

FLY DOPE



Fresno, CA
Founded 1961
www.fresnoflyfishers.org

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Special Points of Interest:

February

17th

Kings River Outing

22nd

Craig Ballenger

March

8th

Jeff Currier

April

14th

FFFC Banquet

February 22, 7:00 PM Craig Ballenger

The 5 Rivers of Northern California

Craig Ballenger will be presenting on five key rivers in Northern California. Hat Creek, The Pit River, The Fall River, The McCloud River and the Upper Sacramento are basically believed to be fly-fishing Nirvana. Craig shows us photos from each location, and discusses the different types of fly fishing techniques each river requires.



Craig was born in McCloud, California and raised in Mount Shasta. From early in life he has been fishing on the McCloud and upper Sacramento Rivers. In addition he grew up with a trout stream in his backyard and a spring creek a few minutes walk from the house. The Pacific Crest Trail was within a few hours hike from home, adding summers spent backpacking and fishing alpine lakes in the Trinity Divide and Trinity Alps. His first fly rod was a cane Leonard from an Uncle who lived along Oregon's Umpqua River. Christmas when he was nine brought his first fly tying kit as a gift from his Mom.

Craig attended college in Boise, Idaho, where he could continue to climb, fly-fish and ski. He graduated with a BA in Theology. At 20 years old, he began mountain guiding in the Canadian Rockies, Selkirks, Monashees and Purcell ranges for his summer job. He moved to Canada and continued his dream of being a mountain guide working for Frontier Encounters where he became Director in 1979 and continued in this capacity until 1984.

Craig attended American mountain guide school in the Tetons and International guide school in Banff, Alberta. From 1984 to 1992 he operated Alpine International, an expedition and trekking company. He has traveled to over 40 countries and has led over 100 treks and expeditions throughout the world, including such diverse places as Alaska, Turkey, the Andes and Himalayas.

He began writing and photographing stories during the mid 1980's with work appearing in such magazines as Climbing, Rock and Ice, Outside, GQ, Fly fishing and Tying Journal and California Fly fisher.

His first book, *Shasta's Headwater's* has received a five star rating in Amazon.com. He is just finishing a book that includes a history of The Pit River, *Volcanic Trout*. He has been guiding fly-fishing since the mid 1990's when he returned to his hometown of Mount Shasta, where he again lives with a trout stream in my backyard.

Since 2001 Craig has been resident outfitter and guide for California Trout, a conservation group, operating their Shasta Springs Trout Camp. He also works a part of each summer doing golden trout research in California's Sierra Nevada for them.

Craig is an interesting speaker, who is a great fly fisherman with incredible photography to boot, don't miss this one!

March 8th Meeting 7:00 PM (Sportsman's Club) Jayne Ferrante

Jeff Currier: Four Seasons of the Yellowstone Trout Bum

Jeff Currier is a fly fishing maniac! He resides in Victor, Idaho with his wife Yvonne where he bases his career in fly fishing. For 19 years he has worked at the Jack Dennis Fly Shop in Jackson, Wyoming where he presently manages all fishing operations. He has taught the skills of fly fishing, guided fly fishers throughout Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park and escorted anglers to fishing destinations throughout the world. When home, Jeff can be found either writing, or more frequently, painting fish. Jeff's original watercolors are always in high demand.



Jeff has made several television appearances including *Fishing the West*, *Fly Fishing the World*, *In Search of Fly Water*, *Reel Adventures*, *Fly Fish TV* and *Fly Fish America*. His articles, photographs and artwork have graced the pages of magazines, catalogs, brochures and books. Jeff is the author of *Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing* and *Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Warm water Fly Fishing* guide books. These books have become the standard introductions to saltwater and warm water fly fishing.

During the winter months, Jeff can be found lecturing throughout the United States on nearly every aspect of fly fishing. He demonstrates fly casting, teaches seminars on the basics to the advanced skills of fly fishing and presents many fly fishing destination programs ranging from his home waters in the Rockies to the most remote corners of the globe.

Although Jeff spends much of his time fly fishing for trout, he chases many other fish types as well. He is a walking encyclopedia of fly fishing for species worldwide. He has currently taken over 160 kinds of fish with a fly rod from both fresh and saltwater in over thirty countries. He is constantly developing techniques for catching the most exotic fish imaginable in places where even the most avid adventurer refuses to go. His most recent travels have found him chasing tigerfish in Africa, payara in Venezuela and mahseer in India.

Jeff's most recent accomplishment was leading Fly Fishing Team USA to its first ever top-ten finish in the World Fly Fishing Championships in Jaca, Spain. During the competition Jeff managed to fool fish on every venue met and place third in the individual standings, becoming the first North American ever to take home a medal in the twenty-four year history of the event.

Jeff brings a sense of humor, enthusiasm and over thirty years of fly fishing to wherever he goes. Be sure and make this one, it will be a gem!

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**Stephen Neal**

“In Wildness is the Preservation of the World “ Henry David Thoreau

As Fly Fisherman we seek the quite solitude of the river to renew and refresh ourselves. We do not like crowds nor do we appreciate invasion of our favorite fishing spot so what I am about to suggest may just push some of your hot buttons. It is time to share our waters! Yes take someone fishing with you, I know most of you have your favorite fishing buddies and you fish together but I'm suggesting that you take your children or grandchildren or even a neighbors child. Will they do much fishing, maybe, will they get bored, probably, will they throw rocks in your favorite hole, more than likely, will they ask a million questions, yes. Will they be bored by your answers, yes and maybe no. Your quite solitude will be broken, your line might not get wet and you probably will not feel refreshed but you just might save something that has become precious to you.

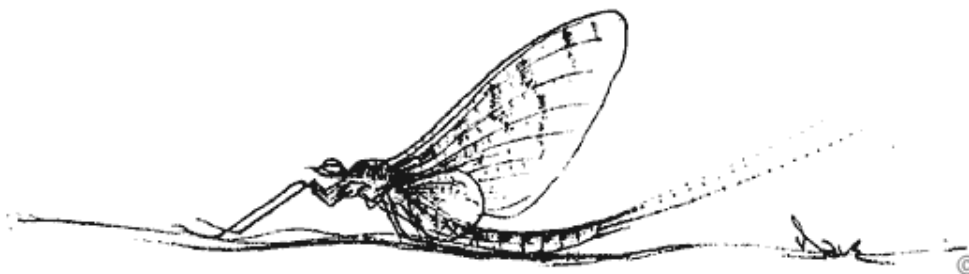
We have reached a critical point in our current civilizations' course, our children now are more comfortable being indoors than outdoors, they have developed an insatiable need to be plugged into a wall socket. Our paper and schools and we as parents reinforce the idea that nature and the outdoors is some how not safe. The age group of 8 to 18 year old kids spend an average of 60 hours a week connect to electronic media, more time than most of us spend on a full-time job.

As our civilization's nature deficit grows, new studies demonstrate how important direct contact with the great outdoors is to healthy human development. Environmental psychologists finding in 2003 show that nature in or around the home, or simply a room with a natural landscape view, helped protect the psychological well-being of the children who lived there. The California-based State Education and Environmental Roundtable, a national effort to study environmental-based education, found that schools that use outdoor classrooms, among other techniques, produce student gains in social studies, science, language arts and math; improved standardized test scores and grade-point averages; and enhanced skills in problem solving, critical thinking and decision making. These studies also suggest that time spent in natural green surroundings also stimulates children's creativity greater than manufactured play areas.

We need to reverse the current trend of the loss of contact with the natural world during children's formative years. This natural world contact loss threatens the creativity of future generations-at least the kind of creative that emerge from an early bond to land and place. FFFC and the Kaweah Flyfishers are actively pursuing natural world contact to our children through our trout in the classroom programs and my hat is off to Bill Bruce and Mickey Powell for leading this effort to keep our kids connect to the natural world.

So in closing, I'm asking you to please be selfish for your own sanity and well being, go fishing but please, be even more selfish and take our younger generation fishing your spoiled fishing day may just save your favorite fishing hole as our younger generation discovers the beauty and wonder of our natural world and how important it is to the preservation of our world.

Idea and liberal use of text for this message were taken from an article by Richard Louv published in the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering Program for 2007. Richard Louv is the author of seven books, including, most recently, Lat Child in the Woods, Saving our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder. Richard Louv is also chairman of The Children & Nature Network (www.cnaturenet.org)



Fly's from Jerry's Bench

Jerry Hopewell

I have a couple of corrections to last month's news letter. First, the classes are held on Tuesdays from 6:30 pm. I also neglected to mention short hooks. When you have a 1X short hook it is one eye length shorter than a normal hook. A 2X short is two eye lengths shorter than normal and so on.

There will be no classes the month of February due to personal constrains.



UGA2154096

Blue Wing Olive Simple Parachute e/w Extended Body

Hook: TMC 2487

Size: 16 ~ 20

Thread: Thread: 6/0 Olive (Flat Thread e.g. UTC 70 or Gudebrod)

Extended Body: Olive Fine & Dry Dubbing, Furred And Set With Sally Hansen Teflon Tuff Nail Polish

Post Wing: Medium Dun/Clear White Hi-Vis or SAAP Float-Vis

Hackle: Dun, Grizzly Dyed Dun, Grizzly Dyed golden Olive Or Dyed Dun Whiting Rooster Hackle

Note: Fish as a single fly or a trailing fly, during a Mayfly emergence.

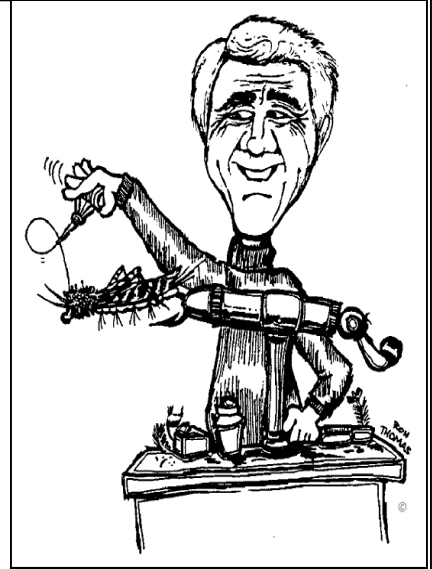
Go to Frontrange Anglers for more patterns.:

www.frontrangeanglers.com/

Tight Lines Jerry Hopewell

fluestang@comcast.net 559 638 5285

BWO



Right now this is our dominant may fly for the lower Kings River. It is best represented by a size 20 fly. If you tie an extended body fly on a short hook 2 or 3X short, you will have better hooking ability and a stronger hook. This is needed to bring large trout to the hand. What is great is that this fly is available to the fly fisherman as a nymph, an emerger, a dun and an egg laying spinner. Yes, this fly goes back under water to lay its eggs.

This is a Sue Armstrong BWO



FLY FISHERS FOR CONSERVATION

FRESNO, CA

ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

SATURDAY APRIL 14TH - 6PM

FRESNO COUNTY SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY

SEATING IS LIMITED TO 120 PEOPLE

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

GIANT FLY FISHING GENERAL RAFFLE

**EARLY BIRD RAFFLE FOR CHOICE OF 10' STEELHEAD ROD
OR 6' SMALL STREAM ROD**

BUCKET RAFFLES

WOMEN'S RAFFLE

SPECIAL TICKET RAFFLE FOR T & T - 3 WEIGHT ROD & REEL

FILL IN YOUR TICKET REQUESTS BELOW:

EARLYBIRD RAFFLE DEADLINE: MARCH 9TH

_____ BANQUET TICKETS @\$30.00 EA \$ _____ ; # _____ RAFFLE TICKETS @\$1.00 EA \$ _____

SPECIAL TICKET RAFFLE OFFER:

_____ 50 RAFFLE TICKETS + 1 SPECIAL RAFFLE TICKET FOR \$50.00 \$ _____

_____ 100 RAFFLE TICKETS + 3 SPECIAL RAFFLE TICKETS FOR \$100.00 \$ _____

ADDRESS _____

YOUR NAME: _____ CITY/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "FFFC" & MAIL TO: BOB PAPAIZAN

565 E. EVERGLADE

TICKETS WILL BE HELD FOR YOU AT THE DOOR

FRESNO, CA 93720

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: BOB PAPAIZAN AT bobpapazian@cvip.net phone 434-6544

**Buffet Tri Tip & Lemon Chicken Dinner
By Iggy's Catering**

Larry Naney

Roger Miller

It is with a heavy heart that I record the passing of Lawrence Murry Naney, on January 23rd, at 84 years. Larry was an ardent conservationist (who spent a great many hours fighting for water and fish issues in this state), fly fisherman and fly tier extraordinaire, curmudgeon of the first water, and my friend.

Although small of stature, Larry was a Lion of a man, especially when it came to the out-of-doors. He was a hunter, backpacker, bass fisherman, gold prospector, amateur geologist and fly fisher. It is in the latter capacity with which I am best acquainted, although he shared many stories about his myriad of interests and experiences.

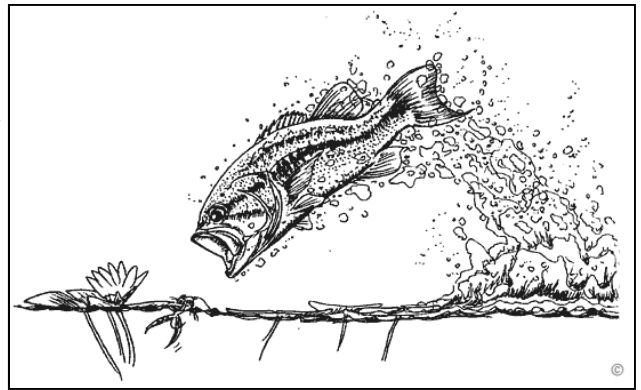
Larry was always willing to impart his knowledge about where to fish and what fly to use, but only if he found you worthy. He had a disdain for people who took too many shortcuts to learn fly-fishing. He was always of the mind that experience was the best teacher, and that people who learned that way were the ones who really loved the sport, and were the ones who would protect it and pass it on.

Larry was one of the best casters I have ever met; even into his eighties he could lay out a long line with the best of them. A couple of years ago I watched him paste out a cast of a 110 ft (measured) with a 5wt in his side yard after recovering from surgery. Now that I think about it, that was the last time I actually remember him with a fly rod in his hand; it was getting really hard for him to wade, and he didn't want to be a bank fisherman.

I have a wealth of stories about Larry (as I am sure does anybody who spent time with him) and the numerous trips we made together, each one was an adventure in one way or another. I learned new places and new ways to fish, caught lots of fish and in the process got to expand my vocabulary.

Although I was privileged to fish with Larry many, many times, those times were too few and too short. But those days on the water with him will hold special memories for me for the rest of my days.

Goodbye old friend, 'til we meet on the stream again, I hope the water we fish will be cold, the air crisp and the trout willing. (Not like some of the places we talked about winding up).



Various rod building pictures by Dave Burris see next page.



Club Meeting Dates 2007

February 17	Lower Kings River Outing	August 23	General Mtg.
February 22	Craig Ballenger	September 27	General Mtg.
March 8	Jeff Currier	Sept. 29-30	Upper Kings River Trip
March 31-April 2	Pyramid Lake Trip	October 20	Cedar Grove (Kings River Classic hosted by Visalia Club)
April 14	Banquet Saturday	October 25	General Mtg.
April 21	Hume Lake Outing	Nov. 9 Friday	General Mtg.
May 19	Dinkey Creek Area (Emphasize newcomers)	Nov.17	San Luis Reservoir Outing
May 24	General Mtg.	Dec 14 Friday	General Mtg.
June 2	San Joaquin River Shad Outing		
June 28	General Mtg.		
July 21-22	Lake Edison Area Trip		
July 26	General Mtg.		

Outings

Jeff Trafican

Let's go fishing! Join us for a day of fishing and lunch on the lower Kings River on Saturday, February 17. At this time of the year it's difficult to find good places to go fishing. As most of you know, a real effort is being put into restoring the lower Kings River fishery. As a result many of you have caught some very large fish on the river. If you have not fished this part of the river lately, this would be a great day to get started. If you aren't sure how to fish it, some of the club members will be available to answer questions. Some of us will be arriving about 8:30 (But start fishing as early as you like). In addition, at about 12:30, lunch will be supplied (BBQ hotdogs, etc. and drinks). We will eat lunch in the area between Avocado Lake and the river. We can eat, visit, and share some stories. Going with club members on one of our outings is not only enjoyable but can be a good learning experience. I know it has sure helped me. So join us for fishing, food, and friends on February 17. See you there. If you need directions please contact me. (559) 299-0591

Rod Building

Dave Burris

People ask me all the time when they find out what my hobby/business is "WHY WOULD I WANT A CUSTOM FLY ROD"

There are several reasons as to why you would like to have a custom fly rod. A custom fly rod allows you to identify your rods at a glance, in a rod rack among other fisherman's rods. Or perhaps you have a favorite color or two and you want them on your rod. Or maybe you just want your rod to not be like every other rod out there, you want it to say, "It Belongs To Me".

What better way of doing that than to have your own custom fly rod in the colors you like most. Or how about a full set of rods that match? Or how about matching your rod's colors to the anodized color of your high dollar reels.

Or how about showing your enthusiasm for the great sport of fly fishing by expressing your personal taste in the color on your custom fly rod.

Then there are the more 'technical' and 'comfort seeking' reasons for having a custom fly rod. Such as, "I want bigger guides on my rod so that line will shoot much better." Or, "that cork grip doesn't fit in my hand and it gives me a cramp after a hour or so of using it." and "I want a full wells grips on all of my rods they fit my hand". Well, off the shelf you can't find a 9 foot 3wt with big guides and a full wells cork grip in pink and purple with gold high lights. But if your talking in the world of custom rods, its no problem! Just place your order and in a month or so you will get the custom rod of your dreams. When you have a custom rod built the rod builder spends elite number of hours making the rod with the component of your choice. Therefore, unlike the major fly rod manufacture the rod builder is not looking to cut corners by putting a lesser quality components: i.e. guides, handle, thread, or finish. You can have high quality blank with the very best components on it. For approximately the same price you would by for a high quality leading name rod ,off the shelf with lesser quality components...

So start thinking about building one for yourself in our up coming rod building classes – Dave B

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

Lower Kings River outing, Feb. 17
Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show 23, 24, 25
FFFC Mtg. Feb. 22

March

Jeff Courier, March 8th Sportsman's Club
FFFC Mtg. March 22

April

FFFC Banquet
Saturday April 14th



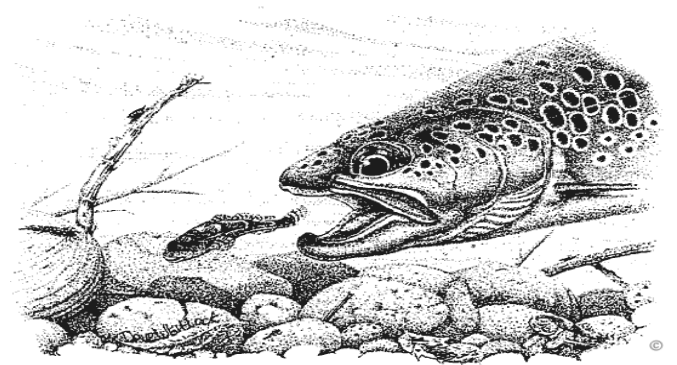
Bend Rainbow



Jim DeSwarte on the Lower Kings River



Bob Papazian on the Lower Kings River



Photo's by Jim DeSwarte

BULLETIN BOARD

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE LOWER KINGS

Since 1999, the Kings River Fisheries Management Program (Program) has been working to restore the lower Kings River to the fishery it used to be. A history of the program as well as documents relative to the program's beginning are to be found at the web site run by the Public advisory group. The URL is: <http://www.kingsriverfisheries.org>. Not only can you read these documents, you can report your success, or lack, on the lower Kings via the Anglers' survey, get the latest reservoir levels, be a part of the ongoing discussions in the forum section and view some pictures of the latest restoration efforts on the lower Kings.

I am trying to set up a two day outing to Kelsey Bass Lake this year for Saturday May 26 and Sunday May 27, 2007. I have four signups so far. I need twelve per day to reserve the whole lake. If you are interested in one or both days, let me know and also let me know if you plan to camp at McSwain reservoir. Reservations can be made Monday for the next year. The club provides lunch both days and the cost is only what we are charged by the owners. I estimate \$75 a day, but I will confirm that. Let me know. Mark Cave [mdcave@sbcglobal.net]

Mammoth High School Fly Fishing Club is starting a fly tying class this Spring. Chris Leonard our youth VP has told me that they have limited tools and material. The Club sold Christmas Trees as a fund raiser to purchase needed things for the class. They raised around \$300.00, a good start!!; but that wont go very far. MHSFFC is the only youth group that the Council has. I know that every tier out there has some old tools, or material that they don't use. We all now what I am talking about, The bright lime dubbing the dd #6 scud hook the scissors that don't fit your fingers, your first vice. This club of 15 eager students could use it!!! Anyone , or Club wishing to donate can bring items to the next Council meeting, or contact me and I will make arrangements to pick them up. Wayne Thompson [wayne@sawdustandflies.com]

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

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Director at Large	Roger Miller	(559) 226-4351	rogfly@hotmail.com
Director at Large	Frank Jones	(559) 222-5864	fpjones@comcast.net