

## **Prez Says .... from Bill Rains**

The Board of Directors has been very active in supporting conservation activities and I have discussed in the previous columns how we have directed funds to various conservation organizations that are active in protecting and enhancing fisheries and their habitats. There is a list of the organizations we have contributed funds in October's newsletter. At the last Board Meeting we heard from Jim Wirth that a least six additional schools asked to be included in the steelehead/salmon hatching and rearing projects. The Board voted to fund the additional projects and support the effort. Also, Lowell Ashbaugh has submitted a grant to request additional funding for this activity. If this grant is approved we will need even more volunteers to assist in the delivery of eggs from the hatchery to the schools and to act as docents in educating the grade school kids on the basics of the life cycles of salmon and steelehead. I had my first personal experience in delivering eggs to classrooms. Bob Ball and I delivered to two classrooms at Pioneer School in Davis. It was obvious the kids were excited. Some heads stuck out the door to the classroom and then rapidly withdrew to inform the rest of the class we were there. When we entered their eyes were big and they were full of questions. We responded, as best we could with the help of their teachers. It was obvious that both the kids and their teachers were looking forward to the egg-rearing project. This activity by our club membership can be a very satisfying experience and will contribute significantly to the conservation ethics of these young children, one of the goals of our club. If you are interested in assisting with this effort contact Jim Wirth at (530) 662-5388

## Meeting Location Map DAVIS WASTE REMOVAL Meeting Room- 2727 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Davis



## Notice of Election: Election of FFD Officers and Directors for 2002

The election will be held the December meeting:

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001, 7:30pm  
Davis Waste Removal Meeting Room  
2727 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Davis, California.

### 2002 SLATE OF OFFICERS – DIRECTORS

President – Bill Rains  
Vice President – John Forsyth  
Secretary – Jon Knapp  
Treasurer – Lowell Ashbaugh  
Director (1 year) – Adney Bowker  
Director (3 years) –  
Tom Vail  
Tom Burton

2002 DUES PAYABLE JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>  
ANNUAL DUES OF \$25 ARE PAYABLE AS  
OF JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2002. SINCE THE  
ANNUAL DINNER WILL NOT BE UNTIL LATE  
FEBRUARY, PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AT  
THE MEETING OR BY MAIL TO:

**FLY FISHERS OF DAVIS**

**PO BOX 525  
DAVIS, CA 95617**

## ***From the Conservation Desk of Lowell Ashbaugh.....***

Conservation – some thoughts on hatcheries and wild fish – The *Sacramento Bee* published an article on November 4 on hatchery salmon vs. wild salmon. In case you missed it, you can find it on the Internet at <http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/story/1117402p-1184745c.html>.

Part of the article got me to thinking, so I did a little more research into the journals. I don't understand all of the genetics discussed, but the bottom line is the same in all the articles I read. Captive breeding programs lower genetic diversity and, in some cases, lead to reduced ability to survive and procreate naturally. Although hatchery programs seek to increase the number of fish in the wilds, they are not always effective.

Hatchery fish and wild fish are genetically different and respond to wild and hatchery propagation differently. Hatchery fish are more reproductively successful in hatcheries than in the wild, and wild fish are more successful in the wild than in hatcheries. There's some evidence that hatchery fish will increase their success in wild breeding once hatchery programs terminate. There's also evidence that natural selection produced strains of fish better suited to reproduction in the habitat in which they were born. Hatchery stock does not reproduce or survive as well when brought from somewhere else to stock a water body.

Reduced breeding success is not the only threat to wild fish. There's also the effect of interbreeding on wild fish. The California state fish, the golden trout, is threatened in almost its entire range because of planting of rainbow trout, with which they interbreed. There are only a few places left now where the golden trout are not threatened in this way.

Finally, hatchery programs cannot make up for lack of suitable fish habitat, and that's probably one of the most deceptive aspects of hatcheries. As long as people believe

hatcheries are a suitable alternative to natural breeding, there's no incentive to maintain fish habitat. The result of this mindset is dams, water diversion, and unhealthy rivers and streams.

For us as fly fishers, it means fewer places to fish and a poorer quality of fish. Give this some thought next time a dam is constructed or relicensed, or someone wants to divert water from the sea that is "going to waste" to the cities, instead. Fight for what we know is needed for the fish! If no one speaks up in opposition, we'll have fewer places to fish.

[Note our January program presenter will be Brad Cavallo, Environmental Specialist, Department of Water Resources, and one of the project analysts on fisheries assessment for the Oroville Complex relicensing. Here's a chance to get some more answers.]

## ***THE CASTING CLINIC.....***

1. In a reach cast the rod is moved to the left or right
  - a. After the line hits the water
  - b. Before the power stroke, while the rod is moving
  - c. At the end of the power stroke, after the rod is stopped
  - d. None of the above
2. You are fishing in a light crosswind and your line keeps blowing into your rod. To alleviate this problem you:
  - a. Cast off vertical or horizontal
  - b. Overpower the cast
  - c. Increase your casting stroke
  - d. Go home
3. Casting different lengths of lines requires changing the trajectory of the cast. Short lines have \_\_\_\_\_ backcasts; long lines have \_\_\_\_\_ backcasts.
  - a. Low; higher
  - b. High; lower
  - c. Low; lower
  - d. None of the above
4. The backcast should have \_\_\_\_\_ acceleration and speed when compared to the forward cast.
  - a. The same
  - b. Less
  - c. Slightly more
  - d. Much more

Answers 1.(c); 2.(a); 3.(b); 4.(a)

(Courtesy of the FFF Club Wire by Liz Watson, Northwest Women Fly Fishers)

## FROM THE EDITOR

***Last Day of Trout Season .....***

November 15<sup>th</sup> has now past for 2001. The 2001 and past trout seasons are imprinted to memory. Here's a few thoughts about the closing of the trout season and experiences past.

The last day of trout season is always special to me. It's my special fishing day. A day with no guiding clients usually spent in solitude. Planning the last day of trout season is arduous since there are so many choices and the shorter days of the oncoming winter and standard time limit your coverage. Water conditions are low clear and cold.

The last day of trout season is nature's chance to show you the beauty of the fauna, stream and fish. All nature is maturing with the peak with the fall and it's waning into winter. *STRIKE! Oh, It's another leaf.* Fall is the culmination of all the growth of spring and summer and the trout are at their bulk. The Rainbows daunt their full colors but in contrast wear bellies that rival the best of beer drinkers. They have been gorging on the October Caddis.

I look to spend these last hours on my favorite stream in hope of hooking that monster trout that eluded me all season or for years. Generally, settling for his younger spry siblings *as a 14 inch Rainbow rolls up on a size 8 Krystal Caddis Stimulator.*

You look to fish those favorite lies that have provided many pleasant and successful days during the season. Knowing the fish wait for your presentation in hope that one will fall prey to the fuzzy morsel in their continuing efforts to beef up for winter. *Wading into place, the cast is positioned into the fast slot against the bank. As the nymph passes through, the indicator stops. A downstream line set stops the line and a 17 inch Rainbow comes out of it's lie and heads downstream.*

The last day of trout season provides opportunities to fish some prolific hatches. The October Caddis that emerge in October has been now posting their spawn for several weeks. The trout readily pounce on a weakened adult touching the surface or one that is knocked from a tree with a breeze. Other smaller caddis are also plentiful providing options to the trout's plate. Mayflies and midges are hatching. BWOs are bountiful. The last day of trout season can be fished with both nymphs and dry flies with success. *The indicator stops, a hook set starts the game. Suddenly, the fish takes a funny direction. A double, two fish are struggling against each other and my rod. One on an size 8 October Caddis emerger and the other on an 18 Flash Back Hare's Ear, 12 and 14 inches, are brought to hands.* The last day of trout season always provides unusual experiences.

The last day of the trout season varies in weather. It has snowed. It has rained. It has been sunny and warm. This day, provided a sprinkle and the company of my special partner, Sage, the Labrador. *The Stimulator lights on the water. Sage is practicing watching the fly. Several more casts and a 15 incher rolls up for a hook set. The fish breaks water and the retrieve is on. Sage is swimming towards the splash. Now a splash to the left, a quick change in direction and finally, the trout is coaxed in and landed. We are happy. I unhook the fish. Sage gives her routine sniff and the trout swims off. Sage is now perplexed!*

With the last hour, the last day of the season, I strive to land another fish. So the last day of the trout season is special. This is partly why I take the whole last week of the trout season to fish since just one day's fix doesn't seem to last me all winter.

Now I retire to the tying bench to past the time until the birth of high spring waters and the first day of trout season.

*Ron Rabun*

## Monthly Fly Tying Contest Sponsored by American Fly Fishing Company

3523 Fair Oaks Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95864  
916-483-1222  
800-410-1222  
www.americanfly.com

Tie the Pattern of the Month for a chance to win a \$25 Gift Certificate for American Fly Fishing Company. The patterns submitted will be judged by our esteemed fly tying chairman and selected evaluators. Judging criteria are the pattern tied most closely to the Fly of the Month instructions, fly construction skills and best representation of the pattern. Judges decision will be final. Patterns will be assigned a number and judged anonymously. When you arrive at the meeting, sign in and place a numbered tag on your pattern. Submitters are not eligible to judge.

Thanks to Gary Eblen for this sponsorship.

### PUTAH CREEK CLEAN-UP

Mark your calendars,  
Saturday, December 1.

The Fly Fishers of Davis will be hosting  
the annual Putah Creek clean-up.  
Meet 9 AM at Fishing Access #4.

Participants will fan out from there scouring the banks and brush for all of the traditional tidbits that we cherish so much. Wear work clothes and gloves, and don't forget to bring something to hold your nose.

The club will provide chlorine bleach, ammonia and other household disinfectants should anyone accidentally come in contact with the environment. Clubster Tom Burton will be manning the BBQ scorching burgers and tube steaks.

Again this year Dave Driscoll will be obtaining official "Family Values" sanctioning so be sure to bring the wife and kids. (hell, I'm bringing ALL THREE of my ex-wives PLUS both of my girl friends!) All this "weather permitting", of course.

Any questions or special combat gear requests should be directed to John Reynolds (530-753-2682).

## FLY PATTERN OF THE MONTH

[Carried over due to late mailing delivery last month.]

### “The Creative Woolly Bugger”

This month's pattern is a Woolly Bugger. We are calling it the “Creative Woolly Bugger” since we there will be no specific formula but just some guidelines. You might call this the “Woolly Bugger Open” since the following “loose” guidelines will apply to tying and judging.

- Pattern must qualify under various styles and definition of a Woolly Bugger. (leeches, matukas, zonkers not allowed)
- Within hook size range 12 to 6.
- Any color or combination of colors allowed.
- May or may not contain flash.

#### Judging standards:

- Must be a Woolly Bugger as known by a various styles among fly tyers. The judges will confer on meeting this standard.
- Tying style, color, material selection and presentation will be considered in the judging.
- Overall fish enticing features will be important.

Have fun tying this one and we hope to see a lot of creative entries.



Fly Fishing Specialties

Phone 916-722-1055 Fax 916-722-1081  
6412 Tupulo Drive, Suite C, Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
(I-80 at Antelope West)  
Email: info@flyfishingspecialties.com

## Sugar Creek Ranch Outing Report

We made our a trek for the BIG Bows of Sugar Creek Ranch with 7 members. Saturday morning, we feasted on a hearty breakfast at the Cornerstone in Dunsmuir. About 8:30, we embarked on the hour drive over the hill to Sugar Creek.

Arriving at the North Pond we discovered they had been digging an enlargement and the pond was muddy. However, Bob Pearcy managed a 5 pounder there on the infamous Chartruese Bunny Leech a SCR staple. We immediately split up on the South and Middle Ponds. Some fish were working the surface and Ron recommended a Midge or BWO. Right off, Bill Rains hooked a nice fish on a BWO and 5x. There were many refusals on 5x, so 6x was needed. This made the breakoffs more frequent. Warren Caldwell managed a nice fish on the South Pond. John Hodgson camped most of the day at Middle Pond 4 and managed several fish on midge emergers. Cary Boyden found the ticket in the late afternoon taking several fish on a Flash Back PT. Jim Rains caught a sizable 6 pounder on a Grasshopper. Things on Middle 4 in the afternoon when Ron Rabun told Warran, "drastic times need drastic measures. Let's mess with there minds." and put on a #8 Orange Caddis Stimulator. A couple twitches, BAM, a nice Rainbow on. Warren missed several using the same technique. Nymphs and midges on light tippet seemed to be the fare most of the day.

All-in-all the day was a challenging still water day with everyone landing a nice Rainbow. Everyone caught fish and hooked several more. SCR provides a rewarding fishery with some tests of skill and pattern. Most of the fish ranged from 3 to 6 pounds. Everyone concurred another outing in the Spring was in the cards. Ron will be arranging another outing then. More info on Sugar Creek Ranch can be found at [www.sugarcreekranch.com](http://www.sugarcreekranch.com).

Mark you calendars .....

**Annual Dinner**  
**Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Davis Senior Center.**  
**Social hour 6pm, Dinner 7pm.**  
**Cost: \$30 per person**  
**Annual Dinner and Photo Contest**  
**First Annual FFD Dinner**  
**Photo Frenzy Contest ....**

Since the announcement, there's been a lot of interest. We've picked following categories.

- **Humor** – anything funny about fly fishing.
- **Scenery / Travel** - photos of rivers, lakes, mountains, meadows, or fly fishing destinations.
- **Fly Fishing (General)**- Anything with fly fishing action including fishing, casting, fly tying, etc.
- **Big Fish / Little Fish** – Here's a chance to show off the Big One or any fish.
- **Youth / Friends** – photos of kids, family or socializing during a fly fishing activity. This is where we will include the social photos from Outings.

**Photo Frenzy Rules:** (Really aren't any. Just the following guidelines)

- This is being called a contest for entertainment purposes, therefore, is being held in the spirit of fun and friendship.
- Submit 35mm slides or prints not smaller than 4x6 inches.
- Submitted photos may include a brief description for the program narrator. Submit a narrative of 25 words or less with your photo. The program narrator reserves editorial rights for the presentation content for the sake of time.
- Limit 2 photos per category per member.
- The Presentation Committee will make all final categorizations and judge the slides.
- No pornography or sensitive material.

**Submit photos to Ron Rabun or Bob Pearcy no later that January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002.**

# CLUB CALENDAR

## ----- 2001/2002 MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS -----

All meetings are held at 7:30 p.m., Davis Waste Removal Meeting Room, 2727 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Davis (east of Sudwerks) unless otherwise noted.

### 2001

November 27<sup>th</sup> Leo Guetterres, Yucatan Tarpon  
 December 11<sup>th</sup> Home Grown Slide Show – bring your favorite slides of the year.  
 Election of 2002 Officers and Directors

### 2002

January 29<sup>th</sup> Feather River Fishery, Brad Cavallo, Department of Water Resources  
 February 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner and Club Photo Awards Presentation, Davis Senior Center  
 March 27<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 April 24<sup>th</sup> Al Kyte, Trout Tactics  
 May 29<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 June 26<sup>th</sup> Powell Rod Demo and Halibut on the Fly, Ron Vanderheiden, 7pm start.  
 July 31 Annual Picnic, 6 p.m. Davis Park behind the Art Center.  
 August No Regular Meeting. Yolo Fair Booth TBA  
 September 24<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 October 29<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 November 27<sup>th</sup> TBA  
 December 17<sup>th</sup> Home Grown Slide Show  
 Election of 2003 Officers and Directors

## ----- OUTINGS -----

Since last report there has been one cancelled outing (Pyramid) and another one which was sparsely attended because of a dearth of boats. The latter, the annual striper trip, was enjoyable if not terribly productive for those who did attend, although there were several large fish taken by others fishing the Tract the same day. The winter season starts with Breakfast at Amador ("Grease") on Sunday, December 2 with a rainout of the following weekend. Signups will be at the November meeting. The Bee indicates that fishing has been fairly good with the usual heavy plants having occurred. For those who have not tried this fishery, the potential of taking a fish over 20" is high. A boat or floating device is required.

Cary Boyden, Chairman, 503-753-2682

TRIP	FISH	FISHMEISTER	DATE	Fee (guided/private waters)
Lake Amador	Trout	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	December 2nd	



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*fly shop*

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## Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Bill Rains	530-756-5521
Vice President	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Treasurer	Mark Tebbutt	530-753-1125
Secretary	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056
<b>DIRECTORS</b>		
2001	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
	Jim Ferguson	707-678-4071
2002	Chris Gregory	530-661-9208
	Bob Pearcy	530-756-0932
2003	John Hodgson	530-756-8095
	Jerry Pollock	530-758-6856
<b>COMMITTEES</b>		
Outings	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826
Conservation	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
Newsletter	Ron Rabun	800-359-3746
NCCFFF	Dave Driscoll	707-446-2671
Programs	Ron Rabun	800-359-3746
Programs	Reed Enos	530-756-2331
Raffle Chair	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	Jim Humphrey	707-678-2149.
Youth	Jim White	530-756-3105.
Video Library	John Forsyth	530-750-1192

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 P. O. Box 525  
 Davis, California, 95617

The Fly Fishers of Davis (FFD) is a non-Profit 501.C.3 charitable organization dedicated to the education, participation, conservation and enhancement of fly fishing. Annual associate membership is \$25 beginning with each calendar year. FFD meets monthly except for the month of August. Regular monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except for December and January. December meetings are held the second Tuesday to accommodate holiday schedules. January hosts the Annual Dinner meeting which is scheduled in the latter part of the month based upon facility arrangements.

FFD is an affiliate club of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), an international nonprofit organization, and its Northern California Council (NCCFFF) affiliate.

Meetings and membership are opened to the public.

The Fly Fishers of Davis provide equal opportunity membership without discrimination on sex, race, origin, age or religious orientation.

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**Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Davis Senior Center.**  
**Social hour 6pm, Dinner 7pm.**  
**Cost: \$30 per person**

**Fly Fishers of Davis**  
**PO Box 525**  
**Davis, CA 95617**

**READ IMMEDIATELY**  
*NOTE REVISED*  
**DECEMBER PROGRAM**  
**DATE - NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**