show - February 23, 24, & 25 - Pleasanton, California

<https://flyfishingshow.com/pleasanton-ca/>.

On Saturday at 11:30 a.m. - All club leaders are invited to attend the Nor. Cal. Council, FFI club leadership lunch. Hear about our plans for 2024, meet other club leaders, learn about club-focused programs and events NCCFFI has planned for 2024. Check on our website for more information and updates.

<https://www.nccffi.org/>

This show has been a longtime event where we all can come together and get a look at new equipment, do some casting, and visit with lodges and guides and perhaps book a trip for the year. It's vital that we in fly fishing come to the show and support it with our presence. As we know, the show has been lightly attended in the past years due to COVID and last Year's poor weather. We need to show our support for the show. Please attend to tell the show owners and managers Northern California is a good location to come to every year. We owe it to them and we need to show our support by our attendance. If we want the show in 2025, show attendance in 2024 is critical.

Club Leaders: Let us know if you plan on attending our lunch - email Clay Hash at clayhash.fft@gmail.com. See you at the show!!

Mark Rockwell,

Outgoing President, NCCFFI

... Fishing Report

Jesse Anderson of Cramer Fish Sciences will be speaking at an upcoming meeting, but meanwhile, he shared that he ventured out New Year's Day with family and friend to the Merced River. While there he ran into a couple of our other past members, Jim and Thomas Goodwin, and indicated they were catching the big fish, but from the photographic evidence it doesn't look like Jesse was left out! And from the smiles on the faces of Jesse, his dad, oldest daughter, and their friend, it's safe to say it looks like a day well spent! What more could you ask for? Ge out there, fish, and make memories!



... For Sale

Former member Robert Snell is selling his Simms waders, size 12 boot, and his Fat Cat float tube. Price is negotiable but reasonable! If interested, contact Bud Heinz @ 209-985-2815.

I'm also looking to sell my Outcast float tube and Force Fins if anyone is interested. Contact me at webmaster@stanislausflyfishers.org.

The above image is NOT my tube, but it's the spitting image of it. Anyone looking to get into fly fishing lakes and ponds, these two options are great ways to grab gently-used equipment at decent prices.

Also, our own board and club member, Roger Ringsted, has some great fly fishing and fly tying wood creations at Osprey Wood Designs on Etsy. Check them out [here!](#)

Respectfully submitted,
~ Mike Hewitt, Editor



Upcoming Outings & Events

[Click here for a link to our Google Calendar.](#)

- SFF Board Meeting - January 4th - Track 424 Brewery, 2150 Yosemite, Modesto
- General Meeting "" - January 9, 2024
- Sacramento International Sportsman's Expo - January 18-21, 2024
- Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show 2024 - February 23-25, 2024
- Fly Fishing Film Tour 2024 @ The State Theater - April 6, 2024

Stay tuned for more information on these as it develops.



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

SFF 2023 Board of Directors

President: Gus Link • Vice-President: Bob Bullock • Secretary / Webmaster: Michael Hewitt
 Treasurer / Membership: Dennis Stambaugh • Outings: John Driver
 Community Outreach: Paul Wallace • At-Large: Bud Heintz • At-Large: Roger Ringsted

SFF Membership Information

Membership fees for 2024, currently \$45, are due January 1, 2024 and can be paid starting now. For your convenience, we can now accept a credit card for your dues for an additional fee of \$2.00 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](#)

