



# ON THE FLY November 2024

CALIFORNIA FLY FISHERS UNLIMITED-ESTABLISHED 1962  
N.C.C.C.F.F. AFFILIATE [WWW.CFFU.ORG](http://WWW.CFFU.ORG)  
NOVEMBER 2024 ISSUE 8

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

Come to the meeting for the Fly Tyer's Exchange and bring your flies!

general meeting

speaker

A note on last month's speaker from Tim and Frank.

OUTREACH/ YOUTH

OUR FISH DERBY IS 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  
Some lies, and fly tying.

## FISHING REPORTS! WELCOME NEW

Come to the meeting to get  
a report! 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. We have the Fish Derby for the disadvantaged back this month. The Yuba Outing is pending as well as our annual Holiday Members Presentations for December. January brings us the need for volunteers on several fronts for the Sports Expo. Remember, it is the helper/volunteers that get the most rewards from their efforts to help other. Pitch in!

conservation  
By Dave Lentz

“Mother Nature is not fooled by technological fixes.”

Robert Behnke,

*IN PRAISE OF WILD TROUT (1998)*

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.

Tanlower Putah Creek. We are also looking for opportunities that CFFU members can contribute volunteer



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## **NOVEMBER SPEAKER MIKE WIER-UNDAMING THE KLAMATH**

Our meeting has been moved to the second Tuesday this month to accommodate voting. Come on the 12<sup>th</sup> and enjoy the presentation and find out about other activities to participate in.

### **PONDERINGS**

By Forrest Oldham

Fly reel to backing to fly line to leader to tippet, and, hopefully, fish are connections we make to enjoy our sport. These are not the only ones made as we connect to our favorite and newly discovered waters, locations, authors and such. Another important connection for many of us is the one made to our fellow fishers. Unfortunately biology affects us all and we lose some of these. Recently we have lost a few of them, Bill Ozawa, Rob Scafe, and recently, Howard Ross. I have not listed all, just a couple I could remember well. I found out that Bill lived through one of the Japanese Internment camps and started to see if he and I could get together and have him share some of those experiences only to have him pass before we could “connect”. I did have a nice talk with Rob about his future and feelings about it very shortly before his passing. A year or so ago I had the pleasure of giving Howard a collection of shooting heads and instructed him in his back yard on how to cast and use them, as well as sat with him recently just to talk a bit. I treasure these memories as well as many, many being created with other of our members. Howard was never going to use the shooting heads. That did not matter, the connection did. How are your connections?

# A THANK YOU FOR A GREAT JOB

## A REMINDER...

Annual Fish Derby Work Party

Sept. 12, 2024,

by Tim Au-Young

Hello all, first and foremost, a HUGE 'THANK YOU' goes out to the 12 hearty souls who volunteered for the Annual Fish Derby Work Party, inspecting and repairing the almost 100 rods in the club's possession.

For the last 24 years that I know, the Annual Fish Derby has been a part of Sacramento County's Therapeutic Recreation Services, TRS, started by the late Kathy Barber. TRS is a sub committee with the major function to provide services and activities for people who are physical and mentally disabled, living in the greater Sacramento County. Whether these people live in care facilities, with their family, or any other living situation, once registered, TRS will invite them to these activities. There are no age restrictions. Dances, picnics, pool parties, Fairy Tale Shows, Hot August Nights, River Cats Games, Kayak Night, and attending the State Fair are just a few of the outings that are offered. Of course, an annual fishing derby is also offered!

## OUR ASSISTANCE WAS REQUESTED

September found us scrambling to assist others with our skills. Some helped here.

On September 29th there was a scout Fly Fishing merit badge event at Gibson Ranch. The staff of event have reached out to CFFU for help with fly tying and fly casting for the approximately 150 scouts.

Some members helped out with fly tying and maybe fly casting for stocked fish in the lake.

We are sure they did a great job and maybe caught some fish, as well.

Frank Rinella

## Our Club " Mile 16 south" River cleanup

**Sept. 21, 2024**

**7:30am-10am**

We met at Rossmoor Bar then cleaned up from the bike trail to the river. We had trash bags & some coffee and treats. Please, for this event always dress appropriate, bring water, gloves and extended pickup grabbers if you have them. It is a great time of the year to see this area of the river that we has our club name on the bike trail at "Mile 16 south " and a Dedication Bench for one of our past members. A good many show up to this regularly. Contact Beverley Thomas about this in the future. We do a good job of taking care of our home water.

# **EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

## **FISH DERBY VOLUNTEERS GATHER!**

**NOVEMBER 16 FISH DERBY**

**A thousand times thanks for volunteering!**

**For info: Beverly Thomas** text me at 916-613-5803

This is gathering of a bunch of volunteers to assist some of our less advantaged brethren to enjoy a day's fishing. Some help with setting up the rods and casting them. Some assist in landing the fish and others with registration, lunch, and cleanup. This is a very rewarding activity for all.

**We meet at 8am to organize, they fish from 9-12pm then the Kiwanians serve lunch from 12-1pm.**

**Bring a chair, water bottle, hemostats/forceps, net, club name badge and wear the volunteer Orange shirt.**

**If you don't have this volunteer shirt , I will bring them to the general meeting 11/12 and at the event. I have med, L and XL. Anyone that needs a larger shirt I will be ordering bigger sizes for next year.**

## **SPORTS SHOW VOLUNTEERS**

The Annual Sports Expo is again here in January and CFFU is a major party coordinating the Fly Fishing events which means we need volunteers! Check with Rich Wilson, Gary Howard, or Frank Rinella for details.

## **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.

# A SPECIAL TECH SERVICES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

THIS MONTH WE GET TWO-READ ON BELOW!

It's that time of year already. Are you ready? Tech Services presents Holiday Ornaments Fly Tying with Tim Au-Young.

You must register for this Tech Thursday event so that we know how much material to have on hand. Please **Register** [here](#)

## Holiday Ornament Tying with Tim

Thursday, Nov 21st  
06:30pm - 8:30pm  
3235 Pope Ave



Check your email to register  
or ontact Jeff at [jefeonthefly@gmail.com](mailto:jefeonthefly@gmail.com)



Jeff Morin

916.224.2486

[jefeonthefly@gmail.com](mailto:jefeonthefly@gmail.com)

[www.jefeonthefly.com](http://www.jefeonthefly.com)

**PARTS OF  
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**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](http://www.troutvisionlle.com)**

**Valerie Adams (Farmers Insurance) (916) 961-3436 [valadamsinsurance@yahoo.com](mailto:valadamsinsurance@yahoo.com)**

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

**Nella GermanoCustom quilts and more(916) 847-5282**

**Fly Fishing Specialties(916) 722-1055 [www.flyfishingspecialties.com](http://www.flyfishingspecialties.com)**

**Brandon Harrell- Guide Servicebrandon@running-bearflyco.com**

**Orvis<https://www.orvis.com>**



## Tech Services Corner

Jeff Morin

Tech Thursday meetings cover fly fishing topics ranging from intermediate fly casting and fly tying to more advanced topics such as rod building, tying Atlantic Salmon patterns, and spey casting.



Are you a 'hardcore' flyfisher? Do you don a wetsuit, snorkel and goggles? Weight yourself to the bottom of the river? Watch how trout eat off the bottom to determine the best approach in how to catch them? Ron Raburn has, he is hardcore!

His investigation on the Upper Sacramento River has shown that trout will eat anything presented to them in their feed lane. Well, they'll take it into their mouth and when the trout registers their intake as a rock or, say an artificial fly, the trout will spit it out in half of a second. Ron says that is how long you have to set the hook and lifting the rod tip is not fast enough. You have to set the hook down current and away from the fly in a "crescent" shaped hook set.

To learn more, watch your email for the Tech Services Corner, to read the full article.....

Jeff Morin

916.224.2486

[jefeonthefly@gmail.com](mailto:jefeonthefly@gmail.com)

[www.jefeonthefly.com](http://www.jefeonthefly.com)



A REMINDER!

Annual Dinner- once again at the Dante Club!

April 5 2025      Save the Date! Annual Dinner and Fundraiser April

CFFU's 2025 Annual Dinner and Fundraiser will be held Saturday, April 5, 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>

**Fly tiers exchange by Don Wallace**

efforts,

**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.

**Otter's Lunch Dates:**

**First and third Thursdays each month...**

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

# HOT DAY ON BATTLE CREEK

by Terry Block



It was a blistering hot day on Battle Creek which flows through Shasta and Tehama



counties and is a major tributary of the Sacramento River. The section I fished was within the private Battle Creek Canyon Ranch located near Manton, California and is the subject of several projects and initiatives, including Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project. Currently access to this section of creek is through River Pursuit Fly Fishing owned and operated by Jason Thatcher.

“One of the proposed projects will restore about 42 miles of salmon and steelhead habitat on Battle Creek and an additional 6 miles on its tributaries. These six (6) miles of fish-rich Battle Creek opened for the first time in 1999. Battle Creek averages twenty feet across, and tumbles down an often-narrow canyon that has one pool and riffle after another full of native rainbows, and sometimes steelhead at certain points in the season. It’s a rugged wilderness atmosphere, and little has changed in years in what was once home to Ishi and his California Indian ancestors”.

“Planting trout is prohibited in these lower reaches of Battle Creek, as it is the primary spawning tributary for salmon and steelhead from the Lower Sacramento River. Battle Creek’s resident rainbows, therefore, are completely wild, native fish that have grown big and tough, of fight, and usually die of old age without ever being fooled by a dry fly or nymph”.

On this day fishing the riffles and pools using my wt rod from Mr. Larry Lee and armed with a dry dropper setup consisting of a Chubby Chernobyl and Blow Torch, I was able to haul in 12 nice 10-to-12-inch wild rainbows.



full

3

If you wish to fish in this beautifully scenic fishery, contact Jason Thatcher at River Pursuit Fly Fishing and be prepared to walk and wade a moderately strenuous canyon and creek.

