

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

Volume 34 Issue 9

The Fisherman's Line**Monthly Meeting September 25th at 6:30!****Tarpon Fishing****With Leo Gutterres**

September's program will feature Leo Gutterres of Stockton who will discuss tarpon fishing. Leo is a long-time friend of the FFD having previously given programs on popper making (Leo is known as the Popper King throughout Northern California and has been a feature tier at many shows in the area for the last several decades) and bass fishing with a fly rod. He is perhaps best known to long time members as the host of the Olive Orchard bass trips where he served an assortment of Chinese delicacies to attending members, who also enjoyed bass fishing not typically equaled since the private waters were ruined some time ago.

About a decade ago Leo turned his considerable fishing skills toward salt water quarry. Since then he has sampled virtually every tarpon venue within reasonable reach. His program promises to be educational as to the how, with what and where of tarpon fishing to those interested even remotely in this fish and, given Leo's common sense delivery and obvious expertise, enjoyable to all.

SHORT NOTICE

THERE IS AN OPENING FOR THE OCTOBER 14 GUIDED FLY SHOP TRIP TO THE SAC. THE COST IS \$150 + TIP. ANYONE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT CARY BOYDEN AT 530-753-3826. THIS TRIP TYPICALLY PRODUCES A NUMBER OF VERY NICE TROUT AND SOME STEELIES TAKEN BELOW SPAWNING SALMON.

Gifts, Donations and Sponsors

We wish to thank [Jerry Neuburger](#) of DeltaStrippers.com for his generous Gift Certificate for a free day of guided fishing. Jerry has served as President of both the NCCFFF and the Delta Fly Fishers. We have many club members who enjoy striper fishing in the Delta, so this gift should raise the level of our raffle ticket sales at our next meeting. Thank You Jerry.

Kiene's
fly shop



2654 Marconi Avenue
Sacramento, California
Toll Free: 800/4000-FLY
Phone: 916/486-9958
Fax: 916/486-2611
www.kiene.com

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www.americanfly.com
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Sacramento, CA 95864
916-483-1222 800-410-1222

Fly of the Month Comet

Hook: Tiemco TMC7999 #10-2/0
 Thread: 6/0 (or heavier) orange thread
 Eyes: Silver bead chain (optional, silver barbells if you really need to go deep)
 Tag/Body: gold oval tinsel (diamond braid, flat tinsel also good)
 Tail: orange bucktail (or calf tail) 1½ times shank length
 Collar: orange and yellow hackle mixed
 Head: orange thread



Fall is upon us and the mind turns to chasing steelhead in the western rivers that flow to the Pacific. It is only fitting that the Fly of the Month reflects this change of season and quarry. The Comet, according to Trey Combs, is a venerable California pattern whose originator appears to be an unsung hero of days gone by (some say Lloyd Silvious). It was first introduced by tiers from the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club in the 1950's, and tested on rivers such as the Gualala and Russian in their heydays. Since then, the original pattern has spawned a plethora of "comet" variations, and given birth to the Boss patterns as well.



To tie a Comet, wrapped down the loop eye of the hook and lay a thread base for the eyes. Tie in the bead chain with figure-eight wraps. Tie in the tinsel behind the eyes and wrap down, laying a smooth thread base back toward the bend of the hook stopping just above the barb. It is important that you lay an even thread base, especially when using flat tinsel, and a thread that can be easily flattened like Danville's Flymaster is best for this kind of work. Select your tail material (I like calf tail the best), even the tips, measure 1½ times the length of the shank and tie it down at the bend. Cut the butts of the tail material off so they end behind the eyes, and wrap the butts down towards the eyes, making sure you leave a smooth thread base. Taking the tinsel, make three or four tight wraps behind the tail such that the tinsel forces the tail to cock upwards at a 30-40 degree angle. Each wrap of tinsel should be right next to the other. Once the tail is properly set wrap the rest of the body to just behind the eye, making sure you leave a little space for the collar. Select one red hackle and one yellow hackle of the same size (1½-2 times the gape of the hook), tie in right behind the eyes, and make 3-4 turns of hackle for a collar before tying off the hackle and snipping off the butts. Take an extra wrap of thread or two over the hackle to sweep it back a little, if you like, wrap your thread forward and finish the head. A bit of head cement will strengthen the head wraps and finish the fly.

Best of luck this season!

Sugar Creek Ranch Opportunity of a Lifetime – Nov 3-5

Several club members made a trip to Sugar Creek Ranch (7 trout ponds) near Callahan, off highway 3, west of Shasta, in April. (Check out the article/photos by John Imsdahl in the April newsletter). We loved it so much that we have booked the ranch at an amazing price for Nov 3-5.

Mike the owner will charge us \$250 a piece including **fishing for 2-1/2 days** (on Friday afternoon, all day Sat and all day Sunday) and **LODGING on Friday and Sat** nights in a beautiful and spacious lodge on the property. Compared to the usual prices (fishing-only for one day \$150), this is a real deal.

And talk about the fishing! These trout are big, mean and strong and love to jump. Check the website at www.sugarcreekranch.com. Suggested plan: drive up midday Friday if you want to take advantage of Friday fishing, leave Sunday any time you want. We will need to bring food and beverages; some may need to bring bags/mattresses (there are beds for 6--first come first served). Also, a second cabin is available if we have an overwhelming response. Max number of fishermen: 12

We would like to firm up reservations as best as possible at the club meeting on Sept 26. Come with a \$100 deposit and then get ready for a fantastic time.

2006 Old Fogies Trip

By John Imsdahl with special editing thanks to Lowell Ashbaugh

I hear that train a coming, its coming around the bend, and I haven't seen an Old Fogie, since I don't know when, I'm stuck in Burton's Splinterville, and the night keeps dragging on, and that full moon is casting shadows all the way to the ground....The full moon is bright, the fish are jumping at anything in sight, the six coyotes are a barking, the bear is heard nearby, and there I am alone....wondering why...and still I hear that train a coming, coming round the bend....

Ok, so I am no Johnny Cash, but like Johnny, I had the Splinterville blues that first night all alone. This years Old Fogies were to be divided into two groups, the "early birds", coming in on Thursday, and the main group coming in on Friday. The early birds were Adney, Jim White, Ron Rabun and me. Ron got to the trailhead, but did not feel well, so he wisely decided to cancel to check with his doctor. Adney caught that terrible cold that is going around, which also caused Jim White who was riding with him, to cancel too.

I knew what happened to Ron, but I could not imagine (actually I could, but it was all bad) what happened to Jim and Adney to cause them not to come in on Thursday. So, alone with the six coyotes, one bear, and Black Angus bull (not a steer as he had a full dangling set) who thought my tent was cute.

The area was real dry, and all fires were prohibited, but leaving the wrapper to dinner out was not a good idea with the bear around. So, I had a brief fire to get rid of that smell and hung my food on a tree far away. What was funny was that I went to bed in the dark at about 8:45 PM, only to awaken by a very bright "headlight" or search light. For a panicky moment, I was sure that was the fire police coming to arrest me. But, it turned out to be a very bright and full moon, just coming over the horizon. That moon was so bright it cast shadows on the ground. Within moments I could hear the fishing splashing and jumping for insects they could see really well. Startled by the moon, I went down to fish for an hour and one half, got tired, and went back to asleep, but not before I kept hearing this non-existent train. The coyotes were trying to kill a small calf, but the big bull was keeping them away. I was actually glad when the bull parked his pals nearby for the rest of the night.

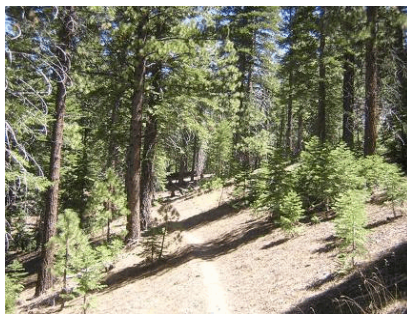
The next day was great. Here I was all alone on my private movie star Montana-like ranch fishing on undisturbed rivers. But, by about 1 o'clock, again with no Adney or Jim, and the rest of the gang not here yet, "what happened to everyone?" kept re-occurring in my mind. Then, at about 1:30 or 2 PM, they came down from the high trail. Wow, what a great sight to see six more Old Fogies show up.

So, we had Tom Burton, Lowell Ashbaugh, Donn Erickson, Gene Gantt and John Reynolds, Rollie all arrive at various times. They all went fishing, we had dinner later, and watched the "meteor shower" that was mostly a no show....and I really slept well that night.

So, this years Old Fogies were about 12 fewer than last year, having some 19 last year. We caught somewhere around 60-70 fish, but had a lot of missed grabs and "long distance releases"....fish seemed smarter this year, the water lower, clear, and approaching the stream without spooking them was the main issue. Fish were typically 7" to 8", but fat and real fighters on our 3wt and 4wt rods. We had a great time, told stories and jokes, these guys are real good at finding and in identifying stars and constellations, and Tom Burton can tell you a lot about the aquatic entomology. They are also very observant of signs and prints on the trail.



Trailhead



The High Trail – a real Killer



Breakfast



Early morning story telling



The Old Fogies are coming



Moon comes up over the saddle



Loads of fish in pools and cut banks



Camp Central



Home Sweet Home



What am I smiling about, this High Trail is kicking my a--



Off the Veranda



High trail looking down on water Reynolds & Erickson liked to fish



Happy Camper



Happy Campers

Lewiston Lake and Trinity River Outing

As a new arrival to California from Missouri, I'm still learning my way around the rivers and lakes of the State. So I joined the group for their annual weekend at River Oaks Resort on the banks of the Trinity River. Driving north into a part of the State I've never been, I was greeted with my first view of Mount Shasta in the distance as I approached Redding. The Resort's camping area was very well shaded, making even this hot weekend reasonably comfortable in camp. Not being able to arrive until midday Friday, most of the others were out on Lewiston Lake. But Bob and Sarge were there to welcome me, and with their advice I almost immediately took a couple heavily spotted rainbows upstream from camp on a Yellow Stimulator. Bob came down to visit. He wanted a picture of the newbie catching a fish for the newsletter, so naturally the fish stopped taking. A few splashy misses, but no fish to hand. At Bob's suggestion I changed to a parachute Adams which took several more 'bows over the next half hour (he got his picture and left the river to me).

After returning to camp, several others had returned from Lake Lewiston with reports of varying success. I donned waders and got a ride with Cary to the Trinity just below Lewiston Dam. John also showed up, and with their advice—I ended up catching a good number of 10-14 inch rainbows swinging Sarge's special fly and later an olive 'bugger (after the special fly was lost). Downstream I could see John with a fish on virtually every cast, and Cary was upstream stalking the larger Steelhead. The evening concluded with an enjoyable camp meal and good company (where I explained why people from Missouri hate people from Kansas).

The next morning I joined Jim on his boat on Lake Lewiston. Jim is an experienced angler who got us into fish, and it was a good morning on the lake. The fishing comparatively was slower than river below, but a much more relaxing way to fish than standing in the swift river. After the fishing slowed we motored towards Lewiston Dam to break in Jim's new motor. Along the way we spotted a very large rainbow (maybe 26 inches) cruising around near some schools of minnows. Not being able to resist, we stopped and I got my woolly bugger to swim right by him—but he cruised right by it not even giving it a first glance. After heat drove us off the lake around 1pm we headed back to camp for a bite, and after a while to rest I headed back up towards the dam and proceeded to have the fastest action I've seen in California. Just to give you an idea how fast, at one point Lowell met me from downstream, and we planned to move upstream a few steps after each cast with no bite. Thirteen casts later, having not been able to move, that plan was scrapped.

The excellent Prime Rib dinner at the Inn followed by another morning of fast action on the Trinity finished off the successful trip nicely. However, I can honestly say this group would have made the trip enjoyable even without all the fish...well, maybe just a few fish. - [Brian Bechtold](#)







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](mailto:John.Reynolds@dcn.org) , 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 only as great as its members, so please **circle one or more** 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 attend any of our outings

2006 FFD Annual Picnic -- Good Food -- Good Friends



2006 FFD Speaker Lineup

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

July	Annual Picnic	
August	no meeting	
September	Leo Gutterres	Tarpon
October	Open	
November	Keith Kaneko	Ten tips for better steelhead
December	Home grown	

----- Outings Report -----

Since the last newsletter there have been two outings: one being the old fogies backpacking venture reported on elsewhere and the other of which was to the Klamath. It does happen. Last year we were a bit late; this year a bit early. The skunk almost won out, but we did manage 9 fish near Johnson's, including a small steelie caught by Warren Caldwell and a jack salmon. Fortunately we had the good sense to finish the trip at Lewiston where on Friday evening the 6 of us landed close to 100 fish, including a 19-20 inch brown and a nice half pounder along with numerous 11-14 inch rainbows. Saturday AM was a bit slower generally, but Donn Erickson did find the honey hole to end the trip on a clear up tone. Total second day fish caught probably exceeded 50 for the morning and early afternoon. Not the original goal of the trip but not to be sneezed at.

Between press time and the meeting there will be a trip to the McCloud. Always a wonderful outing for those who do not mind truly dicey wading, Gene Gantt will presumably give a further report at the meeting. Also given prior years experience, the Bobber will have numerous pictures to share in either this or a future newsletter.

Presumably at the September meeting Jim Humphrey will have a signup for the Striper trip. There will definitely be a beginner's clinic signup for soon after the meeting. Tom Burton runs this trip, and it has been very well received by beginning members in the past. These members are strongly encouraged to sign up and attend. Further details can be obtained from Tom at 707-678-3850 or at wtburton@sbcglobal.net. - [Cary Boyden](#)

New Members Corner

Let's all welcome [Neil Brauer](#) who has recently joined the club.

2006 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Yuba River - Tutorial	Trout	Oct 1 st	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
Payne's Ranch	Bass	Oct 7 th	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	
Redding/Sacramento	Trout/Steelhead	Oct 14 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150-plus tip
Sugar Creek	Trout BIG TROUT	Nov 3 rd - 5 th	Donn Erickson 707-718-7724	\$250-2nites/2days (limit 12)
Delta	Stripers	Nov 4 th	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Nov 11 th	Jon Knapp 530-756-9056	
Putah Creek clean-up	Garbage	Nov 11 th	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	FREE FOOD !
Klamath	Steelhead	Dec 8 th & 9 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Bob Percy	530-756-0932
Vice President	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-0932
Treasurer	Tom Burton	707-678-3850
Secretary	Bob Beverlin	707-678-3850
DIRECTORS		
2006	Adney Bowker	530-758-2674
	John Daniels	530-750-3511
2007	Joel Salinas	717-446-8097
	Gene Gantt	707-451-3262
2008	John Imsdahl	707-448-7446
	Jeremy Kidwell	408-204-7735
COMMITTEES		
Outings	Cary Boyden	530-753-3826
Conservation	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
Newsletter	Bob Beverlin	530-753-6805
NCCFFF	Dave Driscoll	707-446-2671
Programs	Bob Percy	530-750-1192
Refreshments	Jon Knapp	530-756-9056
Raffle Chair	John Imsdahl	707-448-7446
Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	John Forsyth	530-750-1192.
Video Library	John Reynolds	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:Bob.Beverlin@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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