

*Fly Fishers of Davis*<http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/ffd/>

Volume 34 Issue 5

**The Fisherman's Line****This Month's Meeting is Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm.****Chip O'Brien  
NorCal Stillwaters**

This month we welcome back Chip O'Brien, who is living his childhood dream of fly fishing and sharing his adventures and insights with others. He gave a presentation last year on Fly Fishing Yellowstone. His presentation this time will be on fly fishing Northern California stillwaters. In it he will cover some Northern California's famous and not-so-famous stillwaters including Lewiston Lake, Manzanita Lake, Keswick Reservoir, Grass Valley Reservoir, Shasta Lake, Baum Lake and the Lakes of the Trinity Divide.



Educated as a writer/photographer, Chip has authored over 175 articles in fly fishing and aviation magazines. Hundreds of his images have appeared in magazines, books, brochures and State of California publications. His book, *River Journal, Sacramento River* is available through Amazon.com and other sources. A former CalTrout Regional Manager, Chip was awarded the "Streamkeeper" award for his work on behalf of the lower Sacramento River trout fishery. He has been fly fishing for over 40 years and guided northern California's best trout waters for over 15 years.

Let's all welcome our newest members: [John Roberts](#), [Jai Jett](#) and Bob Hollingsworth.

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## **From the CONSERVATION DESK**

**By Lowell Ashbaugh**

**Support Goose Creek and the Smith River!** Western Rivers Conservancy, CalTrout and the Smith River Alliance need your help to protect the headwaters of California's finest salmon stream, the Smith River. The Smith's largest tributary, Goose Creek, is owned by Green Diamond Resource Company (formerly Simpson). Last cut in the early 1960s, the Goose Creek watershed is nearing a new cycle of harvesting. Western Rivers Conservancy has signed an agreement with Green Diamond to purchase all 9,483 acres of private land in the Goose Creek watershed, thereby safeguarding the entire watershed from logging and development.

Western Rivers Conservancy is working to secure federal funding for the U.S. Forest Service to purchase the land from us and incorporate it into the protected Smith River National Recreation Area (NRA). In this effort, they are working with California Trout, the Smith River Alliance, Green Diamond Resource Company, the Six Rivers National Forest and Del Norte County.

**Your Voice Matters:** Letters to Congress from concerned citizens like you make a large impact in supporting conservation efforts on the Smith River. Your support will help secure an appropriation from Congress to fund this project. **Please help protect the future of California's finest wild river ecosystem** and write the congressional delegation now. You can find a letter template and addresses at [www.westernrivers.org/camp\\_ca\\_goose\\_letters.html](http://www.westernrivers.org/camp_ca_goose_letters.html) *Your time and effort will make a huge difference.*

**Salmon Season Decision** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Service federal government adopted recommendations by the Pacific Fishery Management Council for deep cuts to the 2006 California and Oregon salmon season.

There are plenty of salmon in the sea, but most are Sacramento River fish. Because Klamath and Sacramento salmon mingle in the ocean, restrictions must be imposed when Klamath salmon fall to critical levels -- as they have in recent years.

NOAA officials said the 2006 season restrictions will allow 21,000 mature spawning salmon to return to the Klamath instead of the 25,000 fish that are expected. At least 35,000 returning salmon are considered essential for optimum fishery production. Klamath spawner returns have fallen below the 35,000 figure at least 13 times, and have rebounded in subsequent years.

Commercial fishing in California will be allowed in the Monterey region from Pigeon Point south in May. Beginning in June, commercial fishing will only be allowed south of Point Sur until July 26. It will be allowed north to Point Arena after July 26 but will be restricted to 75 fish per boat per week. A limited trolling season also will be allowed around Fort Bragg in September.

Recreational anglers face significant restrictions in the northernmost part of the state, but will be able to fish as usual out of San Francisco area ports.

**Salmon Legislation** In response to the salmon season decision, Congressman Mike Thompson introduced Salmon Disaster/Restoration legislation last month (HR 5213). Senator Barbara Boxer introduced a similar bill (S 2649) in the Senate.

This legislation will need broad public support if it is to be passed. I'll let you know to whom letters and other contacts should be directed.

Thompson's bill would do the following:

**1. Emergency Appropriations - \$81 Million:** Through the Department of Commerce, provide emergency appropriations to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission to efficiently distribute the funds to the impacted commercial fishermen, tribes and related businesses in the region. This number was calculated by the states based upon a complete fishery closure.

**2. Immediate Conservation Measures - \$45 Million:** The Department of Commerce would have 6 months to complete its recovery plan for the Klamath's Coho salmon (they were tasked to complete this plan in 2002, but have not finished it yet). After completion, the conservation funds would be distributed until expended to install and update: stream gauges and monitoring equipment, fish passage projects (i.e. road work/culverts, fish screens), riparian buffers, and add additional NOAA Fisheries staff and resources to better track and study the Klamath River's salmon in the ocean and rivers. Such projects are aimed at providing the "biggest bang for the buck." Counties and the states are working together to prioritize the projects and will get them to Commerce as they complete their Coho recovery plan.

**3. Report on Conservation Projects:** For the first time, the Department of Commerce would be required to report back to Congress each year on how their conservation projects have increased water quantity, improved water quality, increased salmon populations and specifically benefited salmon spawning habitat.

### **Truck Fish or Build Ladders and Screens on Klamath?**

PacifiCorp proposed to use a less expensive system of trucks and traps to haul salmon around dams on the Klamath River rather than spend \$200 million to build fish ladders and screen turbines -- at least until it sees whether the fish can survive in waters they haven't inhabited in nearly a century.

**Trinity Flows Highest in Decades** This year has been designated an "Extremely Wet" year for the Trinity River, allowing flows to be raised to their highest levels in years. Flows are currently at 4500 cfs, and are scheduled to go to 8500 cfs for six days by the time you read this.

The Westlands Water District, which receives Trinity River water to farm marginal land in the San Joaquin Valley objected to the designation with a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation threatening legal action. The Hoopa tribe countered with a letter recommending that the district's contract be set aside and not renewed unless it stops ignoring the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court and agrees to abide by the court's decision.

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Reclamation raised river flows to make room in the lake behind Trinity Dam for expected snowmelt. The lake was perilously near the top. The flows should be down to about 450-500 cfs by the time of our Lewiston outing. Until then, be careful on the Trinity!

**New Secretary of Interior?** President Bush has nominated Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne to replace Gale Norton as Secretary of the Interior. The Senate is scheduled to begin confirmation hearings on May 4th. Kempthorne, a former Senator himself, will likely be confirmed, despite his abysmal record on the environment.

Throughout his career, Dirk Kempthorne has maintained close ties to timber, mining, and development corporations. Before running for public office, he worked as public affairs manager for the agricultural chemical company FMC Corp. and vice president of the Idaho Homebuilders Association. He was elected mayor of Boise in 1986, and served one term in the U.S. Senate from 1992 until 1998. He then retired to return home to Idaho, where he was elected Governor in 1998, and again in 2002. In his 2002 gubernatorial reelection campaign, Kempthorne received more money from timber, mining, and

energy industries than any other western gubernatorial candidate.

Perhaps not coincidentally, his League of Conservation Voters environmental voting record in the U.S. Senate was a dismal 1% for his six years in the Senate, and as governor of Idaho he has a dismal record on conservation of wildlife and habitat.

For more on Kempthorne's record on wildlife and habitat conservation, visit

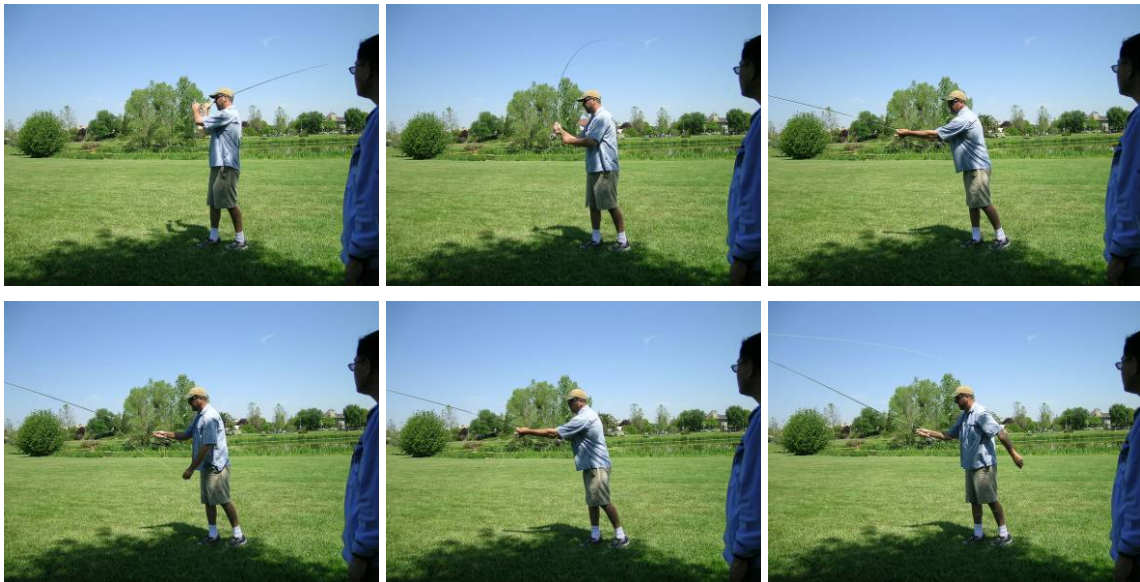
<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?ID=M716119249957009127066865>.

### Casting Clinic with Jeff Putnam

Eleven clubsters took advantage of a group lesson with Jeff Putnam on May 7. I've been to several of these lessons now, and it's finally beginning to take hold. Jeff was able to correct some errors in my casting with just a few observations. Come out and join us next time! Here are some photos.

At left, Jeff instructs the group in the basics of casting.

Below, Jeff demonstrates the double-haul.



Nice loop, Prez!



John Reynolds gets individual instruction.



Andrea Zasoski improves her cast



Adney Bowker works on his cast.



Waiting for the rod to load.



Success!



No ducks or geese were killed, injured, or traumatized during the clinic! Here they are relaxing peacefully in the background.

## Fly of the month Parachute Anything

This month is tiers choice. You can tie any fly as long as it is a parachute dry fly. Since we have covered a lot of standard flies over the last several years, it seems appropriate to let the tie decide on a pattern and show some versions we may not have seen previously. Consequently, you can let your imagination be your guide and submit a parachute fly of your choice. The accompanying information was assembled for a parachute Adams, but the techniques will work for any parachute. The technique for posting the wing and tying in the hackle is a method used by Skip Morris.

**Thread:** 6/0 or 8/0

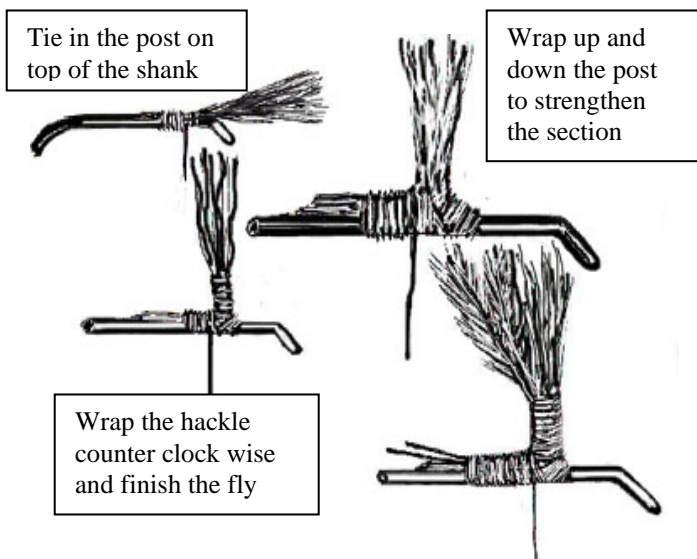
**Hook:** Standard dry fly

**Wing:** post

**Hackle:** wound parachute style

**Head:** Thread head.

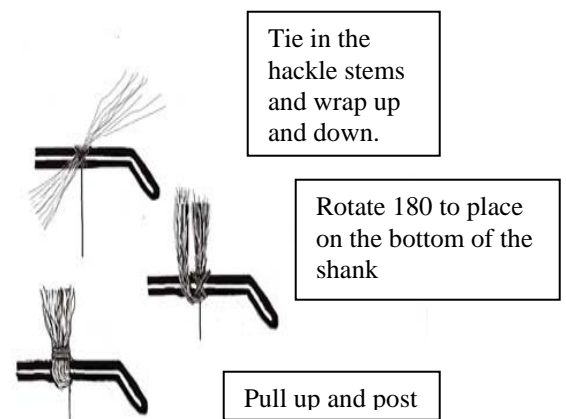
**Tying Instructions:** Starting at the wing position, lay in a thread foundation and tie in a clump of post material with the butts extending toward the rear of the hook. White calf, arctic fox, antron, or other materials work. Secure the post material keeping the fibers on top of the hook and trim the butts at an angle sloping toward the rear. (Tie in any krystal flash or accent flash on top of the calf tail at this point)



Lift the calf tail and wrap in front of the wing to stand the post at a right angle to the shank) Starting at the base of the post wrap upward about 1/8 inch and down to the base. Strip about 1/4 inch of the stem and tie in the hackle feather (or feathers) so that the shiny side is facing up and pointed toward the front of the fly. Wrap up to the top of the first thread wraps on the wing post and back down to the base. Wrap the hackle around the wing post with the hackle fibers radiating at right angles to the post. Each wrap should be under the previous wrap. Hold the hackle fibers back and tie the hackle down near the eye. If you are mixing hackle as in the Adams, wrap the second hackle and secure it in the same manner. Tying off the hackle

will be easier if you wrap them counter clockwise so that your thread wraps tighten the hackle when they are bound. Vary the density of hackle to suit the water conditions you plan to fish. Sparsely hackled parachutes float well. Fill in the area between the post and the eye with a small amount of dubbing if necessary and construct a small thread head, whip finish and coat with head cement. Cut the wing to length if you are using synthetic materials. Viewed from underneath the shank should be covered with dubbing from the tail to the eye. A thickening at the thorax is suggestive of the larger thorax on mayflies.

**Variations:** Cree hackle can be substituted for mixed grizzly and brown in the Adams pattern. Any white hair or synthetic material can be used for the wing post. Arctic fox makes a nice wing post, since the butts are small and this allows for a body with a minimum bulk. A few (6-7) krystal flash or accent flash strands in the wing post will make the smaller sizes easier to see. You can also make the entire post of krystal flash or similar material. A post of fluorescent yellow, pink or orange hair improves visibility.



Skip Morris demonstrated an alternative method for synthetic post material that does not have tapered ends that is illustrated above. Select a length of post material twice as long and half as thick as the finished post. Hold the material across the shank (as if it were a down wing on a spinner) and wrap it with a figure-eight loop. Rotate the material 180° so that the wing is parallel with the tying table and under the hook shank. Pull the wing upright around the shank and post it as described above. For smaller sizes, tying the fly on a 1-x short shank hook (Mustad 94838 -for example) provides a larger gape. Since parachute flies ride in the surface, you may prefer to tie these patterns on ring-eyed hooks so that the leader and fly are on the same plane at the water surface.

### PAYNE IN THE RANCH OUTING

John Reynolds put together another of his famous Payne-in-the-Ranch outings. Eleven club members met at the Guinda post office and carpooled from there to the trail head. The weather was in the 70's with a slight breeze. It was perfect. We climbed the fence and made the short hike into Road Kill Café for a brief stop to plan our attack on the bass ponds and take some pictures.



CommanderMeister Reynolds divided us into 2 strike teams sending one to Pond#1 and the other to Pond #2



Both ponds produced well with pond #2 giving up the largest prize.



This 14" hard fighting smallmouth was not the largest fish in the pond by a long way. There were several 18" plus monsters guarding nests that couldn't be coaxed into grabbing a fly.



Everyone caught fish and lost flies



and hung out with their pets



Overall, it was a very relaxing day



"Doctor Duct Tape"(Donn Erickson)

However, the story of the day was centered on clubster Doctor Donn. After the second cast he was hung up in the cattails and with much violent jerking and pulling he was able to extract his fly and there-by converting his beautiful 4 piece rod into a 5 piece. It was quickly remedied by "Captain Rod" (Tom Burton), using the old stand-by-can't-be-without duct tape. Donn was able to continue fishing and was one of the high rods at the end of the day.

If you have never been on one of Commander Reynolds' Payne Ranch outings you are missing out on lots of fun. We did not keep count of the fish caught but a conservative estimate would be somewhere around 100 fish caught and released by 11 clubsters.

Everyone was able to get out with incident and the snake bite kit, shovel and bible were not needed on this trip. However, there was a close encounter with Mr. Buzztail. John Reynolds reports that a rattle snake took up residence in the shade of several backpacks at pond #1 and they had to take a late lunch. John will conduct another Payne Ranch outing this fall. Be sure to sign up. - [Tom Burton](#)

Here are some more "Payne Fool" pictures





2006 FFD Speaker Lineup

<b>January</b>	Jay Murakoshi	The Sea of Cortez
<b>February</b>	Annual Dinner	
<b>March</b>	Al Smatsky	Shad
<b>April</b>	Ken Davis	Entomology
<b>May</b>	Chip O'Brien	Still waters: Lewiston & others
<b>June</b>	Private Stillwater	Trent Pridemore

<b>July</b>	Annual Picnic	
<b>August</b>	no meeting	
<b>September</b>	Open	
<b>October</b>	Open	
<b>November</b>	Keith Kaneko	Ten tips for better steelhead
<b>December</b>	Home grown	

**----- Outing Reports -----**

**Payne in the Ranch** - Eleven clubsters: Bob (& Spot) Beverlin, Jack Norlyn, Michael Neumann, Donn Erickson, Robert Brodberg, Ben Giudice, 'Team Burton', Annette Davis, & Gene Gantt, gathered in Guinda for Saturday's outing to Payne Ranch. In spite of a heavy morning marine layer in Davis the hills beyond Guinda were clear and cool. Everyone managed to catch fish with 'Team Burton' dominating. (See Tom Burton posing with oversized brute . . . snookered, I am told, by a 'Flying Mother Black Damn'!) We managed to see a few elk and a rattle snake as well. We were disappointed at not being able to dine at Ibarra's in Guinda but Tom Burton bailed us out by leading us to Judy's in Woodland where we snarfed down some fine greasy burgers prepared by a team of professionals. As the weather continues to warm up there will be fewer and fewer opportunities to hike the hills so now's the time to get out. BLM/CDF has been disking the fire break around the meadow at Road Kill Cafe in preparation, apparently, for another early summer burn. The cows should be gone in a few weeks as well. We should see another window to hike and fish again in late September so keep an eye on the outings/events page. Thanks to all who participated. - [John Reynolds](#)

**Dragon** - Put very succinctly, the fishing was mediocre from the view of the regulars and spectacular from mine. Lots of fish to 26"; very strong; beautiful shape; midging heaven. Robert's Roost great place and people. Too many damned loud geese. Aesthetics mixed at lake with a lot of houses in most areas. Weather more changeable than NE: rain, snow, sleet, hail, warm all in same day. Will I return? Yes, if I have anything to say about it!!!!!! - [Cary Boyden](#)

**Signups** for the period through October will again be at the meeting. So far there has been a good response for most. Please note that all future outings will involve a release of the club from liability. The exact wording has not been finalized but the gist is that the release covers the club and those involved in outings as far as organizing the trip. The release will not relate to the actual negligence or willful act of any participant or any guide or venue agent during the outing and not related to its planning. The exact language will be published in a future newsletter and be found on each signup sheet after adoption. This concept has been sop for most other clubs for some time. - [Cary Boyden](#)

**How to become a member of the Fly Fishers of Davis**

Membership in the FFD requires an annual donation of \$25 for an adult/family and \$15 for individual youth/student members. Annual dues are \$25. At this rate you MUST provide an e-mail address and will receive the monthly newsletter as a PDF. If you do not have internet access and want a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to you dues is \$35. You can bring the application to the club meetings, which are held at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the conference room at DWR, 2727 2nd St. in Davis). For more information, contact: [John Reynolds](#) , 530-753-2682 or jren@dcn.org

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Davis, CA. 95616 - Phone (530) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Fly fishing interest and experience: \_\_\_\_\_

Our club is as great as its members, so **circle any** of the following areas where you could share your expertise.

**Annual Picnic, Annual Dinner, Guest Speakers, Putah Creek Cleanup, Membership, Budget, Conservation, Newsletter, Communications, Outings, Marketing, Youth Programs, Salmon in the Classroom, Education.**

Please also **circle** if you would like to **teach, assist, or attend** any of our classes in **Rod building, Fly Tying, or Casting.**

**For insurance reasons, you must be a current club member to signup and attend our outings**

**2006 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)**

<b>TRIP</b>	<b>FISH</b>	<b>DATES</b>	<b>FISHMEISTER</b>	<b>Comments/Fees</b>
Shad	Shad	May 26 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	
McCloud	Trout	Jun 9 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Gene Gantt</a> 707-451-3262	
Frenchman Lake	Trout	Jun 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	
Lewiston	Trout	Jul 14 <sup>th</sup> - Jul 16 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	
Backpacking OF	Trout	Aug 11 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Tom Burton</a> 707-678-3850	
Klamath	Steelhead	Aug 30 <sup>th</sup> -Sep 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	
McCloud	Trout	Sep	<a href="#">Gene Gantt</a> 707-451-3262	
Yuba River - Tutorial	Trout	Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	<a href="#">Tom Burton</a> 707-678-3850	
Payne's Ranch	Bass	Oct	<a href="#">John Reynolds</a> 530-753-2682	
Redding/Sacramento	Trout/Steelhead	Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	\$150-plus tip
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Nov/Dec	<a href="#">Jon Knapp</a> 530-756-9056	
Delta	Stripers	Oct	<a href="#">Jim Humphrey</a> 707-678-2149	
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Nov/Dec	<a href="#">Jon Knapp</a> 530-756-9056	
Klamath	Steelhead	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Cary Boyden</a> 530-753-3826	



**Officers, Directors and Committees**

President:	<a href="#">Bob Percy</a>	530-756-0932
Vice President	<a href="#">Lowell Ashbaugh</a>	530-758-0932
Treasurer	<a href="#">Tom Burton</a>	707-678-3850
Secretary	<a href="#">Bob Beverlin</a>	707-678-3850
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2006	<a href="#">Adney Bowker</a>	530-758-2674
	<a href="#">John Daniels</a>	530-750-3511
2007	<a href="#">Joel Salinas</a>	717-446-8097
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2008	<a href="#">John Imsdahl</a>	707-448-7446
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Conservation	<a href="#">Lowell Ashbaugh</a>	530-758-6722
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Newsletter	<a href="#">Bob Beverlin</a>	530-753-6805
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Programs	<a href="#">Bob Percy</a>	530-750-1192
Refreshments	<a href="#">Jon Knapp</a>	530-756-9056
Raffle Chair	<a href="#">John Imsdahl</a>	707-448-7446
Fly Tying	<a href="#">Bob Zasoski</a>	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	<a href="#">John Forsyth</a>	530-750-1192.
Video Library	<a href="#">John Reynolds</a>	530-753-2682

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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.

E-Newsletter Policy

Our policy is to deliver the e-newsletter via email OR you may download it from the FFD website at: <http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/ffd/>.

Be sure if you signed up for the \$25 annual membership that you get your email address to [Bob Beverlin](mailto:Bob.Beverlin@ucdavis.edu) at <mailto:rcbeverlin@ucdavis.edu>. This will assure that you get an email notification of the newsletter. Each month, except August, the e-newsletter will be posted to the above site and emailed about 1 week before the meeting. You will need Acrobat Reader <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> to view the PDF format. If you receive the paper version, you can also get the e-version notification by sending your email to "[the bobber](#)".

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