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Special Points of Interest:

April

Annual Banquet:
Saturday 22

Fly Casting
Classes

May

Little Panoche
Outing

October

Team USA Trials

*Renew Your
Membership*

April 22 Annual Banquet

**HELP SUPPORT OUR CLUB BY ATTENDING THE BANQUET
ON APRIL 22nd**

******OVER \$10,000 IN FLY FISHING GEAR, TRIPS, ART, & LITERATURE TO BE RAFFLED & AUCTIONED OFF******

Once a year we hold a major fundraiser for the real reason we exist- Conservation. The Spring Banquet on April 22nd is our major fundraiser. Your support of the Banquet is so important in allowing us to take on more and bigger conservation projects. The FFFC has a rich past and long list of accomplishments in conservation. That's why our club was founded. It's truly what we're all about. This year and next year our club will be leading the efforts to restore a two mile section of Big Meadows Creek- a tributary of the Upper Kings River. Much of the preliminary work and coordination with the many government agencies has been done. This year will see the start of the on-site work. It's also when we'll be spending a good share of the conservation dollars we've allocated for Big Meadows. With your continued help, we can get the Big Meadows Project fully funded and look for another project that needs our involvement. We appreciate your support.

The Deadline for Reservations is April 17th- see the enclosed sign up form for details!!

****** Here's a partial list of some of the auction & raffle items. It's our biggest & best selection yet. There's something for everyone!******

Sugar Creek Ranch- A Premier Northern California Fly Fishing Destination. Giant Rainbows & 1st Class Accommodations. Two days of fishing & two nights exclusive use of the Lodge for four people. Roger Miller will show you how to fool the big ones if you take him with you!

Upper Kern River - A hidden jewel in our own backyard. Two nights lodging at the beautiful "Golden Trout Resort" & one day guided fishing on the Upper Kern River by Guy Jean's Fly Shop. If you haven't explored the Upper Kern, you've got to go. And yes, you can drive to places on this trip where the Golden Trout thrive!

Sugar Creek Ranch- A scaled down version the above trip. Two days of fishing & one night at the Lodge for two people.

Upper Kings River- one day of guided fishing for two people

Private Local Bass Pond- one day of guided fishing for two people

(Continued Pg. 3)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Mike Telford

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Banquet time has always made me nervous while serving as a board member. Plans are made, time invested, and club money is committed to purchase: raffle items, facility rent, and the meal. Then the ticket sales fail to start showing up. I know that ticket buying is a last minute thing here in Fresno and those that haven't sent in their reservations will.

This year's banquet committee has done an excellent job of acquiring many unique auction and raffle items. Many of the club's tiers will also be donating boxes of flies for the silent auction which provides an excellent opportunity to add some proven fish magnets to your box. The banquet is the club's main fund raising event supporting all of our conservation efforts and club activities. I hope you will join us and this year invite someone that you don't know to sit at your table. I have done this the past few years and it has really added to my enjoyment of the evening.

Finally, I never thought that I would say this living here in the valley but I have had enough rain. As many of you know, my wife and I are moving to Bend, Oregon. Our house here recently sold and as part of the process a test of our septic system was needed. The test determined that we needed a new leach line, which was not surprising considering its age. The surprising discovery was per test holes revealed a ground water level beginning at a depth of four feet. Anyone with a third grade education knows the water table in the foothills is not at four feet but it still means two things. I can't close escrow until it dries out and there will be plenty of water for the fish. As they say in Brooklyn "enough already!"

See you at the banquet!

Fishing Break

Stephen Neal

A river runs through it, but we are not talking Montana here, but Fresno County and in our case its two rivers, The Kings and the San Joaquin. With two rivers so close it should be easy to get on the water but I have let too many things get between me and the river on week-ends so I have had to get inventive in the on the water time department.

Kevin and I work near Kerman so that puts us 3 minutes away from Skaggs bridge on the San Joaquin River. So for the past three weeks Kevin and I have been packing our Rods to work on Friday and at lunch we go fishing. Now this is not a hot fishing spot as of yet. We are still learning the water and trying to think like a fish, right now this is just time on the water, and it sure beats the hell out of eating a sandwich in front of the computer.

It obvious from the amount of trash on the river banks that this is a hot spot for the summer crowd, the Apache Indians have a term for it "dash keen" which means dirty white man. I don't know if that is exactly what the Apache meant but it definitely fits the circumstances. So while we step over paper plates, Styrofoam cups and disposable diapers we fish our worries away.

While the banks are dirty the river channel is pretty clean so we have enjoyed the wildness in our lunch time breaks. It is amazing how wildness reasserts itself so quickly after mans passing, and to reinforce that image with today's high water flow all that flotsam and garbage has been swept down river leaving Skaggs bridge and park pretty pristine. I know Skaggs Bridge is not the Yosemite Back country nor the upper Kings River but just for an hour on Friday it is our fishing break and as we cast into this free flowing spot on the river I know what Thoreau meant when he wrote "In Wildness is the Preservation of the World". The San Joaquin is still wild and it keeps on reasserting itself as one of the main arteries of our living planet.

CASTING CLASSES

Dan Busby

**Woodward Park
Spring Casting Classes Wednesday Evenings**

Entrance Fee & Lessons are Free!!

Casting Classes begin April 5 thru April 26

Get ready for opening day of Fishing Season April 29!

**Casting Instructor Dan Busby &
Orvis endorsed guide Jimmie
Morales**

will teach each Wednesday

5:30 pm to dark for 4 weeks

(Come when you can, late folks are ok)

**Co-sponsored by Fresno Parks &
Recreation**



Banquet

(continued)

- San Joaquin River above Millerton- one day of guided American Shad fishing for two people
- Framed Art & Shadow Boxes- plus a Hank George hand carved fish Sculpture
- Fly Rods- Two custom made Bamboo rods, T&T Fly rod, Two Echo rods, Orvis Back Packing rod
- Fly Reels- Orvis, Echo, & more
- Oasis Tying Table plus lots of tying material, capes, & accessories
- Pontoon Boat & Float Tube
- Patagonia Waders & Vests
- Flies Galore- Bass Flies, Crappie Flies, Dry Flies, Nymphs, Streamer's- too many to mention
- Fly Lines
- FFFC Custom Logo Fly Boxes
- Fly Fishing Literature & "How to" books"
- Special Selections just for the Ladies



OUTINGS REPORT

Don Shuda

Our next outing will be to Hume Lake on April 29th. This is always one of the best attended outings for two reasons. One – everyone needs such a cure for the cabin fever they acquired from winter, and two – the catching is always good and a few very large ones are usually taken this time of year. We usually start about 9:00 or 10:00 and put in at the boat ramp located at the far end of the lake. Just keep driving around the lake and through the Christian camp until you come to a closed gate. We'll be parked there. Any floating device will get you out to the fish, but gas motors are not allowed. We have our best luck with any slow to intermediate sink line with a woolly bugger and/or other wet fly attached. I should also mention that you will have to pay a fee to enter Kings Canyon NP, and I think it has been raised to \$15.

Regarding the recent Pyramid Lake outing, it was reported that the weather was cold and windy, but everyone caught fish and had fun. This is a picture of Erick Willison with a typical Pyramid cutthroat he caught during the trip last year. The locals don't consider a cutthroat caught out of this lake a "good one" unless it is 10+ pounds, but this one looks good to me. This is always a good trip and definitely one to put on your list for next year.



Phil Davis Reports

Trip to Pyramid. Not to many decided to brave the elements, the four of us that went had a great time.

So what if the fishing was slow, the weather cold, no darn cold, and our rooms got screwed up! Sat was the best day with everyone catching some fish. The biggest was about 26". Sunday was rather snowy, up to 2-3".

Fingers got a bit cold but with all the gear on it was ok. Didn't see to many others catching fish all three days. The lake was way up and it was hard getting out to the drop offs. We were at the north end where we caught the fish, the Nets area was real slow, again hard to get far enough out. Hopefully the weather will be a non-factor next time.

Fly's From Jerry's Bench

Jerry Hopewell

Dressing

Hook size : 4 to 12 2 or 3x long
 Tying Thread : Grey 6/0
 Extended Body : Grey polypropylene yarn twisted (match the colors to the stonefly being matched)
 Wing : Natural Light Elk Hair
 Overwing : Dark Elk Hair tied short
 Hackle : Brown Genetic Saddle
 Hackles (again match to the stone fly)
 Antennae : Brown Stripped Hackle Stalks



Fluttering Stonefly

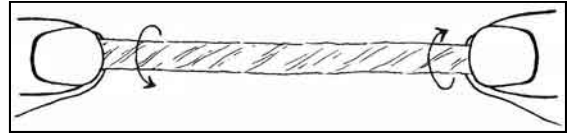


The Fluttering Stonefly is an exciting pattern that creates remarkable movement on the surface of the water, certain to attract the attention of even the wariest of Trout. **(Continued Next Page)**

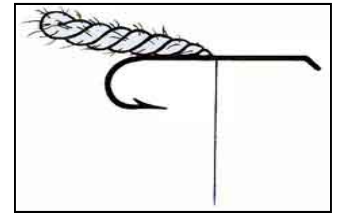
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Tying Instructions

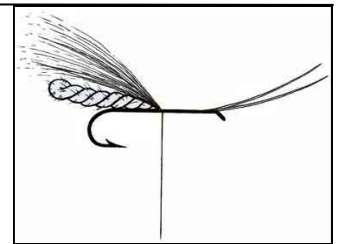
1. Take a length of poly yarn about 6 inches long and hold it between your finger tips. Twist each end in opposite directions and by bring your fingers together slowly, the yarn will naturally coil around itself, which will be the body. This is called furling.



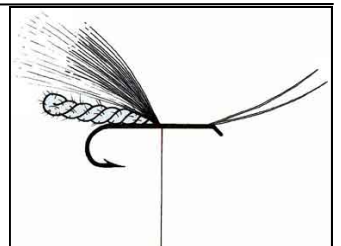
2. Lie the body up to the hook, which should already have the tying thread hanging down about 1/2 way along the shank. Adjust the length so that it extends past the hook bend about 1/2 of the hook length again. Tie in with nice tight turns. Then unwrap the yarn and flatten out and tie down on top of the shank for the length to the head of the fly. Trim waste.



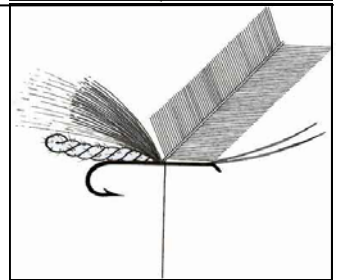
3. Strip 2 brown hackles to make antennae. Tie them up to the front of the head, facing forward to a length roughly the length of the fly. Tie in, trim waste and take the thread back to where you tied in the body. Take a good bunch of light Elk hair and tie in as a bunch over the back of the fly to extend just past the end of the body. You can even the ends of the hair by putting them in a hair stacker, if preferred.



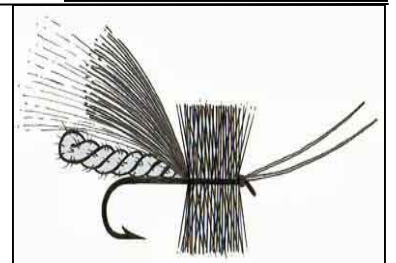
4. Take a smaller bunch of dark elk hair, (stack it if wanted) and tie in on top of the first/under-wing to lie approximately 2/3 the length of the first. Trim off all the waste leaving a nice flat base of thread and tie in 1 or 2 long brown saddle hackles, depending on the size of the fly. Trim waste and take the thread up to the head of the fly.



5. Take hold of the hackle one at a time (if you are using two) and wrap up the hook shank. Covering the front part of the hook, leaving room to tie off and finish the head. Make a really dense bushy hackle. Tie a feather and trim waste.



6. Build a nice compact head & whip finish. Varnish to complete.



Once the fly is finished, it should look similar to this.

This fly provided by Fly Box their site is: <http://www.flybox.info/public/>



2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

Fly Casting: Woodward Park April 5, 12, 19, 26 6 PM till Dark

Banquet: Saturday April 22

Outing: Hume Lake Saturday April 29 (Tentative)

May

Volunteer Outing: May 6th Avocado Lake 9 AM (Wayne Thompson)

Handicap Fishing Derby: May 13, Sportsman Club 8-12PM Volunteers needed (Paul Prespare)

Outing: May 27th – Little Panoche Res. (Tad Wheeler)

June

Shad Outing: June 4 & 5 (Don Shuda)

July

Portal Fore Bay Outing: Mid July (Don Shuda)

October

Fly Fishing Team USA Trials: October 28 & 29 (Jayne Ferrante)

Ask About Fly Fishing - Internet Radio and the Federation of Fly Fishers Combine Efforts

The Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) has announced an affiliation with the Internet radio show Ask About Fly Fishing <<http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com>> (AAFF), with a goal to increase membership and advance its educational and conservation programs. Denver, CO (PRWEB) March 29, 2006 -- The American Fly Fishing Trade Association reports that over 18 million adults in America have an unfulfilled interest in fly fishing. Dr. Ron Cordes, FFF vice-chairman states, "Newcomers and youngsters are the future of our sport. Their use of the Internet makes Internet radio a natural medium for our drive to increase membership, and further enhance our educational and conservation programs". In addition to promoting educational opportunities such as the annual Conclave (July 25-29 in Bozeman, MT), the Federation of Fly Fishers supports many conservation initiatives of importance to fly fishers. Currently, an International Fly Tying Competition is being held to support Federation programs. Ask About Fly Fishing - Internet Radio <<http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com>> offers interviews of industry experts, who answer questions from the audience. The live program offers a unique call-in Q&A session, and the show can be heard as a live or recorded webcast, or a podcast. The AAFF website provides a link to the national Federation of Fly Fishers' <<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>> website, as well as fly fishing clubs, fly shops and guides. A comprehensive national events calendar for shows, meetings, demonstrations, and all fly fishing related events is also planned. The next live broadcast will be April 5th at 7:00 PM (MT) and will feature Barry Reynolds <<http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com/speakers/barry/barry.cfm>> expert fly fisherman, speaker and author. His recently published book "Mastering Pike on the Fly" teaches fly fishers how to catch monster pike. On the show Reynolds will answer questions about successfully fishing for these challenging explosive fish. D. Roger Maves and Don Bishop, founders and co-hosts of AAFF, regard education and conservation as the cornerstones of a bright fishing future. They say, "Smarter fly fishers are more successful, bring more friends to it, and purchase more equipment, guide services, magazines, etc. They are best able to address issues which will continue to make quality fishing available to future generations." Membership in the Federation of Fly Fishers offers newcomers a host of opportunities, and even includes some freebies! For more details on the organization and membership go to the Federation of Fly Fishers' web site, www.FedFlyFishers.org <<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>> . Visit www.AskAboutFlyFishing.com <<http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com>> and sign in free to receive advance notification of Ask About Fly Fishing's upcoming Internet radio shows and to receive a free guide on improving your fly casting. Contact Information:

D. Roger Maves or Don Bishop
303-430-4634

<http://www.askaboutflyfishing.com/media> # # #

BULLETIN BOARD

Help us out on the Lower Kings!!

LOWER KINGS RIVER ANGLER SURVEY FORM

There's a new web page in town and among its other features is an angler's survey form for fishing the lower Kings River.

The web page is <http://www.kingsriverfisheries.org>. Under the Navigation menu on the left hand side is an entry titled "Angler Survey". Click on the item, fill in the blanks and submit. The results will be transmitted to the Department of Fish and Game.

A FISHING RELATED OUTING

On the 6th of May, help will be needed to install 20 additional fishing regulation signs on the lower Kings River from Doyle's down to the Green Belt Park. We will meet at Avocado Lake at 9:00 AM. Bring gloves, rock bars, shovels and buckets. For more information, contact Wayne Thompson at 324-1410 or wayne@sawdustandflies.com.

Handicap Children Fishing Derby

On the Saturday the 13th of May, The Sportsman Club sponsors a fishing derby for handicap children. The derby starts at 8 Am and runs until noon. Volunteers are needed to cast, bait hooks, retrieve and to enjoy kids as the catch fish. For more information contact Paul Prespare at 435-5347 or utcsppv@aol.com

Fly Fishing Team USA Trials Sat & Sun Oct, 28 & 29

Our Mission:

Fly Fishers for Conservation (FFC) was organized in 1961 by a group of devoted Fly Fishers deeply concerned with the preservation of trout and all game fish, their environment, and the quality of fishing. Our club has maintained two goals since this time:

To foster and promote the sport of angling with artificial flies

To protect, conserve, and increase our angling resources.



FFFC Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Fees are due February 1, each year.
 Pro-Rate: Pay for months remaining until January 30 including current month at 1/12 annual rate.
 * Add initiation fee, \$10.
 One newsletter per household.

- Regular Membership \$36
- Senior Membership \$24 (over age 65)
- Spousal Member \$12
- Jr. Member \$6 (Under 18)
- Lifetime Member \$500
- Shoulder Patch \$5
- CSUF Scholarship Donation \$ _____
- Conservation Donation \$ _____

Make Check payable to FFFC.
Mail to 100 E. Sierra, PMB 3310, Fresno, CA 93710

Initiation fee \$ 10.00

Total: \$ _____

Office use only: Amount _____ Check/Cash _____ Date _____ Input _____ Initial _____

FLY DOPE
FLY FISHERS FOR CONSERVATION
 100 E. Sierra, PMB 3310
 Fresno, CA 93710

Periodical
 US
 Postage
 Paid at Fresno,
 California
 USPS 483-110

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Fly Fishers For Conservation

**2006
 Slate**

Board Officers and Committee Members

Meetings held at:

Fresno Sportsman's Club
 10645 N. Lanes Road
 Fresno, CA 93720

**4th Thursday of every
 Month**
6 PM Skills Training
7 PM Program



McKenzie Cup Winner
 1989

Officers

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Mike Telford | (559) 349-3874 | mtelford@sti.net |
| 1st Vice President | Fred Ramirez | 323-5319, 779-9501cell | woollybuggerfred@aol.com |
| 2nd Vice President | Roger Miller | (559) 226-4351 | rogfly1@hotmail.com |
| Treasurer | Bob Papazian | (559) 434-6544 | bobpapazian@cvip.net |
| Secretary | Jim DeSwarte | (559) 324-0869 | jimdes2@hotmail.com |
| Conservation | Jayne Ferrante | (559) 446-1505 | jayne@ferrantefinancial.com |
| Editor | Stephen Neal | (559) 251-7216 | wsneal@starband.net |
| Membership | Scott West | (559) 299-2845 | mandydad@sbcglobal.net |

Committee Chairs

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Social Director | Jeff Trafican | (559) 299-0591 | jatraf@yahoo.com |
| Fly Casting | Dan Busby | (559) 433-1651 | DAN.THEFLYFISHER@earthlink.net |
| Rod Building | John Cameron | (559) 896-6919 | cam5j@aol.com |
| Fly Tying | Jerry Hopewell | (559) 638-5282 | fluestang@comcast.net |
| Outings | Don Shuda | (559) 299-2026 | dnjshuda@aol.com |
| Education Director | Bill Bruce | (559) 299-6615 | bbruce@cvip.net |
| Communication | Pete Tampone | (559) 229-9024 | peter.tampone@sbcglobal.net |
| Fair | Mits Kozuki | (559) 646-3020 | no email |
| Director at Large | Paul Prespare | (559) 435-5347 | utcspvp@aol.com |
| Director at Large | Phil Davis | (559) 347-9551 | softhackel@yahoo.com |
| Director at Large | Jim Clark | (559) 322-1685 | blueswiftrun@sbcglobal.net |
| Director at Large | Kevin Wren | (559) 439-0608 | kevinw@calwestrain.com |

Fly Fishers for Conservation 2006 Annual Banquet

Saturday, April 22, 2006

**Fresno County Sportsmen's Club
10645 Lanes Road
Fresno, California**

Doors Open at 5:00 pm

Dinner at 7:00 pm

Silent and Live Auctions

Fly Fishing General Raffle + Special Ticket Raffle***

Women's Raffle

Special Bucket Raffles

Must be present to win

Buffet Dinner

(Iggy's back by popular demand)

Tri-Tip or Lemon Chicken

Reservation Deadline April 17, 2006

| | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|----------|
| # _____ | Banquet Tickets @ \$25.00ea | \$ _____ |
| # _____ | Raffle tickets @ \$1.00 ea | \$ _____ |
| # _____ | 50 Tickets + 1 Special @ \$50.00 | \$ _____ |
| # _____ | 100 Tickets + 2 Special @ \$100.00 | \$ _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Tickets will be held at door for you

Reservation Deadline is April 17, 2006

For reservations or more information please contact Roger @ (559) 226-4351 or Bob @ (559) 434-6544

Make checks payable to "FFFC Mail to Bob Papazian 565 E. Everglade, Fresno, CA 93720

FFFC is anon-profit 501 c (3) organization. Your donations are tax deductible to extent allowed by law.