



ON THE FLY - April 2024

CALIFORNIA FLY FISHERS UNLIMITED-ESTABLISHED 1962
 N.C.C.C.F.F. AFFILIATE WWW.CFFU.ORG
 APRIL 2024 ISSUE 2

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
 JEFF STEPHENS

Many thanks to those stepping up to enhance our member's experience and others outside our group...

CONSERVATION
 Dave Lentz

Activities of the Conservation Committee,,They have been busy!

SOCIAL/GATHERINGS
 ANNUAL DINNER !

April 6, 2024
 Dante Club
 Laurie Banks

Anticipation
 By Ken Geisser
 A short note on a trip of note.

EDITOR/EDITORIALS
 EDITOR-FORREST OLDHAM

Second Edition! Some info repeats.

PONDERINGS

Some thoughts on fly fishing.

TECH SERVICES/SKILLS
 Tech Services Corner

Jeff Morin
 What we do and will do, some thoughts. What we did last.

OTHER EVENTS
 FLY OF THE MONTH

Here is a note on those that tie flies for the Fly Tyer's Exchange

OTTERS
 Come join us for a good meal
 Some lies, and fly tying.

GENERAL MEETING
 SPEAKER

Captain Maury Hatch:

Tarpon on the Fly-Mexico

OUTREACH/ YOUTH
 Canoemobile-4/9,10,12,16-19

Cosumnes Preserve.
 John Durand

Girl Scouts-April 20
 Lake Camanche
 Beverly Thomas

MISCELLANEOUS INFO
 SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS!

Our specialty shops are exactly that, SPECIAL ! They are sources of items and information conveniently we need to continue to enjoy our sport. Without our supporting them, they wither away and so does the convenience

BEGINNING FLY TYING
 Tim Au Young
 A Recap of the last classes and
 And a glimpse of classes to come..

FISHING REPORTS!
American River and the
coast. Rancho Seco Derby.

**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS !!**

President's Corner

by Jeff Stephens

February's been a busy month for CFFU. We had a large New Members Meeting, Tim AuYoung's Beginning Fly Tying Classes and a great Tech Thursday with Andy Guibord. CFFU volunteers helped the Fish in the Classroom Egg Delivery and assisted the parks department with their Fish in the City Derby at Howe Park. We held 101 Classes for Beginners, the monthly Social and many of us attended the Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show.

The new 2024 President's Pins arrived and I'll start handing them out to members who've volunteered and are eligible for the President's Outing later this year.

We're in the middle of the winter months now, but the club is staying busy with activities, our Annual Dinner, Canoemobile, and Girl Scout Program just to name a few. There's a lot going on and don't forget the Otters meet twice a month, keep checking the calendar; Laurie always keeps it updated.

CONSERVATION " A FISH IS TOO PRECIOUS TO BE ENJOYED ONLY ONCE"

Dave Lentz

Who made this quote? Lee Wulff.

Conservation Committee report for newsletter, Feb, 2024

During 2023, The Conservation Committee's focus was working on a report for Solano County Water Agency. The report was completed and submitted to SCWA in December, 2023. The report concerned habitat restoration and enhancement in lower Putah Creek and fishery management in the "interdam reach" downstream of Lake Berryessa. The Committee's Putah Creek team includes several retired biologists and aquatic habitat professionals. In January, 2024 the Committee met and reviewed organizations and conservation efforts that CFFU donates to and supports. The Committee made recommendations to the CFFU Board of Directors for continued support for these efforts. Also, the Committee continues to research other conservation needs and efforts that we can support with donations and/or volunteer effort. We are following current issues on the American and Yuba Rivers.



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MONTH YEAR ISSUE

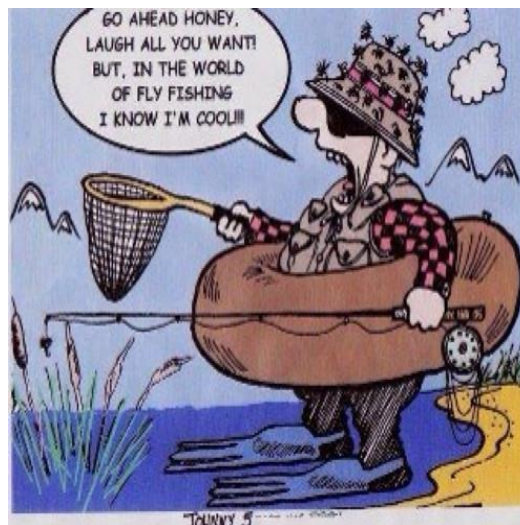
APRIL SPEAKER CAPTAIN MAURY HATCH TARPON ON THE FLY

Captain Hatch is well known by us as a major guide of our Delta. He also fishes the saltwater of Mexico. This month we get to find out what he knows and is willing to share about this fishery. This could be a “dream making” experience.

PONDERINGS

By Forrest Oldham

For a thought experiment try the following. You arrive at a nice modest size pool on a stream with little to no challenge to casting. You see evidence of trout and begin casting. After a few casts you have no results and change the fly. This is done a couple more times with the same result. After many fly changes you finally get a few fish for a short while at which time the action ends. Question: Does this fly become the go to fly for this stream, and or every beginning on future stream approaches? There is no absolute answer. I just want you to be thinking about your fishing experience!





Tech Services Corner

Jeff Morin

This month's Tech Services presentation, attended by sixteen CFFU club members, was timed just right to coincide with spring bass fly fishing. Kaz Wisniewski, owner/operator of Emerald Water Guide Services out of Trinity County traveled down to our humble piece of the state to share what he calls northern CA's best kept secret, fly fishing on Trinity Lake. Kaz began with an introduction to the history of the region and of Trinity Lake, which is the third largest reservoir in the state and once held the record for the largest smallmouth bass (SMB) caught in the state in 1976 at 9 lbs. Trinity Lake is home to SMB, largemouth bass (LMB), rainbow trout, kokanee and inland chinook.

Spring time is prime time for SMB with additional opportunities to hook trout found in the water inlets to the lake; just drop a rubber leg trout fly from your float 'n fly and who knows what you can come up with. Top water is also great from late spring to early fall and summer is the time for LMB and a great opportunity to throw some larger streams. Early fall the bass move shallow in the lake in an attempt to fatten up for the winter and by the time late fall comes around the bass have moved deeper. Don't forget about the seasonal (3rd week of June - 3rd week of July) Hexagenia Limbata hatch on the lake; the second largest mayfly hatch in the US on the northshore.

Kaz has a saying about the SMB in Trinity Lake, they are "tall smalls"; they have big shoulders. To read more, see the *Tech Services Corner*.



Jeff Morin

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CANOEMOBILE-Cosumnes River Preserve

April 9-19, certain weekday mornings to early afternoons.



CANOEMOBILE-JOHN DURAND, CHAIRPERSON

ONE OF CFFU'S OUTSTANDING YOUTH PROGRAMS WILL BE RETURNING TO THE COSUMNES RIVER PRESERVE IN APRIL.

THE CANOEMOBILE IS A FLOATING CLASSROOM, PROVIDING YOUTH FROM THE SACRAMENTO AREA OPPORTUNITIES TO PADDLE CANOES, CAST FLY RODS, EXPLORE A NATURE TRAIL, AND NAVIGATE A COMPASS COURSE. THE SCHOOL CLASSES ARE MOSTLY 6TH GRADERS/11-12-YEAR-OLDS EXCITED TO BE LEARNING NEW SKILLS.

NEW THIS YEAR ARE FLY TYING DEMONSTRATIONS COORDINATED BY TIM AU-YOUNG!

CFFU VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH FLY CASTING INSTRUCTIONS AND FLY-TYING. WE NEED YOUR HELP APRIL 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19. CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR A TWO-HOUR SHIFT 9:00-11:00 OR 11:00-1:00. PLEASE JOIN US FOR MULTIPLE SHIFTS AND MULTIPLE DAYS IF YOU ARE ABLE.

DEMONSTRATION FLY TIERS, PLEASE CONTACT TIM AU-YOUNG TO SCHEDULE AND FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

AUYOUNGT@ICLOUD.COM

CASTING INSTRUCTORS, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN DURAND TO SIGN UP AND FOR MORE DETAILS.

J_DURAND@FRONTIERNET.NET

IMPORTANT: YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AN EXPERT; NEW MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE FUN.

YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CANOEMOBILE HERE:

[CANOEMOBILE](#) | [FLOATING CLASSROOM](#) | [WILDERNESS INQUIRY](#)

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COSUMNES RIVER PRESERVE VISIT [HOMEPAGE - COSUMNES RIVER PRESERVE](#)

THANK YOU FOR HELPING ENCOURAGE THE NEXT GENERATION OF FISHERS AND CONSERVATIONISTS!

TIM & JOHN

GIRL SCOUTS-

Beverly Thomas, Chair

Lake Camanche

April 20, 2024

CFFU Volunteers,

This year we will only be doing 2- 90 minutes sessions from 9-10:30am and 10:45-12:15pm. The Girl Scouts wanted us to be at the Trout pond, so they could possible catch some trout! They gave us campsites 17-23 overlooking the Trout pond. We will setup the Fly Tyers, Entomology and Fish identification booths on these campsites. The Safety, knots and rod booth with dry and wet casting will be on the lake near us.

I also would like to setup a fishing hut so the girls could use it like a photo booth. We could have hats, fishing vests and possibly a boat or canoe for props! If you have any ideas, please send them to me.

I will be gone from 3/9-16. Thanks to all of you for volunteering.

You're the best!!!

Beverly Thomas 916-613-5803

ANNUAL DINNER- ONCE AGAIN AT THE DANTE CLUB!

April 6, 2024 Save the Date! Annual Dinner and Fundraiser April 6th

CFFU's 2024 Annual Dinner and Fundraiser will be held Saturday, April 6th, at the Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd. Sacramento. This is our big fundraiser and social event. We'd like everyone to join us for the terrific food, great raffle and auction items, and wonderful camaraderie! Everyone is welcome: club members, family members, friends, co-workers, or neighbors... anyone who's interested in having a wonderful time, winning great prizes, and supporting a great cause. So please mark the date on your calendar.

You can buy your dinner and raffle tickets at the March General Meeting, but the sooner the better! You can also buy dinner tickets from our website with your credit card or PayPal account. Tickets are \$45. Proceeds from the dinner support our Fish in the Classroom program, local conservation and restoration

<http://www.cffu.org/annual-dinner.html>

efforts,

monthly speakers.



One of the raffle items

Fly tiers exchange by Don Wallace

1. **Tim Au Young** tied a **Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph** on a Masu size 10 hook using red flat waxed nylon. The tail is mink. The rib is metallic French ribbing. The abdomen and throat are Wapsi Awesome Possum. The wingcase is turkey tail. The head is a brass bead.
2. **Rob Scafe** tied a **Milton Midge** on a TMC 2457 size 14-18 hook using 8/0 or 70 denier black thread. The rib is small red wire. The thorax is peacock herl. The head is a 2.4 mm tungsten bead. Special items are: UV resin, "Loon Clear Fly Finish, Thin," or equivalent. For basic tying instructions check out the following website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8g3yGg8Xhu>
3. **Bob Bettati** tied an **Orange Comet** on a size 8 Tiemco 7999 hook using orange 6/0 thread. The eyes are bead chain. The tail is orange calf tail. The body is silver tinsel. The wing is orange hackle.
4. **Paul Smith** tied an **Elk Hair Caddis** on a 12 TMC 5262 dry fly hook, using 6/0 dark brown thread. The rib is fine copper wire and the body is light brown dubbing. The wing is elk hair. The hackle is brown.
5. **Diane Terrell** tied a **Zebra Midge** on a size 10, 16, 18 hook using black, orange or brown thread. The rib is small fine wire in black, silver or gold. The head is a small glass beads or small gold beads. Tie in the ribbing and use thread to create a tapered thorax, wrap the ribbing to behind the bead.

DEMO TYER

The **Demo Tyer** was **Jeff Howard**. He tied a **Hot Butt Caddis** on a size 10 Daiichi 4640 jig hook, using hot orange or fluorescent orange thread. The bead head is a slotted tungsten fluorescent orange size 1/8 inch bead. The tail is 2 strands krystal flash, UV pearl. The rib is gold wire The body is hares ear dubbing or other. The hackle is Hungarian Partridge.

Special note: We could use the help of someone to photograph the fly submissions at the meeting that they may be shown in the next Newsletter.

Otter's Lunch Dates:

Thursday April 4, 2024

Thursday April 18, 2024

Lunch is at 11:00 am at the Black Bear Diner across from Arden Fair Mall.

Come enjoy a good lunch, conversation (no politics please) and tie a few flies if you are so inclined.

Mark your calendars, hope to see you all there

Tim Landrus

916.607.0530

Anticipation

by Ken Giesser

The American Heritage Dictionary has defined the word anticipate to mean: to feel or realize beforehand, to look forward to (often with the implication of foretasting pleasure). As a fly fishing angler, this describes to me perfectly that old familiar feeling of looking forward to an upcoming fishing trip. A case could be made that fly fishing, as a sport, is primarily based on anticipation. We can hardly wait to go fishing and often find ourselves visualizing the cast, the drift, the take and so on...fly fishing seems to bring out the day dreamer in us.



To read the full article, click here: <https://peterneumannmusic.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Anticipation.pdf>

To see a short clip of some Silver action, click here: <https://videos.cdn.spotlightr.com/watch/MTYyMzIzMA==>

BEGINNING FLY TYING RECAP

By Tim Au Young

Hello membership, especially the 5 brave souls who registered for the CFFU Novice Fly Tying Class that began Feb. 12, 19, 26, 2024, all Mondays at the Northminister Presbyterian Church. The following current members in good standing that participated were:

1. Paul S
2. Kevin R
3. David D
4. Sam M
5. Diane T

The schedule of events were:

1. Week 1 - Going through the 15 page syllabus to acquaint everyone with terms and history for background information before tying. We basically went through equipment to include vises and what the differences were with the various manufacturers. After quickly going through all of this information we tied a Woolley Bugger. Although this streamer pattern is not what one would call the simplest pattern to begin starting new students, it did include 5 materials with beads and weight information. What took the longest time was explaining the various techniques, to include the 3 step "pinch wrap". HOMEWORK was assigned and the class ended in a whirl. HOMEWORK was explaining the Fly Tyers Exchange, just as we do at the monthly general meetings.
2. Week 2 - After reviewing a self evaluation of what each student learned, did well, and what they could do differently, we proceeded to the week's patterns of the Pheasant Tail, and the Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymphs to introduce dubbing. Again, HOMEWORK was assigned, and this week's patterns went from large #6 hooks, to smaller #10 hooks getting proportion in the minds of all students
3. Week 3 - After again review with self evaluations and the Fly Tyers Exchange, we went in to dry fly patterns with the Elk Hair Caddis, and a demonstration of the Parachute Adams as time went too quickly for everyone to tie the mayfly imitation.

NOTES:

1. Students who did not bring their own fly tying vise/equipment were provided a very nice Peak non-rotary vise and full set of fly tying tools
2. CFFU provided all materials and step by step instructions to be added to their syllabus's to stay organized
3. The self evaluations and the HOMEWORK were instructional tools for each student

This particular introduction to fly tying was a great way for students to decide if fly tying, or, "the Angler's Art", is a hobby for them to start as a fly fishing participant. From an instructors standpoint, it was wonderful to see the great improvement in each tyer's ability to understand new concepts, and put them in to action.

Of course, this class would not have been possible without the Assistance of Michael/Christie Roberts, Forrest Oldham, Jeff Stephens/President, lone non CFFU member and long time student of Tim's from Kiene's Fly Shop, Tim C, who drove all the way from Lodi. Each of the Assistants oversaw almost on a one to one ratio the various knots, and techniques as we rolled through the class. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, ASSISTANTS!

One never forgets the first fish that they catch using a fly they tied! I am thrilled to hear the future stories as these spinners of fur and feathers define in their own way, what their legacy in fly tying will be. So, until then, fish on and keep on tying!

Tim Au-Young
Fly Tying Programs Director
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FISHING REPORTS

By Forrest Oldham

This is where you may get info on past efforts and future anticipations.

As for now, my best guess, is most water is kind of muddy. I suspect the next fishing would be best for trout maybe at Rancho Seco and Warm water fisheries for bass, bluegill, and crappie if you can find warming and clearing waters. As the rivers clear shad and stripers may be good targets. In the mean time, tackle repair and prep is in order with maybe some tuning up on casting and such. If you are a fly tyer, get busy if you know what you will need. Maybe quiz some of our members for suggestions! The good news about the high water is a reprieve for the fishes which likely results in better fishing in our future! Get ready for tight lines!

RANCHO SECO FISH DERBY

April 6 & 7

visit smud.org/RanchoSeco or call 1-800-416-6992 for details.