



President's Message

Hello folks,

This coming weekend, actually September 7th, is the Labor Day holiday. It is time to commend yourselves for your daily efforts to provide for your personal needs and lifestyles and or your family's. Congratulations, take pride in whatever it is you do, because you are doing it.

During this holiday period, what better way to enjoy the solitude than to get away to some pond, lake, river or stream and do some fishing. If you are by yourself, grab a little go bag of water and snacks and give it a go. If with family, grab a bigger go bag and probably a cooler for cold drinks and a picnic lunch for the crew and head for some water. It is a lot of fun with the young ones. Get them a cheap pole set up, hooks, some bait (I won't ever acknowledge that I said that) I suppose you could do a fly set up, and get them fishing. The older ones, hand them a light weight fly rod, set them up with an appropriate fly, give them a few pointers and watch them fish. In either case when a fish is caught, it is more enjoyable than me catching my best fish. And if no fish are caught, it has still bee, a most memorable day.

Well, I hope all of you have a good relaxing holiday, and when we get back together I would like to hear how your holiday experience went.

Your SFF president,
Bob Bullock



September General Meeting

Casting ForRecovery & Ice Cream Social!



What's Up with WhatsApp?

The SFF board recently faced a situation where our use of a text group to facilitate communication, coordination, and planning ran into a familiar problem. Due to the different technologies used in text

messaging between Android (cellular based: SMS/MMS) and iPhone (internet based: iMessage), when we need to add a new individual to our mixed-platform group message, we are forced to start a whole new group text thread, and in the process lose continuity. It's not a major deal by any means other than it causes confusion if someone mistakenly posts in an old group text (and there have been several at this point), and it starts a snowball of disconnected messaging. After some discussion, the board determined that the internet-based messaging app WhatsApp provides us with a solution. Members to a WhatsApp Community (which is simply a text group) can be added or removed without disrupting the chain and history of messages. So, we created a Community called Stanislaus Fly Fishers, and within it, we created a restricted Group for the SFF Board.

That now presents us with an opportunity to achieve something we had talked about for several months ... a way to communicate with club members in a timely manner (other than via email) regarding event reminders, outing coordination, requests for assistance, etc. Emails might only be checked sporadically, but text messages are usually delivered, noticed, and read more immediately. With that in mind, we are making our WhatsApp Community open to all paid members who wish to participate. WhatsApp is free to download and use for both platforms. At the bottom of this article, there are links to the app stores and a link to an open invite to the Community. It will be open to all current paid members.

This is purely an opt-in situation. Only use it if you want to receive more timely reminders of our activities. Click on the link below, and if your club status is current, your request will be approved. Alternatively, email me with your phone number or WhatsApp username, and I will use that to send you an invite. mhewitt@stanislausflyfishers.org.

This is new territory for us so please be patient as we work out the bugs.

[Apple App Store](#)

[Google Play Store](#)

Stanislaus Fly Fishers Community

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EkrhClzcmNIEnJkH8QXDab>

Link's Lines

Well, Scout Camp at Wente Scout Reservation was fantastic! Although, there was one hiccup that had me grousing about the whole program.

New rules this year, Instructors could not use their own boats to fish.

This really got under my skin, and I was pissed! In my brain, this was one of the main reasons I went up there! I seriously contemplated canceling. I was so mad!

However, I did not cancel. Leigh and I packed up, headed up, had some amazing sushi in Willits (yeah, it's true! If you are ever up there and like sushi, I will pass the place on, let me know!) and headed to Camp. I was still grumbling, still pissy about the whole thing, and then something happened!

I got over myself. This was not about me, this was about passing my passion on to youth. Remember what I said last month? There is something about passing this sport on to youth, it is immensely satisfying. I just needed to remember that.

I had a conversation with the Staff, new rules came down from National, and guess what? They made sense, imagine that.

Turns out if we fly-fishers were the only ones out on the lake, that created liability for Scouts. Not to mention a “Hey, why can they do it and not me?” from the Scout leaders at Camp. So yeah, I got over myself.

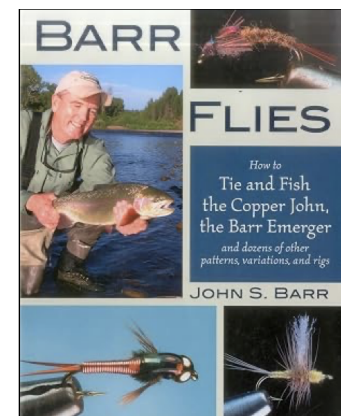
Not exactly an easy thing to do sometimes, I was pissy for a week before Camp, grumble grumble, grumble!

I wish I knew the secret to always being positive and understanding, but I don't. May not ever. And that is the whole point. We are not perfect beings, and sometimes life pisses us off. How we handle that and (hopefully) get over it, is a good measure of our humanity.

Tight Lines!
LINK

September Fly Tyer's Corner Michael Hewitt

Two flies that should be in every flyfisher's arsenal: the Copper John and the Slumpbuster. What do they have in common? Both were designed by John Barr who, according to his introduction to Barr Flies (You have to love that title!), began his interest in flytying at the age of five watching a neighbor tying flies on a card table in his garage. Progressing from tying “flies” on bent nails and using berry juice-dyed strips of cloth as wrappings to tying the real deal, Barr is a preeminent designer of commercially distributed flies in the world. Barr Flies: How to Tie and Fish the Copper John, the Barr Emerger (and dozens of other patterns, variations, and rigs) should be on every tyer's bookshelf. Featuring proven patterns, outstanding fly photography by Charlie Craven, and specific techniques for productively fishing the flies, Barr Flies makes it simple for even the inexperienced tyer to tie his signature flies.



Over 21 chapters, Barr presents patterns and information covering more than two dozen flies and variations he considers his “confidence” patterns. Tying instructions are explicit, expertly photographed, and well organized, including backstory and context for each fly's development. In a final section he presents his thoughts on fly combinations for multi-fly rigs, again with recommended fishing techniques

for effective results. Flies of note include the aforementioned Copper John (and variations) and Slumpbuster, as well as the Barr Emerger, the Meat Whistle, Pure Midge Larva, B/C Hopper, and Vis-A-Dun.

Retail on this book is \$39.95, but once again, a Google search will likely return several secondhand options for purchase. I saw one copy on eBay for \$14.95 and another at AbeBooks for \$16.69 with free shipping. I can strongly recommend this as an addition to your tying library. Myself, I think I'll be tying some Vis-A-Duns at our next open tying night.



Mike

Membership Update - Barry Kutz

We had 18 members that attended our August meeting on the 11th, an average number of people for a summer evening.

As of 8/11/26, we have 47 paid memberships, one more than last month. Including additional family members, this brings our number of members to 53. This is pretty much the same number of members that we had in 2024 and 2025.

Please update your Fly Fishers International membership as it becomes due. In the membership renewal form please choose Stanislaus Fly Fishers as your associated club. Thank you in advance.

NCCFFI's President's Newsletter



I was able to finally go fishing on the Trinity River on August 24th and had a great time. For me, it had been 2 months since my last fly-fishing outing, and I really needed to get out on a river to enjoy the beauty, fresh air, sunshine...and of course the joy of catching a feisty steelhead on a gorgeous Sunday morning. If you haven't been out fishing recently, this is a wake-up call to get out there and savor the opportunity.

And speaking about getting out and enjoying fly fishing in a beautiful setting, you all have the opportunity to combine a fishing trip around the Redding area with a great event, FlyFest (to be held in Redding from September 24th-26th). **Register now and get your ticket at the FFI website as noted here** (<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FlyFest>). Attending FlyFest will be a great opportunity to really connect with others — a three-day celebration of fly fishing, community, and hands-on learning. Whether you're a lifelong flyfisher or new to the sport, FlyFest offers the chance to connect, learn, and be inspired. Think of this year's FlyFest as The Fly Fishing Show where you can actually have a wide range of places to go fish all within an hour's drive of Redding. We suggest that you plan some great fly-fishing trip while planning to attend the FlyFest event (either right before or after FlyFest). Don't delay to make your plans as guides and nearby destination fishing locations are getting booked up (suggest you contact Bryan Quick at The Fly Shop in Redding at 530-222-3555 or other local guides) ASAP.

For FlyFest we are looking for volunteers to help with the NCCFFI/FFI efforts during the show, and you can **sign up as a volunteer at the FFI website and save \$50 on your registration**. Go the FFI Website and sign up as a volunteer today at <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/FlyFest> (if you want to volunteer, do so prior to signing up to take advantage of the discount).

Please note that there will be a Council & Club Day on Thursday, September 24th at the event site where we are inviting NCCFFI Club Leaders to join a series of workshops and collaboration on important topics of interest to all fly fishing clubs (including member engagement, social media, foundation for club success, leadership development & more) This outreach will be sent directly to all club presidents and leaders.

The NCCFI Hall of Fame Event is scheduled for October 24th. Mark Rockwell will be the NCCFFI Hall of Fame Inductee for this year (well deserved, Mark!). **Please review the article about Hall of Fame Event in this newsletter for more information.** This event will be held at the Veterans Memorial Center located on Mount Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette and will feature a catered dinner, the induction ceremony, with a silent and live auction. Some of the auction items include a seven-day fishing trip to The Metapiojo Lodge in the Chilean Patagonia Region with the main property on the Futaleufu River (double occupancy), guided trips from The Fly Shop, Mike Pease, John Feaster, JAG Fly Fishing , and other high value fly fishing equipment. This event attracts people from all over California and the Western United States) and we only have room for 150 people to attend. **Sign up today at** www.nccffi.org to assure your place at the NCCFFI Hall of Fame event on October 24th!

We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events!

In the meantime, get out on the water and enjoy a beautiful day fly-fishing!

Ron Beltramo
NCCFFI President

Feel free to reach out to me at rjbeltramo@aol.com or at 415-999-8348

NOTES FROM THE SFF INVENTORY MEISTER

Not much to report on Inventory this month, too dang hot! Plus busy on other fronts.

I have been making some progress with hooks, sorting by size. If you need hooks, let me know.

Also, if you need tying materials, please let me know.

Still trying to figure out a way to provide an updated list for the larger items, any ideas? More than happy to listen!

Swaggin' it with Janice



Have you been looking for a way to show your Stanislaus Fly Fishers pride both on and off the water? Rustic Embroidery Barn is now offering a selection of SFF apparel and merchandise featuring our club logo.

Whether you're looking for a new hat for your next fishing trip, a UV-resistant decal for your vehicle or boat, or an embroidered shirt to wear at club events, there are several options available. A complete price sheet and product catalog are included with this newsletter for your review.

Please click here to view some of the items available:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hEa-uJVMZrds2y1CqOCX0Pc_kW7dnDsz1PNWL-lbHeU/edit?tab=t.0

I appreciate the opportunity to provide quality club merchandise for our members and look forward to helping you represent Stanislaus Fly Fishers wherever your fishing adventures take you.

Janice Rinehart
Rustic Embroidery Barn
(209) 535-6302

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

Upcoming Outings and Events

- FFI FlyFest - September 24-26 - Redding, CA

- Owens and Crowley outing - Tentative date November 11 -12
- Salmon Fest - November 14, 2026 - Knights Ferry
- Holiday Dinner Party - December 8, 2026 - Tuolumne River Lodge

Other potential outings include: Stanislaus River Float, Eastern Sierras, Kings Canyon, McConnell State Park, LaGrange Tuolumne River. Consider stepping up and taking the lead as the "Fish Meister". There are seasoned trip leaders in the club who would be happy to help you.

SFF 2026 Board of Directors

President: Bob Bullock • Vice-President: John Driver • Secretary: Monica Bourke • Webmaster: Michael Hewitt • Treasurer: Paul Wallace • Outings: John Driver • Membership: Barry Kutz
• F3T Chair/Outings: Derek Coelho • Hospitality Coordinator: Janice Rinehart • Inventory Chair: Gus Link • Learning Coordinator - Cristie Crawford • Past President: Paul Wallace

Venmo or Mail Membership Dues to:

Paul Wallace
722 Mt Rushmore Dr
Newman CA 95360

Paul Stan Fly Fish Wallace
@Paul-StanFlyFish



[SFF Membership Form](#)

[FFI Membership Link](#)

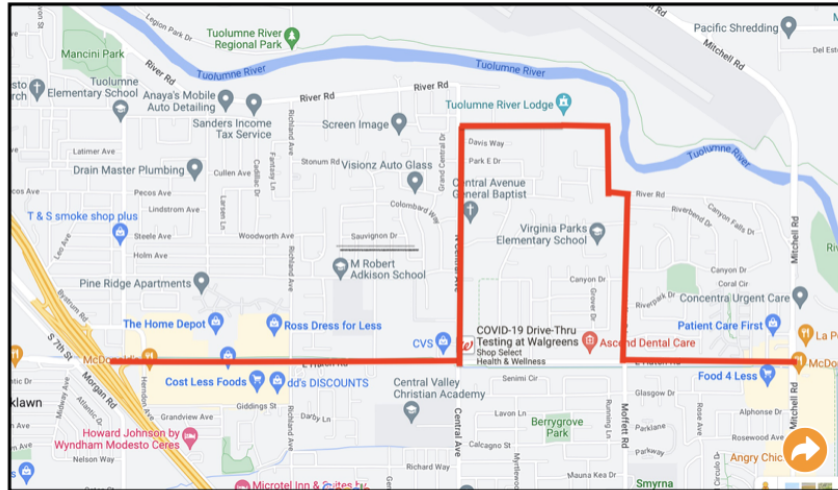
[SFF Liability Waiver](#)

Directions to 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.



Around the Rivers



Happy Fishing!