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Special Points of Interest:

February
General Meeting:
Thursday 23

March
General Meeting:
Thursday 23

October
Team USA Trials

Renew Your Membership

Check the Bulletin board!

Thursday, February 23 Lloyd Carter Revive the San Joaquin!

Revive the San Joaquin representative, Lloyd Carter will present a background on the history of the San Joaquin, building up to current events including the movement to get Salmon back into the river up to Friant Dam. Lloyd is a very good speaker, and his presentation will include a video documentary of the river.

Revive the San Joaquin is an independent body from San Joaquin River Conservancy Trust and from the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust. Each of these entities have very different agendas. The Mission Statement of Revive the San Joaquin is "Promote a collective stewardship that sustains the economic, environmental, and recreational benefits of a healthy San Joaquin River, including adequate flows, habitat, and native fisheries." Their goals are:

- Promote stewardship and balanced management of the San Joaquin River that supports both restoration and economic activities related to the river.
- Conserve and enhance the wildlife habitat and scenic values of the San Joaquin River and work toward restoration of the historic salmon fishery.
- Promote the San Joaquin River as a vital source of clean drinking water and ground water recharge.
- Raise public awareness on the importance of the San Joaquin River and the compatibility of restoration and a strong farming economy.
- Encourage river recreation activities compatible with protection of wildlife.

Please attend this important meeting and get the latest on what is going on with a River that runs right through our town and is involved in the beginning of big water debates. Members from the group will also be in attendance.

Jayne Ferrante

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Mike Telford

I would like to thank all the officers, board members, and volunteers from last year for their efforts and hard work. Due to their efforts, the club is coming off of a very successful year and is well positioned to see the fruits of these efforts, over the next couple of years. The Big Meadow Project is well underway and will result in the restoration of a meadow stream, that will give all of us a place to enjoy. The recent World Fly Fishing Trials, sponsored by the club, was also a thundering success. Our club's already sterling reputation was further enhanced at the national level and valuable contacts were made that will benefit us into the future.

A long time goal of many in the club to restore the salmon of the San Joaquin, is now closer to attainment. A desire by many in the community to restore the salmon runs to the San Joaquin and recent court decisions to re-water the river will make this a reality. The club will be in the front row on this effort. We will need to put together a steering committee, to meet and plan with others in the community that share this dream.

There are many areas to get involved in FFC, please consider taking the steps to become more active. Without new ideas and opinions, organizations such as ours stagnate and atrophy. Your ideas and your efforts are needed to make us a better club for all members and to help us achieve our goal of bettering the environment in the Central Valley.

Also there are many new faces in FFC, I ask everyone, new members and longtime members alike, to make an effort to get to know each other, go fishing together, help out each other, and to get actively involved in the best fly fishing club in California.

I am honored to have the opportunity to contribute as our club's president in the coming year.

What's Up?

Jayne Ferrante, Conservation Chair

As I write this I am officially no longer the editor of the Fly Dope. Stephen Neal has generously stepped up and taken over these duties. I've been pretty vocal in the last months that I needed to relinquish a few duties in order to adequately perform the ones I keep. After October I was getting more and more overwhelmed so my work started suffering and I apologize to you all for that.

Editing the Dope was lots of fun because it gave me an excuse to bug folks and get things happening so I would have something to write about. I got to be in the midst of things, helping to make them happen and that was very satisfying. I've come to realize that we've got PLENTY happening now, and I need to focus on COMPLETING some things.

Big Meadow is going GREAT. I'm in the midst of submitting the grant requests to finish the funding. My next goal is to update the presentation on it and hit the road! I plan on calling on several clubs, Northern and Southern Cal FFF, Cal Trout and more to help make sure the money comes through. In April we will do a laser survey of the meadow, adding more cross sections to the information we already have. Jim Wilcox feels this is very important to having a plan that works in all respects. I'll be looking for volunteers to help with this in March.

I'll have a complete article on our other conservation goals for 2006 in next month's Fly Dope.

Team USA I flew to Denver last Monday to meet with the newly appointed board that will preside over the Regional Trials and National Championship. There are a bunch of great guys trying to pull this together. I am writing a manual on how to run one of these with several points of needed improvement from our first experience last year. If you have any feedback on this please email with your suggestions. The Utah trials are the last week of March, and THEY NEED HELP. If anyone wants to go as a group, please contact me. They are expecting 48 anglers!! This is double what we had.

I'm excited and looking forward to a great 2006. We have some new folks getting involved with running the club and I know this will bear much fruit.

Fish Tales

Stephen Neal

The Man From Out Yonder

He was a blue water man from a pacific island tall and whip thin, bronzed by tropical sun and honed by island breezes. His arm was sinewy and whip cord supple from uncounted casts of his Sage fly rod. His cast was as smooth as silk. He plied his casts like the stockman's whip, flipping it out and back with a power bicep, forearm and firm but supple wrist.

He stood tall like the Hawaiian Paniolo hero's of his youth, his silver main combed by the island wind gave him a distinguished air. He had heard tales of the great Lahonton trout. The stories of its prowess had reached his ears and he had to try his hand at landing this desert fish. The thrill of the strike and the struggle to land this mighty fish was singing in his blood. He would capture this desert lake fish, like he had conquered the blue water fish of his home.

His course was set, his destiny called, the great Basin of Nevada was his destination the Lahonton trout called, the fish would be his. He would return home bearing this legendary fish (actually a photo as he was a catch and release man).

His native guide Stumpy, (not really a Nevada native he'd only been poured out of the bar that fateful morning so he just smelled like he was a native, his nick name Stumpy, so the story goes, came from his run in with the Lahonton trout but the truth be told he tripped over a beer can in the ally and jammed his big toe), gave the Man From Out Yonder the fishing strategy for catching the wily desert fish. First you need a ladder, a lead filled leader and a spinning reel line called ambrosia.

The man from out yonder was stunned and he answered Stumpy with a sneer. No self respecting fly fisherman has ever used a ladder and while ambrosia was known to him no manly fisherman from the great islands would stoop so low, what foul tale was this. Stumpy just grinned and stared off with a vacant smile, he knew his customer was hooked.

The Man From Out Yonder knew it too. He had come to fish and could not return empty handed. The Man From Out Yonder put on his waders and grabbed his rod while he struggled to get a grip on the ladder. He was irked about the ambrosia so to take

some satisfaction from the circumstance he used Stumpy as his stretch point. The smelly old guide looked good in pink.

Ah! Now our tale reaches its time of travail. As our silver haired hero made his stand, the desert wind began to blow and the snow fell. He crested each wave as he struggled with the ladder and his precious rod. His waders clung to his legs like lead. But he had come to fish, the water was milky and he could not see what he fished for. He struggled on till the water was chest deep. He set the ladder up and struggled to the top. The Lahonton trout would be his, the glory and the accolades would be his.

His casts were like a song as he laid his line out. They tell the tale to this day of his hundred foot cast. He stood on the ladder like a conquering hero the wind whipping his silver main, his bronze arms shivered from the cold. He fell off the ladder from the gusts and fits of the storm but he always mounted again to cast into the teeth of the storm. The Lahonton trout is a wily creature and followed the fly but he would not rise to take the fly.

The Man From Out Yonder was not fazed he would best this creature yet. He pondered and he schemed. And then in a flash of cold wind it came to him, his salvation, he gave up his long casts and hit the fish on the head with the fly. The stories are told and retold, his glory to this day shines, no one knows for sure how many fish he caught that day, but every one of those fish had been thumped on the head.

When he returned home to share his glory with his wife his only greeting was, "you caught them you clean them". Even after all his years of catch and release these were her enduring comments on his exploits. But our hero unfazed by this stinging critique still seeks the big ones in their lair.

This story is loosely based on the experiences of a dear friend and his Pyramid Lake fishing trip. I included it here to encourage you to attend the March Fly Fishing Outing. The Fly Dope welcomes your stories as well. Send them to Stephen Neal wsneal@starband.net

OUTINGS REPORT

Don Shuda

On March 10 11 & 12, we will be going to Pyramid Lake near Reno Nevada. Phil Davis (aka. PD) is sponsoring this outing, where large cutthroat trout are caught. Attached is a picture of a cutt caught by Jeff Trafican last year. The fish was larger than it appears in the picture – of course they always do especially if you're the one that caught it.



You'll need a 7 or 8 wt. rod, and either a full sink or sink tip line. The flies we used last year included a black or olive woolly bugger on top of a foam beetle (black, white or chartreuse) dropper. The lake has a long and shallow shoreline and is fished by either wading or off a ladder. If you wade you will need a stripping basket, but if you use a ladder any bucket will do. If you use a ladder you will need to modify it with PVC pipe to keep it from sinking in the sand.

Call either PD or myself and we will explain how to set it up. The lake is on an Indian Reservation and requires a special license (I think it was \$20 or \$30).

We will be staying at the Reno Hilton, and the rooms are going for \$80 to \$90. The phone number is (800) 648-5080 or (775)789-2000. Be sure to call soon because they are having a gun show at the hotel, and it might fill up quick. If you are going, contact either PD or myself, and we will organize a meeting place. I'm looking for more people to sponsor an outing this year, so let me know if you are willing to set something up at

one of your favorite spots (you don't have to show us any secret spots).

From the Editor

Stephen

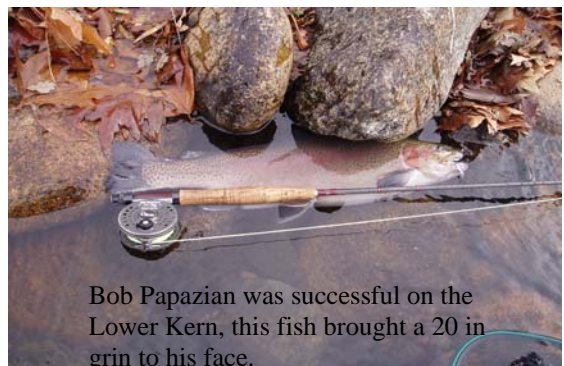
As I take over the operation of the Fly Dope, I first want to thank Jayne for all of her hard work in getting this publication out. It is because of her belief in the value of this club that she takes on more than she really should and we very much appreciate that.

Jayne is an important example of what make a club work and that is participation, you get out of a club what you put into it. We need you to step up and become involved, renew your memberships and go fishing. I want to hear your stories and discoveries and if your willing to share them I would love to publish them in the Fly Dope.

This publication is about communication, sharing and hopefully laughter as we fish and promote conservation of our rivers and streams. What we do today hopefully will give our children, grandkids and great-grandkids the opportunity to share what we love about being on the water, with a rod and a fly.

This is your club and your paper so your input is important, we will be asking for your input at the February meeting, on how we should distribute this paper, in the most economical way, so that more of the clubs money can go for conservation. Fred Ramirez will also conduct a short poll at the meeting to solicit more of your ideas as we move this club forward.

The April Banquet is fast approaching so please get it on your calendar, and remember that your dollars are helping to protect our future.



Bob Papazian was successful on the Lower Kern, this fish brought a 20 in grin to his face.

Fly's From Jerry's Bench

Jerry Hopewell

Hook: TMC 100, sizes 10-18

Thread: Black

Rib: Fine gold wire

Tag: Gold Mylar tinsel

Rear Hackle: Brown

Body: Peacock herl

Front Hackle: White



Renegade

I have been asked to cover the Renegade dry fly. This fly and others are called, fore and aft flies. These flies are simple to tie and have proved their effectiveness over the years.

You would first secure gold tinsel, wrap backwards past the bend of the hook and then wrap forward to the point you secured the end and tie off. Next tie in the brown hackle and make four wraps of the hackle and tie off. Next tie in the fine wire and Peacock herl. Run the thread forward to the point you tie the white front hackle. Tie in the stem of the hackle and force the butt back. Wrap the herl forward to the front hackle. Wrap the fine wire in the opposite direction you wrapped the herl. You do this to reinforce the herl. Secure the wire and wrap four turns of white hackle, secure, finish the head and you are done.

If you need help to tie this and other flies, you need to contact me for the classes due to start in January. fluestang@comcast.net



FLY TYINGS CLASSES

CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT QUAIL LAKE'S CONFERENCE ROOM (LOCATED ON EAST SHAW)

ATTN: !!!! THESE ARE SATURDAY CLASSES

TIME IS 9 AM TO 12 NOON WE DID THIS SO YOU CAN BRING YOUNGSTERS

FEB. 25

THIS CLASS WILL TEACH CZECH NYMPH

Mar. 18

THIS CLASS WILL TEACH PARACHUTE ADAMS DRY FLY

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMALE JERRY AT fluestang@comcast.net or telephone Him at 638 5282

2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

General Meeting: Thursday 23
Lloyd Carter, Revive the San Joaquin!

Fly Tying Class: Feb 25 CZECH NYMPH
Contact Jerry Hopewell

March

Outing: Saturday 11th Pyramid Lake
General Meeting: Thursday 23rd Mike Kaul, Western Wyoming Rivers,
Pinedale Wyoming

Fly Tying Class: Mar. 18 PARACHUTE ADAMS DRY FLY
Contact Jerry Hopewell

April

Outing: Hume Lake Saturday April 16 (Tentative)
Banquet: Saturday April 22
Outing: Little Pinoche, Tad Wheeler (Tentative)

October

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



Jim Clark & Scott West, surveying the Sierra Snow Pack to gauge their catch & release possibilities in the Spring. I think it's just another fish tale.



DFG stocking the Lower Kern

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.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP??

There are still many of our clubs members that need to send in their membership forms and dues. As per our bylaws, the deadline for all membership renewals is February 15Th. If you have not sent in your renewal by that date, you will be removed from the membership roster, e-mail and mailing lists. Also, don't forget that the dues are now \$36.

Please take a few minutes to complete your form and mail it in. I will also be at the February monthly meeting to take care of any late stragglers. By renewing your membership you will continue to receive the Fly Dope, and help support the Club. Also, please take time to update us on your e-mail address. We often rely on e-mail to get out last minute news and reminders about upcoming events.

Thank-you to all of you who have already renewed your memberships. If you have paid, but not received your new membership card, one will be sent to you shortly.

Sincerely, Scott West, Membership Director

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

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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

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Director at Large	Jim Clark	(559) 322-1685	jamesclark@inreach.com
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

***Early Bird Special**
(With dinner reservation only)
110 raffle tickets + 2 special tickets***

Early bird deadline is April 1, 2006

# _____	Banquet Tickets @ \$25.00ea	\$ _____
# _____	Raffle tickets @ \$1.00 ea	\$ _____
# _____	50 Tickets + 1 Special @ \$50.00	\$ _____
# _____	100 Tickets + 2 Special @ \$100.00	\$ _____
# _____	*Early Bird Special 1 Dinner \$125.00	\$ _____
# _____	*Early Bird Special 2 Dinners \$150.00	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Tickets will be held at door for you

Reservation Deadline is April 10, 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.