

*Fly Fishers of Davis*Website: www.cal.net/flyfish

Volume 29

The Fisherman's Line**JUNE 2002****Special Casting Demo and Regular Program****Tuesday, June 25th, 2002****6:30 pm. Powell Rod Demo****7:30 pm. Regular Meeting**Location: DAVIS WASTE REMOVAL
Meeting Room- 2727 2nd Street, Davis**POWELL ROD DEMO and
FLY FISHING FOR HALIBUT****With Ron Vanderheiden**

This month we are happy to have the return of Ron Vanderheiden who will be bringing a selection of Powell Rods for demonstration and providing a primer on fly-fishing for Halibut. You may remember Ron's tying demonstration, Ron's Salty Squid, and salt-water discussion during the daytime clinic for the 2000 annual dinner.

The rod demonstration will begin at 6:30 in the DWR parking lot. Here's your chance to cast Powell Rods. Yes, Ron indicated he will be bringing his 'parking lot' lines.

In addition, Ron will be providing a primer on catching Halibut on the fly. He's been chasing these fish around the California coastline for some years and will be providing basic approach, gear and where to fish information. The Halibut is somewhat an elusive character to hook. If your looking to try this some day, Ron's basics will be the info you want to get started.

Speaker Dinner: 5:30 p. m. sharp at the Noodle Express in Davis
RSVP with Ron Rabun; 800-FLY-FSHN or ronrabun@snowcrest.net

Prez Sez from Bill Rains

Cold-water fish species are coming under increasing pressure resulting in major impacts on their numbers and their ultimate survival as a species. The growing human populations, with their burgeoning demands for water has reduced fresh water habitats. This is coupled with the observation that a global warming trend has the potential to increase water temperatures to levels that could reduce the range of current cold water species. The measurable decline in steelhead and salmon populations in California waters reflects these changes. In recognition of these observed changes UC Davis is initiating an annual Cold-water Fish Day on June 10. The intent is to develop an endowment, which would support a Center for California Cold-water Fish. This Center would create an endowed professorship, a research center, support education and training on cold-water fish and their ecosystems and encourage research partnerships with state and federal agencies. By the time you read this, the first annual meeting will have concluded and a report will be issued on the proceedings. The intent of the proposed Center is highly compatible with the conservation issues shared by our club and we as individuals or as members of the club should track the activities of the proposed Center and if appropriate assist in achieving the goals defined for the program.

Rains.

2060 A Harbison Drive, Vacaville
Phone: 707.446.0760 Fax: 707.446.1206



California 95687
www.flyfishunlimited.com



OUTING REPORT on Outings page.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER PILOT GETTING CLOSER

The FFD Board is moving ahead with this pilot with the upcoming newsletter. Anyone wishing to participate in the pilot of the electronic newsletter, send your email to the editor at ronrabun@snowcrest.net. We are looking to begin piloting the electronic newsletter in September. Additionally, you can submit photos or graphics that can be integrated into the electronic version.

FFD BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

At the last Board meeting, Lowell Ashbaugh presented a draft budget outlining our income and expenses for a year's activities. The Board is entertaining member input related to budgeting activities. Areas considered in the budget are programs, newsletter, annual dinner, conservation donations, classroom aquariums, monthly drawings, meeting snacks, website and postage. If you have any comments or suggestions, contact Lowell or Bill



MIKE FONG DIES AT AGE 61

Release by Marty Seldon
Senior Advisor FFF and Director NCCFFF

Mike Fong renowned angler and publisher of the *Inside Angler*, died very suddenly Friday evening June 14, 2002. He was returning from a fishing trip to Lake Davis with his wife Christine. Mike was 61 years old and without warning suffered an apparent aneurysm of the brain. Mike was a gentle person, and a good friend to all of us.

Michael was a Life member of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) after receiving the FFF Arnold Gingrich Memorial Award in 1996. Mike, with Christine as photographer, was Editor of the FFF Fly Fisher Magazine and made major significant improvements in magazine quality and content from 1977-1982. He also helped the Northern California Council FFF as time allowed in his busy schedule.

Michael and Christine Fong both attended the California College of Arts & Crafts in Oakland, California. Michael received his Master Of Fine Arts degree from the University of Iowa.

In 1967, they sold their first article to "Outdoor Life" and have since been published in nearly every national outdoor publication in the country. Michael and Christine received The Ross Allen Merigold Complete Angler Memorial Award from the Pasadena Casting Club. Mike was on the Editorial Staff of Angler Magazine and was a contributing editor to "Fly Fisherman Magazine" Mike and Chris have been featured speakers at the International Sportsmen's Exposition since the show's inception more than twenty years ago.

For more than thirty-five years, Mike and Chris traveled and fly fished extensively throughout the contiguous United States, and in Baja California, Central America, South America, the Bahamas, New Zealand, Canada, Alaska and Norway. Mike was a fly fisher's fly fisher.

[Editor's note: Many FFD members knew Mike for many years. We enjoyed many of his programs from his early presentations about NorCal spots to his later programs covering the world. I first met Mike and Christine at the Inter-mountain section on Hat Creek in 1978 when we spent some time that afternoon discussing the prolific stone-fly hatch of the day. This Fong's had a unique niche in the fly fishing community through his many contributions, unique perspective of the Inside Angler, photography, travels and fly angling techniques. Anyone who crossed his path in any manner would always gain a deeper insight to our common bond within fly-fishing and our angling community. Mike Fong's presence will always be with those who were touched by his endeavors, kindness and caring for fellow anglers. I would like to convey from FFD that Christine and his family have our most heartfelt sympathy and cherish Mike as a friend to us all.

This Month's Pattern SHAD

With Shad season in full swing, **this month, tie any Shad Pattern.** The judging will be based upon on pattern representation, quality of tie and potentially some funkyness that all shad flies represent. Here's an easy patter to tie and your chance to win. Submit your patterns at the meeing.

[Last month two streamer flies were submitted: John Forsyth had his second win with a Spruce Matuka. John now retires for the year as a judge since fulfilling the limit of two wins during the year.]

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.

Conservation Report from NCCFFF By Rob Farroggiaro

Update - June 12, 2002

- * NCCFFF speaks out on Calaveras fish kill.
- * NCCFFF an intervenes on Pit River license.
- * Support for bill to protect California rivers.
- * Comment letter on Truckee River dam.
- * Smith River update.
- * NCCFFF urges appeal of water decision.
- * Cal Fed legislation.
- * Challenge to fish kill at Delta pumps.

CALAVERAS FISH KILL, AGAIN: Dead fish, presumed to be steelhead, were found on the Calaveras River during mid-April. The account

published in the Stockton Record was highly biased and read like a PR piece for Stockton East. CCFFF submitted a rebuttal letter which was subsequently published in the Op Ed section of the Record. In addition, NCCFFF has written to NMFS formally asking for an enforcement investigation, since DFG has fish carcasses in hand.

PIT RIVER FLOW TESTS: In mid-May, PG&E conducted instream flow studies on the Pit River as background for determining future operating conditions. These studies will help determine the relationship between various flows and conditions important to fishing including water temperature, connections to side channels, movement of gravel and sediment, and more.

Evaluation of potential boating flows will also be done, though no white water groups are advocating for out of season high flows. The impetus for boating flow studies seems to be coming from staff of the State Water Resources Control Board as part of its interest in expanding "beneficial uses". NCCFFF has filed a motion to intervene in the Pit re-license proceeding to secure standing in the process. The current license expires in 2003.

Important Note: Higher than normal flows are planned as part of further testing to be done during the month of August. Check the flow schedule with a local source before heading to the Pit in August.

CALIFORNIA WILD HERITAGE CAMPAIGN (CAL WILD): After many months of groundwork by the Cal Wild Campaign and Senator Boxer's staff, the Senator has released the Wild Rivers & Wilderness Bill, S. 2535, which will add 22 rivers and streams in California to the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System. In addition to protecting more than 480 miles of rivers and streams (including two Wild & Scenic study rivers), the bill also designates 76 new wilderness areas encompassing 2.5 million acres.

Under the leadership of Michael MacWilliams of Golden Gate Casting and Angling Club, NCCFFF has been an active member of the campaign, working to insure that certain rivers important to fly anglers were included in

the bill, including the Downey River and Deep Creek among others. The next step is to gain the support of Senator Feinstein and other key elected officials.

TRUCKEE RIVER FARAD DAM: NCCFFF submitted comment letters on the Draft EIR for the proposed replacement dam on the Truckee near Floristan. The letters urged consideration of the "no dam" alternative, and outlined concerns regarding proposed summer boating flows which could occur should the project alternative proceed.

SMITH RIVER: NCCFFF has been supporting an effort to encourage the Wildlife Conservation Board to purchase strategically located property on the Mill Creek watershed on the Smith River. Mill Creek has been called the most valuable salmon spawning stream in California, and without acquisition, the property would ultimately be logged for timber. It now appears this purchase is eminent. In addition, NCCFFF is among several groups calling for continued funding of fish monitoring and data collection on Mill Creek.

There is no new word regarding the Smith River Rancheria's tribal ordinance, which signaled intentions to use gill nets on the Smith. As previously reported, NCCFFF submitted a resolution to the Tribe expressing concern about the potential impact of gill netting on the Smith. The resolution also recommends that there be one set of fishing regulations administered

by DFG in order to make possible a coordinated approach to protect the future of this fishery. Since the resolution was issued, the tribe has issued a statement saying that the ordinance they published was only a draft and could undergo modifications. Thanks to Chuck Bucaria, Marty Seldon, Pat Wardlaw, and the Pacific Coast Flyrodders for their work on this issue.

NCCFFF REQUESTS APPEAL OF WATER DECISION: NCCFFF joined CSPA, Cal Trout, TU, and other groups in writing to the Interior Department urging an appeal of a recent court decision which would be a serious setback to salmon and steelhead restoration efforts. In 1992 after a huge effort by California's fish and environmental groups, Congress dedicated 800,000 acre feet of Central Valley Project water, referred to as "(b)(2)" water, to double the populations of salmon, steelhead, striped bass, sturgeon and American shad that depend on the Bay - Delta estuary. Water contractors challenged this in a sympathetic court. If left to stand, recent court rulings would enable 600,000 acre feet of the 800,000 to find its way back to the project contractors and be removed from the purpose Congress intended.

CAL FED: While the CAL FED Bay Delta Program is controversial and difficult to follow, it could have major implications for fish. NCCFFF recently wrote letters supporting Cal Fed funding legislation sponsored by Senator Feinstein, and opposing house legislation introduced by Rep. Calvert. While the Senator's bill wasn't perfect, it generally supported the original goals of CAL FED, including the balance of restoration and water supply. The House bill basically re-wrote the program in favor of water development with particular favors for large ag users. As of this writing, the bill is the subject of debate within and among the two houses of Congress and the outcome is uncertain.

DELTA PUMPS: Earlier this year, NCCFFF joined a coalition of groups in announcing intention to take legal action to force enforcement of ESA

Provisions as they apply to the "take" of juvenile fish by the Central Valley pumps. Since that occurred, or perhaps because of it, the large ag

corporations have gone on the offensive, turning to the courts to challenge NMFS's and FWS's authority to require the Bureau to reduce Delta export pumping. Under the leadership of Doug Lovell and Nathan Joyner, NCCFFF has joined a coalition of groups who have filed to intervene in the recent legal proceeding.

Want to sell, trade or just give away fishing related items?
Members can post ads for no charge. Send items to the
Editor, Ron Rabun, via email ronrabun@snowcrest.net or by
postal service to FFD, PO 525 Davis, CA 95617



From the FFF Club Wire

BOOK REVIEW

Creative Flies by Robert Williamson

Frank Amato Publications
Portland, OR 2002

38 pages, softbound, illustrated, color, SRP \$15.00

Frank Amato Publications has been publishing a number of fly tying manuals directed to specific methods and techniques of fly tying. These small books have been extremely well designed, printed, and illustrated. They provide step-by-step instructions using excellent photographs and drawings to illustrate well-written and well-edited text. This book covering the methods of chain-stitching, weaving, air-filled, and foam bodies is another excellent example of this genre.

Robert Williamson has provided the fly tier with the necessary information to allow tying some innovative and productive flies. Flies having extended cork underbodies covered with woven skins. Dry fly extended bodies utilizing modern synthetic tubing to form air-filled balloons. And methods of creating cased caddis imitations using pre-made chain-stitched thread to create the colorful cases of caddis pupae.

Split into four sections the book provides clear, concise instruction on tying flies using the Overhand Knot Weaving technique, the Chain-Stitching technique, the Air-Filled Body technique, and the Foam Twister technique. Each section is well written and presented with excellent photo reproductions, and drawings. The layout allows the book to be laid open and have the pertinent text and illustrations positioned so that page flipping is not required.

If you would like to learn some new fly tying techniques that produce flies that draw comment from your fly fishing buddies and also catch fish, this book will get you well on your way. The cost is very reasonable for the amount of excellent information included. The

author has done an excellent job of bringing these techniques to the fly tying fraternity. The resulting flies will obviously work on the large brawling rivers of the West. But they will also work extremely well on the freestone mountain pocket water of the east as well as the larger rivers, lakes, and ponds of the Midwest.

Overall, this book provides great value, great information that is presented in an extremely useable manner.

(© 2001 Bruce E. Harang of the Smoky Mountain Fly Fishers of North Carolina for the ClubWire Email NewsWire)

DUBBING WITH A TWIST

(by Dave Spiller of the South Sound Fly Fishers of Olympia, WA)

Polly Rosborough wrote a book called "Fuzzy Nymphs" in 1965. In this book Rosborough wrote about nearly forgotten tying techniques including the dubbing noodle. I have also found the technique described in other books including "Modern Fly Dressing for the Practical Angler" by Paul Jorgensen (1978).

The dubbing noodle technique produces a segmented body without the need for ribbing. Picking out some of the dubbing can change the texture. I use an exacto saw blade to roughen the body as needed. This technique also makes very durable flies, almost indestructible.

Procedure:

Step 1) Select a dubbing material to match the texture of the natural you want to imitate. Use a fine-grained dubbing with few guard hairs for a smooth body. Use a course material for rough bodies.

Step 2) Place a small amount of the dubbing on the palm of your hand, and rub your hands together. You should be able to make a small piece of yarn or dubbing noodle. With practice, you will be able to taper the yarn to match your needs.

Step 3) Tie one end of the noodle to the hook with the tying thread.

Step 4) Make a dubbing loop and place the noodle in the loop. Tinsel or wire can be added for flash.

Step 5) Twist the dubbing loop and noodle. A tight twist will make a more segmented body.

Step 6) Wrap the dubbing loop and noodle around the hook. Make additional twists as you wrap the body.

A favorite fly of mine consists of goat dubbing mix dubbed in this with a dubbing noodle with the bottom of the body picked out with a saw blade. The fly makes a wonderful scud imitation.



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



Saltwater • Freshwater • Private Waters

916-488-5080

Office conveniently located in: Kiene's Fly Shop
At the corner of Fulton & Marconi in Sacramento

CLUB CALENDAR

----- 2002/2003 MEETING DATES & PROGRAMS -----

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

2002

- June 25th Powell Rod Demo and Halibut on the Fly, Ron Vanderheiden, 6:30 pm start.
- July 30th Annual Picnic, 6 p.m. Davis Park behind the Art Center.
- August 14-18 Yolo Fair Booth. Sign-up at June meeting. Jim Wirth 530-662-5388 NO REGULAR MEETING
- September 24th TBA
- October 29th TBA
- November 26th TBA – 2003 Officers and Director Nominations
- December 17th Home Grown Slide Show

Election of 2003 Officers and Directors

2003

(plan for these tentatively scheduled dates)

- January 28th TBA
- February 22nd (Saturday) Annual Dinner TBA
- March 25th TBA
- April 29th TBA
- May 27th TBA

Have a program recommendation, contact Ron Rabun at 1-800-FLY-FSHN

----- OUTINGS -----

After the winter washout trips the Club has had a string of successful outings starting with the Redding float and then the Sugar Creek jaunt. The string happily continued with the annual shad get-together. After much hemming, hawing and consultation with purported experts, the decision was made to return to Ord Bend after a multi-year absence. Fortunately the river had not changed much, and the 6 attendees were able to spread out along the bar. It did not take Bob Z long to figure out there were shad in the area, and, with everyone clustering around his honey hole, the final tally was over 60 landed and at least as many hits, grabs etc. The one casualty was Reed's prop, but fortunately neither the skeg nor lower unit was damaged. As of press time we are looking forward to Davis Lake, which from all reports could be another in this string of unusually successful ventures. And at the June meeting there will be signups for Almanor, the backpacking trip, the October Redding get together and perhaps a half pounder effort, depending on jet boat availability and scheduling issues.

Cary Boyden, Chairman, 503-753-3826

OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Backpacking/Trout	Trout	July/August	John Forsyth 530-750-1192	
British Columbia	Silver Salmon	August	John Forsyth / Ron Rabun	\$\$\$; 5-7 day trip/lodge
Pleasant Valley/	Trout	August/Sept	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$70 w/ lunch Limit 12
Klamath/Half Pounders	Steelhead	Early Sept	Jim Wirth 530-662-5388	# jet boats spots limited
Upper Sac/Mcloud Rivers	Trout	September 28	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	
Delta/Striper	Stripped Bass	October/Nov	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Sugar Creek Ranch	Trout	November 16	Ron Rabun 800-FLY-FSHN	\$130pp w/lunch. Limit 8 6 of 8 slots available.
Amador/Trout	Trout	December	Cary Boyden 916-753-3826	

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Bill Rains	530-756-5521
Vice President	John Forsyth	530-750-1192
Treasurer	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Secretary	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056
DIRECTORS		
2002	Adney Bowker	
	Bob Pearcy	530-756-0932
2003	John Hodgson	530-756-8095
	Jerry Pollock	916-682-7798
2004	Tom Burton	
	Tom Vail	
COMMITTEES		
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

Copyright 2001 All Rights Reserved.
The Fisherman's Line is published by:
The Fly Fishers of Davis
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.

Fly Fishers of Davis
PO Box 525
Davis, CA 95617