ON THE FLY February 2025

CALIFORNIA FLY FISHERS UNLIMITED-ESTABLISHED 1962
N.C.C.C.F.F. AFFILIATE WWW.CFFU.ORG
FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE 10/11 (JANUARY 2025 ALSO)

presidents message

for jeff stephens by forrest

We have lots to do and look forward to in the coming months. We hope many will volunteer to help others enjoy the sport we have come to enjoy...

conservation

Dave Lentz

No current reports

social/gatherings

annual dinner !

April 6, 2024

Dante Club

Laurie Banks

We had lots to do last month!

editor/editorials

editor-forrest oldham

Lots Happened LOTS TO HAPPEN

PONDERINGS

Some thoughts on fly fishing.

tech services/skills

Tech Services Corner

Jeff Morin

What we did.

other events

FLY OF THE MONTH

Rob Scafe once more helped the club with large amount of fly fishing stuff to pour through and purchase. Lots of quality stuff was moved.

general meeting

speakers:

our very own members present some of their experiences.

Alaska!

Spain and Italy!

Dream building presentations

OUTREACH/ YOUTH

OUR FISH DERBY CAME BACK AND SOON THE NEED FOR HELP WITH YOUTH FLY TYING AT THE EXPO SPORTS SHOW.

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 as Kiene's has.

OTTERS

Come join us for a good meal

FISHING REPORTS!

Come to the meeting to get a report!

Baum Lake-Everyone caught fish

Yuba-Tough going, Higher water

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!

President's Corner

by Jeff Stephens (with help from Forrest)

This and the coming months are opportunities for each of us to help others enhance their experience and enjoy the sport we have come to enjoy. Many of us helped with the Sports Expo at the four booths, Main CFFU booth, the Fly Tyers booth (Tyers from us and nearby clubs) which we managed, the Kids Fly Tying managed by Gary, and the Bonus Booth across the aisle from our many booth given us from a presenter that abandoned the event. Rich Wilson and Tod quickly jumped on the opportunity and turned it into a Fly Tying Booth that turned into a traffic stopper that shuffled interested parties to the Main Booth. We signed up a number of new members and directed many from far away to clubs in their area. It is now time to do as promised and help turn the newer members into confident, capable fly fishers. I have found out that the people who learn the most is not the students, but those that endeavor to help those students. Consider being the helper, those already helping will help you!

Past President's message-an opportunity for our past leaders to suggest something(s).

As a Past President of this wonderful club myself, I occasional have some thoughts I believe should be shared with the general membership. I would hope such thoughts would not hinder the current leaders and they should not as there are other avenues such as board meetings, in person conversations, email, and other methods to share with various chairpersons and such. This is another method to inspire our club and it's members to greater goals.

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MARCH SPEAKER-JOE GARZA
FISHING LAKE ALMANOR

Some of our members have already experienced Lake Almanor. For those that have not, you are in for an inspirational treat! You will not want to miss this!

PONDERINGS

By Forrest Oldham

One of the requirements of the Coachman award is to read a fly fishing related book and report on it. This was designed to remind/inspire our member the value of such a task. I have a very large library of such literature, most of which I have read, sometimes multiple times. I am currently finishing up a title "Fifty Favorite Fly-Fishing Tales" Several stories made me laugh or smile, some groan. The favorites bring a tear of happiness. I started reading in the middle of the book. Who says you have start at the beginning? The last story was a serious tear jerker in a positive way. It is about a seasoned female guide working her magic to solve a conflict between a ten year old boy fearful of his Type A+++ father that only gets to see his son two to three weeks a year. Dad's expectations are way too high and our hero, quickly sees this and comes up with a scheme to bring them together as a team to catch not only a nice trout but a memorable experience for all. The story hit me on several levels, one of which is in remembering some of our CFFU Roadrunner experiences and how our pursuits brought us together. I leave it to you to explore both, the written story and perhaps your "Roadrunner story". To great Fly-Fishing…

CONSERVATION REPORT

Dave Lentz and crew

The group has “awakened”, as Dave reported, from their winter slumber and is looking forward to this years’ decisions on how best to invest the club’s time and funds towards our conservation goals. They/we have done much over the years and last year the Conservation Group actually brought extra money in! They welcome any interested parties to join them and share your wisdom. To do so contact Dave Lentz. Corner him at a meeting or find his other contact points on the website. While there, glance at the Calendar to make sure you didn’t miss something!

Forrest

FEBRUARY TECH SERVICES

CFFU@groups.io

Thu 2/6/2025 8:22 AM

Topic: All Things Spey

Presenter:

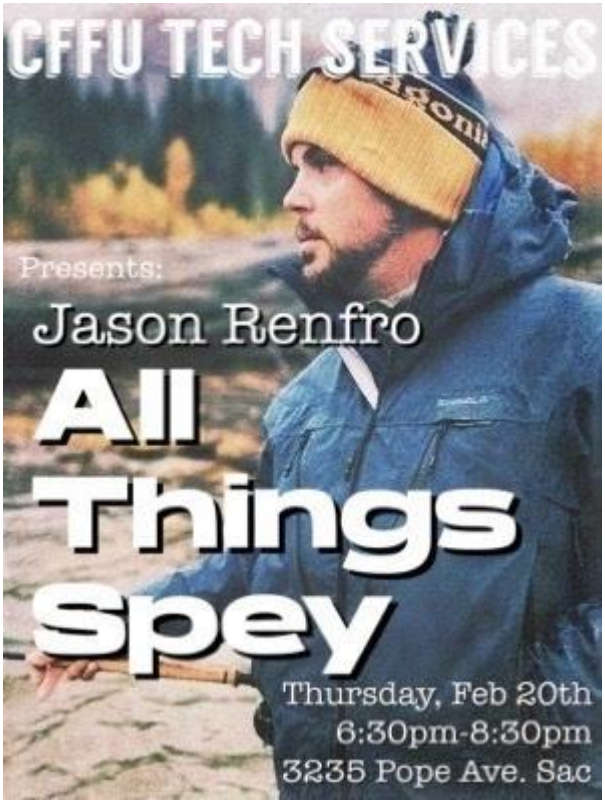
Jason Renfro of Fly Fishing Specialities

Date: Thursday, Feb 20th

Time: 6:30pm - 8:30 pm

Northminster Church

3235 Pope Ave. (off of Watt Ave.)



Jeff Morin

916.224.2486

jefeontheyfly@gmail.com

www.jefeonthefly.com

FISH IN THE CLASSROOM

FEBRUARY 19, EGG DELIVERY

We meet at the Nimbus Fish Hatchery lunch cooler, with a little something to keep the eggs cool, to enjoy comradery, coffee, and donuts. With Brandi's organizational skills each will get their marching (school delivery details) orders, pick up the eggs and food. We then jump in our transports and go about our tasks. Those that wish to may have an opportunity to address the students to help them understand the life cycle of the fish as well as their troubles, manmade, and/or natural. While Brandi has chaired this happily for many years now she is looking for one or more apprentices to help and hopefully take over in awhile. Nothing says that only one person should be responsible for these tasks the club takes on. By the way, a closely associated club that does this has lost their chairperson and Brandi stepped up to help them. She really could use more help. If you can you will be welcomed by just showing up to help on Wednesday.

Kids and teachers alike really enjoy the Fish in the Classroom process!

Here is a photo from Ms. Smith's second grade class that received their salmon eggs from Fish in the Classroom on Nov 13. The class is at Crocker Riverside Elementary in Land Park.

2025 Annual Dinner and Fundraiser

by Laurie Banks

CFFU's Annual Dinner and Fundraiser will be held **Saturday, April 5th** at the Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd. Sacramento. This is our major fundraiser, and we'd like everyone to join us for the terrific food, great raffle and auction items, and wonderful camaraderie! Everyone is welcome: You do not have to be a club member to attend. The Dinner is open to anyone who's interested in having a wonderful time, winning great prizes, and supporting a great cause.

You can buy your dinner tickets at the February or March General Meeting, or from our website with your credit card, Venmo or PayPal. Tickets are $50.The deadline for buying tickets is March 22nd.

For more information, or to buy tickets, visit our website http://www.cffu.org/annual-dinner.html

OTTERS

The "Old Time Tyers Eaters Recreational Society" meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Black Bear Diner across from Arden Fair at 11AM for a meal, to tell fishing lies, and tie flies. Come join us if you can.

February 20

Tim Landrus
916.607.0530

KEEP READING!

MUCH MORE TO KNOW ABOUT!

SOME OF OUR SPONSORS!

LET'S PATRONIZE THEM!

Andy Guibord- fly fishing instructor and guide(916) 849-1529 guibord765@comcast.net

Kaz Wisniewski-Emerald Water Guide Service(707) 497-9967 emeraldwatersguideservice@gmail.com

Brian Flint-Trout Vision Guide Service (530) 690-6636 www.troutvisionlle.com

Valerie Adams (Farmers Insurance) (916) 961-3436 valadamsinsurance@yahoo.com

Rob DeFeo EDC SpecialtiesCustom knives, watches, phone cases, flashlights, wallets and more (916) 476-5094 info@edcspecialties.com

Nella GermanoCustom quilts and more(916) 847-5282

Fly Fishing Specialties(916) 722-1055 www.flyfishingspecialties.com

Brandon Harrell- Guide Servicebrandon@running-bearflyco.com

Orvishttps://www.orvis.com

Fly tiers exchange by Don Wallace

Each month we ask tyers to bring in a dozen flies that will be exchanged with others that also bring in a dozen and each gets an entry into a drawing for a certificate to a fly shop to purchase items from the store. Show off some of your skill!

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.

Quoteables

Fly-fishing is to fishing as Ballet is to walking.

Howell Raines, "Fly-fishing Through the midlife crisis" 1993

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, the Bittner Scholarship winner, as well as our terrific monthly speakers.

We hope everyone will join us for this special night out. Your annual dinner committee is working hard to plan a truly memorable evening for you and your guests! For more information visit our website http://www.cffu.org/annual-dinner.html

Howe Park Fishing Derby

Saturday February 15

Volunteers Welcome!!

This event is at the pond behind the hall where we have our general meetings. Meet under the gazebo and sign in. We will be crimping barbs, measuring the fish's length and width and assisting any anglers. Bring needle nose plyers to crimp, they are spin fishing. Also, bring your own water bottle, we will have our water jug and a few snacks. Please wear your Orange Volunteer Tshirts as weather permits! Volunteering at this event goes towards qualifying for the President's Pin and Outing. Thanks again for being a CFFU VOLUNTEER! Beverly Thomas 916-613-5803

OUTINGS

BEVERLY THOMAS- CHAIRPERSON

Yuba River (UC Sierra Foothills Research and Extension Center)

April 26 & 27, 2025

Mail a check make out to CFFU with Yuba on the memo, $15/angler/day. apologies for not cashing your checks from the Jan outing. It is storming out and I will not make it to the meeting.

Sam E. Yee

11170 Green Rd

Wilton, Ca 95693

ANNUAL PYRAMID LAKE OUTING

Our annual Pyramid Lake guided outing is going to be on April 10 and 11. This is a Thursday and Friday. We will by booking with guide Joe Contaldi. The cost of the trip is $275/day or $550 for both days. Let me know if you are planning on going and I will put you on the list. There is an option to fish on a boat with Joe or other guides and the cost will be $850 per day for two people or $1,000 for three anglers. There a few people already signed up for going on the boats. Most of us will be doing shore fishing.

As usual the guides will provide all the rods, reels and flies. Also they will be doing a hot breakfast and lunch.

It you are planning on staying at the lake contact Pyramid Lake Lodge right away as the usually fill up early. The website is https://pyramidlakelodge.com/
Or the phone number to call is 775-842-8637

I will have a signup sheet at the meeting or email me to get on the list. We can have up to 20 anglers on the shore and about 12 on boats if the any who want to fish from a boat

Let me know if you have any questions

Mike Giusti Check website for Mike's contact info.

TRUCKEE OUTING

Editor's Note: Dave Ford, a now deceased member sponsored this trip many times in the 1970's and 1980"s. It was a favorite of many1 The lodge is very comfortable. In past years one of the requirements was to do a chore for the lodge. I do not see this in this. I urge you to read this carefully. It really dan be a great outing!

EVENT: Truckee Fishing Trip at the Carmel Ski Lodge DATE: June 20-22, 2025 FISHMEISTER: Sam Seaton Fishmeister, Guy Deaner Assistant Fishmeister SUMMARY: The Truckee Outing is a bit unique in that there are so many different opportunities for fishing that we don't usually all fish the same waters. Within a fifty mile radius of Truckee there are three rivers (the Truckee, the Little Truckee, and the Feather), plus Sagehen, Donner, Prosser and Coldstream Creeks. There are also a lot of lakes including Martis Lake, Lake Davis, Frenchmen's and Milton Reservoir. There are also Stampede and Boca Reservoirs which are close to Truckee. So just about any type of fishing you might want, this trip has you covered. For first timers we will have information on access spots and fishing tips from those familiar with the areas. MEETING LOCATION: Carmel Ski Lodge, 11815 Deerfield Drive, Truckee, CA 96161. I 80 East toward Reno. At exit 185, take ramp right for CA 89 South toward Lake Tahoe. At Roundabout, Take exit onto CA 89 South. Go ½ mile and turn right onto Deerfield Drive. Proceed on Deerfield Drive for approximately 1 mile to 11815 Deerfield Drive. The lodge is on the left side. There is limited parking available so carpooling is a good option. We ask that you park as close as possible to the car next to you. Please make sure not to block any cars in this tight lot. There is some street parking available. Boats and trailers will no fit in the parking lot but street parking may accommodate them. LODGE DESCRIPTION On one side of the first floor you'll find our large kitchen, fitted with an oversized refrigerator, an industrial sized stove and oven, a sink and two dishwashers, and ample counter space for food prep. A large open pantry provides storage for non-perishables. The adjoining dining area has two large tables which can accommodate large crowds, making the perfect setting for our Saturday afternoon luncheon. A family-room area with relaxed seating for television watching completes this side of the first floor. By the half-bathroom on the opposite end of the first floor is a spacious social area with fireplace and comfortable seating for gathering together and sharing our fishing stories. The room's attached patio affords an opportunity for star-gazing by night or just soaking in the relaxing Truckee ambience by day. The bedrooms are located on the second floor. Some bedrooms have two twin beds while others have two twins and bunk beds. There are two large bathrooms, male & female. Each bathroom has a private shower area, multiple sinks and multiple stalls. ROOM

OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENT We have reserved space for 20 people at the lodge. We require double occupancy per room, so when reserving your room please make sure you have included who you are rooming with. THINGS TO BRING You must bring your own bedding, pillows, linens, blankets or sleeping bags. You must also supply your own towels, wash cloths and toiletries. If you want to bring your own food, the lodge has a large refrigerator to accommodate that. Because there may be several people bringing food please make sure you label everything so there is no confusion about the food. And of course the other option is the McDonalds on the corner of Deerfield Drive and CA 89 South. SOCIAL HOUR AND CLUB AFTERNOON MEAL On Friday & Saturday evening we will have a Margareta social hour in the living room. Also on Saturday Guy will provide a late afternoon meal in the dining room at 1:00 PM. During that time for those that are new to the area we have experienced fly fishermen to share tips on flies or promising locations. GUEST SPEAKER Miles Zimmerman and his brother Austin of Trout Creek Outfitters will be giving us a presentation on Saturday June 21 at 2:00 PM. This will be after the BBQ and held in the social area of the Lodge. They are managers for Trout Creek Outfitters in Truckee. Their presentation will be in two parts. The first part will be how to fish the notoriously difficult Truckee River. They will share with us some tips to catch more fish. The second part of the presentation will be about their shop and what they have to offer. COST AND PAYMENT DEADLINES The cost is $40.00 per night, $80.00 total for two nights, prepaid to Sam Seaton. This includes a housekeeping fee to save our members from having to clean prior to checkout. Because Sam Seaton has reserved the rooms, no refund after June 3, 2025. If you cancel after June 3rd there are no refunds unless you can fill your space. Participants need to pre pay within 5 days of signing up. Otherwise your name will be dropped from the list.

FINAL COMMENTS-

A submission from a reading of a member. It is his wish and belief it may inspire some of the fly-tyers, maybe to submit to the Fly-Tyer's Exchange...

Read on.... Did I mention reading is one of the Coachman Award requirements? It really is a good way to focus your energies toward becoming a capable, confident fly angler!

From "The Art of the Trout Fly" by Judith Dunham

Story by Jack Gartside (He was guest speaker here in 70's or 80's)

An innovative fly-tyer.

(BTW-an East Coast Taxi Driver that would tie flies in the cab waiting for fares.) What follows is excerpted and edited in interest of brevity here. Look for the full treatise if fully interested.

If all the fish in the waters of the world were to disappear tomorrow, I would continue to tie flies. I once said this to a friend to try to explain my enthusiasm for and fascination with fly-tying. The statement explains little, of course ,but rather only hints at the limits of my enthusiasm-the implication being that there are satisfactions beyond the mere practical use of the fly as a fish-catching device.

... ...these satisfactions?...simple to sublime, the pleasures...are many...selection of the hook...the tools and techniques...the sensual and tactile beauty of the materials...to the workings of the imagination expressed in furs, feathers, and folderol.

There is also the contemplative pleasure ...sharing in a tradition that puts one in touch with the ideas and experiences of otherswho have preceded us...a Royal Wulff, for example, ...connects us with both the Victorian fancy of Tom Bosworth, Queen Victoria's coachman, who designed the original Royal Coachman, and the ...pragmatism of Lee Wulff, who designed the Royal Wulff (editor:to serve fly fishers of today with our wilder waters, Lee is also credited with "catch and release" by many).

But many fly tyers, myself included, wish to go beyond the traditional, the accepted ways...(to) exercise our own imaginations and tap into whatever is unique and individual to our own approaches. This leads...(to) creative design, for me the most challenging and satisfying aspect of flytying.

By Jack Gartside (editings by Forrest) Read On!

What is before you is excerpted from one page of prose. There is fully another with ruminations on various uses of materials and their effects on the flu\y, the fish, and the fisher/tyer. A reader coming across this message fifty or more years from now might view it as we view writings in our sport from fifty to four hundred years ago. Have you tried to decipher fly fishing literature in Olde English? Tried to understand the ways they prepared gut leaders, or set about collecting fly tying materials, or perhaps wading through dying recipes? I for one enjoy these aspects of fly fishing as did Jack Gartside. Have you tried to tie a Traditional Atlantic Salmon Fly? Or how about just a simple Catskill dry, a Victorian wet fly? All these I have done and will, from time to time, as life permits, continue. Thank goodness for the wisdom of those to share and save over the years. I encourage all to read and research any and all things of interest to yourself as well as experience, where possible, events and hands on that you can. After all is said and done all you have in this life is your experiences, hopefully shared with many you love and appreciate, as I do with this club and it's members.

Forrest