### Fly Fishers For Conservation

# FLY DOPE



June 2006 Volume 46 Issue 6

Fresno, CA Founded 1961 www.fresnoflyfishers.org

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	_
Outing Report	2
Little Panoche Outing	2
Shad Outing	3
Conservation Corner	4
Fly's from Jerry's Bench	4
2006 Calendar of Events	6
Team USA	6
Bulletin Board	7

# **Special Points of Interest:**

# June

Big Meadows Work Day

# July

Rod Building & BBQ

### October

**Team USA Trials** 

Check the Bulletin board!

# Thursday, June 22 Casting & Fly Tying

For June and July we are going to concentrate on skills at our club meeting. At our June meeting we will have both fly tying and casting. Dan Busby will be outside demonstrating, instructing and helping to correct bad habits in our casting stroke. Dan will have the club rods but feel free to bring your own.

Inside we will have tables set up so that you can bring your vices, specifically your fly tying vices and your kit and caboodle, to tie the irresistible fly for your July fishing outing. Rubber necking at both events is an acceptable practice.

In July Dan Busby will also bring the club Rods and will continue the development of our casting skills in addition to Dan's casting expertise, John Cameron will put on a Rod Building clinic so be prepared to gain valuable knowledge in your quest to catch that monster fish that you have always dreamed about.

See you there

# Distribution of our Monthly Fly Dope is about to Change.

The Board has received several request to take the Fly Dope electronic. Starting this month (June) those of you whom have e-mail address will receive the news letter in your electronic mail box. Those of you with out connections to the World Wide Web will still continue to receive the news letter via U.S. Mail.

When you receive the Fly Dope via e-mail it will be in color as well as more timely. Typical time delay between publication and delivery is about 7 days, so the sooner you get the easier it is to plan for club activities.

We are doing this to keep more of our dues and fund raising funds going towards our conservation efforts. Those of you with e-mail accounts who do not wish to receive the Fly Dope by e-mail need to contact Scott West at (559) 299-2845 or mandydad@sbcglobal.net.

Enjoy!

Page 2 Fresno, CA

#### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

#### Mike Telford

I sometimes refer to myself as a perfect example of an oxymoron. My political leanings are Republican although I was one of those "hanging chads" missing a vote for President. Having observed our President at close range while I was in the oil business out in West Texas, I could never bring myself to color in that dot. Maybe I am bipolar because along side of my political persuasions is my love for the protection of the environment. The arguments from those trying to sell the Temperance Flat Dam has left me scratching my head at their lack of insight into what it will take for the taxpayer to fund a billion dollar dam.

The arguments by the proponents of the dam largely revolve around more water for agriculture. If this is the only reason then let's build it and put a special assessment on each Ag parcel to pay for the dam. A trial balloon has been floated to approach Los Angeles to pay for a portion of the dam. The individual that thought of this approach needs to be drug tested because sending Fresno County water to LA will never fly with anyone here in the valley....even the agricultural interests.

Temperance Flat Dam can, should and will be built only if a coalition of business and environmental interest begin to seek common ground on how this expenditure can be used to benefit everyone in California. I think that myself and other club members would like to see the water from this dam used to restore the salmon runs of the San Joaquin and to improve the water quality in the Delta. The time is coming when this water will be needed to serve the growing urban population here in the valley.

This dam needs to be built but it will only happen when all of the needs for those who will pay for it are met. The proponents of the Temperance Flat Dam need to understand this.

## **Outing Report**

#### Don Shuda

Our next outing will be on July 15th, at Portal fore bay. This very small lake is located west of Huntington Lake - just stay on the road that goes over Kaiser Pass, which also leads to Edison & Florence Lakes. This road leads right to Portal Fore bay, and signs will tell you when you get there. This annual outing is a real confidence booster, because you can't help but catch numerous fish - In fact, when conditions are just right you can get a hook-up on almost every cast. If you eventually get tired of the catching and need more of a challenge, you can move down to one of the other lakes which also includes Ward Lake. Another alternative is a trail that leads down to the San Joaquin River.

#### Little Panoche Reservoir

#### **Jay Newsome**

After an easy, hour drive from Fresno I arrived at Little Panoche around 9AM. Aside from three guys from Hollister I was the only fishing club member. At first I thought that I was early or had the wrong day. The guys from Hollister told me that other fisher persons were there earlier but left due to the wind. It was windy. Not "Auntie Em' this ain't Kansas anymore" wind just a constant strong breeze with gusts. But, hey I just drove an hour so I decided to have a go at the water.

A year ago Little Panoche was my first fly-fishing adventure after taking lessons from the club. Jim DeSwarte loaned me waders and a float tube. I didn't catch anything but I had a great time. I enjoyed Tad Wheeler's stories and his fish frying skills.

By now I have accumulated the necessary equipment to properly flyfish or at least look the part. Anyway, It was just me and the guys from Hollister.

(Continued next Page)

## Little Panoche Reservoir (continued)

Jay Newsome

They were assembling a boat with what looked like tar-paper, Styrofoam, and aluminum tent poles all held together with bungee cords and a twelve pack of Budweiser. The guys were very proud of their craft. I was on the water at 9:30 and immediately hooked a crappie by the dam. As I was reeling him in, he unhooked himself from the fly and was lost. This is pretty typical for me. I have a though time setting the hook and most of my flies are barb less (thank you Mr. DeSwarte).

Enough excuses. I stayed by the dam and worked its length about three times. After three hours I had many bites but only managed to haul two crappie out of the water. I also pulled in two black bass which I released. Around 11:00, Bob Papazian appeared on the water. He concentrated his efforts in deeper water between the tower and the island to avoid some of the weedy areas. He managed to catch a small bass. On the water the wind would shift from relative calm to gusty, but nowhere near as bad as the parking lot. The guys from Hollister were using spinning tackle and not having much luck catching fish, but they were catching a buzz. I called it a day at 1:30. It was a good day fishing.

# FFFC Members Intercept Shad on San Joaquin River

By Bob Papazian

Eleven Members wetted their lines at the annual American Shad Outing on the San Joaquin River above Millerton on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The action was red hot from about 9:30 to 11 am, then tapered off around noon. And the Wet Pinky Fly that Al Smatsky taught us how to tie at our last meeting was the runaway winner as the Shad's favorite meal. Thanks Al- you're right- the red color bleeds right through the white chenille body & the Shad really seemed to prefer it to anything else!



Bill Bruce fooled this Shad on Al Smatsky's "Wet Pinky" Fly

As the afternoon wore on & our casting got progressively sloppier (mine for sure), the biting was terrific but the catching was

lousy. Fish after fish hit the fly & came unhooked just as quickly. When Wayne Thompson finally hooked & landed one around 2PM, he declared he was "going out on top" & packed up his gear & headed for his car! A wise man, that Wayne! The day's highlight was seeing Jay Newsome's nine year old son, Cameron, catch his first Shad. Not only was it his first Shad, but he went home with a fish story that I'm sure will be re-told many times. Cameron fought the fish well & just as he got it to the boat, the fish made a last ditch effort & broke his rod in half. End of story?

No way. Cameron landed the fish, broken rod & all!

Page 4 Fresno, CA

#### **Conservation Corner**

#### **Jayne Ferrante**

On Monday June 19 & Tuesday June 20 we will need about 5 volunteers to help conduct a laser survey with Sequoia National Forest employees on the Meadow. Jim Wilcox will be up there flagging the renovation detail from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. Some of us will be camping the evening of the19<sup>th</sup>. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to learn from one of the preeminent Stream Restorationists in the western United States. It will also be a lot of fun to hang out with the Sequoia Staff and learn more about Sequoia National Forest. Please call Jayne at 289-5439 if you have an extra hand. This would be a great opportunity for a high school age person if you have an extra one with nothing to do at home!

On Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> the Kaweah Club will have its annual Picnic at the Meadow. Jim Wilcox will be teaching a hands on Restoration Class for us in the Meadow itself. We will gather up there about 10 AM. Our members will be on their own for bringing up their own lunches & drinks, but this is another incredible opportunity to learn about the mechanics of stream/river restoration and have a look at the meadow. Maybe you could get a few friends together to share your food with and fish for some of those voracious Brookies? See you there!

### Fly's From Jerry's Bench

IRA LINGREN'S Dark May nymph. 14300013

Hook: Mustad 3906 12-16

Thread: Black

Tail: Black hackle fibers Rib: Heavy yellow silk

thread (Button Hole

twist )

Body: Black thread tapered

small at tail larger at

thorax

Thorax: Peacock herl Hackle: Black 2-3 turns

clipped top and

#### **Jerry Hopewell**

IRA LINGREN'S Wood Duck nymph. 14300019

Hook: Mustad 3906 10-18

Thread: Black

Tail: Wood Duck flank feather

fibers or imitation (Lemon yellow)

Rib: Gold Wire

Body: Wrapped Wood Duck flank

feather fibers about 4 de

pending on the size of fly

Thorax: Black Ostrich

Legs: Wisps of Wood Duck flank

feather fibers tied short on

the sides







(Continued Next Page)

# Fly's From Jerry's Bench

#### (Continued from page 6)

#### **Tying Instructions**

(both these flies are tied the same as last months just substitute appropriate materials)

Start the tying thread at the middle of the hook shank.

Make a thread base; tie in the tail and the gold wire.

Tie in the tips of the yellow marabou fibers at the base of the tail.

Wind the marabou fibers to the middle of the hook shank and secure, they are very fragile!

Tie in the tips of the peacock herl at the midpoint of the hook.

Wrap the tying thread forward making a thread base making sure to leave room to finish the fly!

At that point, tie in the hackle stem and force the butt backward, trim and take the tying thread back forward to the base of the hackle.

Wrap the peacock herl forward to the base of the hackle feather and secure with the tying thread.

Counter wrap the Gold wire forward through the marabou fibers, continue through the peacock herl and secure the wire with the tying thread, bread or cut the excess.

Wrap the hackle 2-3 turns, secure with the tying thread and cut excess.

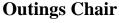
Make a small tapered head and finish with head cement.

Trim the top and bottom of the hackle and you are finished.









Don Shuda busy cleaning the catch after a club outing.



Page 6 Fresno, CA

# 2006 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### June

Big Meadows Work Day: June 24

### July

Portal Fore Bay Outing: July 15 (Don Shuda) Rod Building July 27 at Monthly Mtg.

### August

Courtwright Res. Outing (Date TBA)

### September

Wishon Res. Outing (Date TBA)

#### October

Fly Fishing Team USA Trials: October 28 & 29 (Jayne Ferrante) Cedar Grove Outing (Date TBA)

#### November

San Luis Res. (Date TBA)

## Team USA Update

# Fly Fishing Team USA National Finals 2006 Success!!

The first ever National Finals for Fly Fishing Team USA were held in Boulder Colorado this past weekend. There were 5 fishing sessions including three rivers and two lakes.

The 58 entrants included teams from Great Britain's Military team (great looking gear!), Canada's National Team, Colorado Men and Colorado Women, in addition to the 'real' entrants that came up via the Trials system.

The finalists were:

GOLD - Brett Bishop, a school teacher from Idaho who qualified in Fresno

SILVER - Mike Sexton, qualified in Utah BRONZE –Josh Stephens Colorado guide who qualified in Fresno

Fly Fishing Team USA members for 2006 are Anthony Naranja Brett Bishop Mike Sexton

#### **Jayne Ferrante**

Josh Stephens
Riley Cotter
Eddie Pinkston
Lance Egan
Jay Buchner
Brian Capsay
George Daniel
Devon Olsen
Scott Robertson
Jim Hickey
Pete Erickson
Ryan Barnes

The Nationals, which had a Conservation Symposium sponsored by Colorado Trout Unlimited, were a much more involved version of our trials. There were 5 sessions of fishing, locations as far away as a 2½ hour drive from each venue, and multiple dinners. Of course there was the usual confusion of a volunteer group launching its first effort. Overall things were great.

We will hold the Western Regional Trials the last weekend of October; it is expected to be a full session. Most of the current team members will be coming so be expecting to see some fantastic fishermen!

Fly Dope Page 7

#### 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 <a href="http://www.kingsriverfisheries.org">http://www.kingsriverfisheries.org</a>. 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.

This was forwarded from the Aguabonita Fly Fishing club in Ridgecrest and they received it from The Federation of Fly Fishers.

Our Fish and Game Wardens pay is roughly 60% of that of Highway Patrol salaries. DFG is unable to fill over 150 vacant positions, and has a problem keeping about 200 positions it has. Ask the Governor to provide new funds in the 2006-2007 budget to bring up Warden salaries to the maximum agreed to by the State Senate and Assembly, to a level of 95% of parity with the California Highway Patrol.

Game Wardens have state law enforcement authority, federal law enforcement authority, and they have to try and patrol 159,000 square miles of the state and 220,000 miles of ocean. With present staffing and patrolling alone at night they have an impossible job trying to deal with armed and dangerous individuals. They deserve parity in pay and full funding to replace all lost positions.

Please e-mail today the governor at: <a href="http://www.govmail.ca.gov/">http://www.govmail.ca.gov/</a>

Check/Cash

Office use only:

Amount

Date

Barbara Wuebber, F.F.F., 215 E Lewis, Livingston, MT 59047

#### 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.



	• • •		
			Regular Membership \$36
Name	Fees are due February 1, each year.		Senior Membership \$24 (over age 65)
Address	Pro-Rate: Pay for months remaining until January 30 including current month at 1/12 annual rate.  * Add initiation fee, \$10.		Spousal Member \$12 Jr. Member \$6 (Under 18) Lifetime Member \$500
Email	One newsletter per household.		Shoulder Patch \$5  CSUF Scholarship Donation
Phone			Conservation Donation
			\$
Make Check payable to FFFC.	Initiation	ı fee	\$10.00
Mail to 100 E. Sierra, PMB 3310, Fresno, CA 93710	Т	otal:	\$

Input

Initial

**FFFC** Membership Application

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

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#### Fly Fishers For Conservation

2006

#### 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

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