

The Fisherman's Line

Our next meeting is at 7:30 on Tuesday April 24th

Damsels and Dragons

By Ken Hanley



For April, Ken Hanley will give a presentation about damsels and dragonflies and their importance to the fly fisher. Anyone who has ever fished Davis Lake knows the importance of damsel flies, but there is a tendency to forget their significance, and the importance of dragon flies as well, at times other than the peak hatch. Damsel and dragonflies are available year-round in most waters throughout California. Ken will be discussing the lifecycle of the insects, habitat details, and presentation techniques. If you are not already fishing damsel and dragonfly imitations you may be missing out on some fantastic opportunities.

Ken Hanley has been conducting fishing and adventure specialty programs since 1970, and needs very little introduction to the fly fishing audience. Ken is the author of six books, and he also writes and photographs for various national and regional publications in the outdoor industry.

From panfish to roosterfish, Ken has caught over 90 different species of fresh and saltwater game fish and he holds numerous Pro Staff positions, and is sponsored by numerous companies in the fly fishing industry. In 2005, the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers inducted Ken into the NCCFFF Hall of Fame, for his outstanding contributions to the sport of fly fishing. Be sure not to miss this great opportunity to hear from one of the most noted fly fishers of Northern California.

Prez Says

By Lowell Ashbaugh

I just got back from vacation so I'll make this brief. I ran into another fly fisher in a small town on the coast of Italy. I was sitting in the piazza waiting for the procession to begin that marks the beginning of Easter, and struck up a conversation with another couple sitting nearby. It turned out they were from Reno and had just finished a few days fly fishing in northern Italy and were now beginning the other part of their trip – sightseeing. What a great idea! My wife seemed to like it, too, so maybe our next trip can combine both pleasures. It just pointed out to me that we should take every opportunity to fish that we can. Take that fly rod with you every time you travel – you never know what fun you might have unless you try it. Then come back and share your experiences with the rest of us!

And now a few words from our Sponsors

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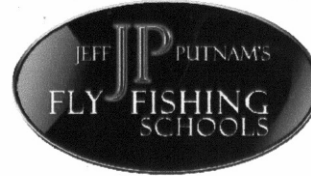
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Fly Casting Clinic

Set aside time on Sunday May 6 for our annual fly casting clinic that will be held at the Northstar Pond from 9-12. As usual, Jeff Putnam will be there to conduct the clinic. Jeff is an excellent instructor and has a unique ability to find problems or fine tune your casting stroke. as necessary. Bring your rod, reel and line as well as sunscreen and sunglasses. Eye protection is a necessity when you are fly fishing or casting. I am looking forward to seeing you at Northstar Ponds. Northstar Pond is located just to the west of F Street near the intersection with Anderson in north Davis. If you need additional directions, call [Bob Zasoski](tel:5307532241) (530) 753-2241 or email rjzasoski@sbcglobal.net.

Membership

Please welcome our newest members Larry Stark and Dana Hooper and family. We also need to remind you that the Cut-off date for renewing your membership in the Fly Fishers of Davis has now past. The membership roster is being trimmed and some of you will wonder where your wonderfully informative newsletter has gone. Should you choose to crash the gates at our next meeting; a disarming guard (John Reynolds) will be there to collect your dues. - [John Reynolds](#) - **membership chair**

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:jreyn@dcn.org) , 530-753-2682 or jreyn@dcn.org

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

Occupation _____ e-mail: _____

Fly fishing interest and experience: _____

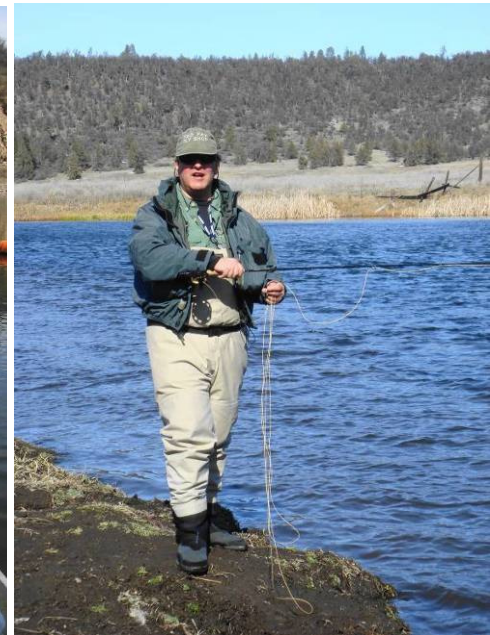
Our club is only as great as its members, so please **circle one or more** of the following areas where you could share your expertise.

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

The pictures are from the Baum Lake trip in early March – Thanks Donn!



Black Butte Lake

First let me thank Cary for his fishing tips and encouragement. I also want to thank the group for welcoming me into fly fishing and sharing their tips and tackle.

I had a great time and cannot wait until the next outing. This was my initiation into fly fishing. I was happy to get all of my gear (camper, Porta-Bote, motor and fly stuff) to work. Hooking a good sized trout at Baum was nice as well. I apologize for not rejoining you all at Baum on Saturday, but I was getting tired of hauling my trailer over Hachet Mt. I was also concerned about extra fishing pressure at Baum on the weekend. I hope that I was wrong.

Many thanks to Darwin. He suggested trying Black Butte Lake, for a crappie spawn on the way home.

Fishing Report:

Largemouth bass are spawning instead. Great action. I got a good bite every cast between 7:00 and 7:45PM. Several strong hits and I landed two, 10 and 14 inches. Had to quit early because of sudden intestinal distress (from lunch).

Technique and Gear:

Retrieving "dead" minnows from shore, on a diagonal over a drop-off. (similar to Cary's suggestion for trout at Iron Canyon). I used #6 and then changed to #4 hooks - sunk through the chin and out an eye. There was a large split shot about 18" above the hook and a bobber about 4 feet above the hook. Moderate retrieve - 3-4"/second - nothing fancy. (The minnows were not supposed to die, they just did. I bought them at 2 PM and then decided to wait until sundown to fish them. Hooking the minnows through the head gave realistic action and some flash.) The bass were aggressive, sometimes taking the whole minnow and sometimes leaving just the head.

Location: Buckhorn campground. I was around a point just North of their boat ramp. The point has a high bluff with steep bank leading down into a cove slightly West of the point. I fished the North side of the cove. It looked like the drop-off continued below the waterline. This location was sheltered by the setting sun sooner than any place else nearby.

Directions: Go North on Rt 5 and get off at Orland. Go West on Rt. 200, and follow signs for about 15 miles to Buckhorn Campground. It is on the Northwest corner of the reservoir. There is a gas station just as you get off Rt 5 on the North side of Rt. 200 that sells minnows. - Richard Bellows

Fuller Lake June Outing

Fuller is a smallish 69 acre lake, not much more than an hour's drive from Sacramento (roughly 70 miles), nestled in the Sierra Nevada just far enough away from the highway to provide a scenic and somewhat secluded setting. Fuller is a great place to escape the valley heat (elevation 5340 feet) and fish for some very eager Rainbow and Brown trout (planters and holdovers to 18 inches) almost all year round. DFG plants Fuller heavily throughout the summer so Saturday, June 30, 2007 should be a great day to fish this little gem of a lake.

To fish Fuller Lake, you really need a float tube, pontoon, or pram, and anything from a 3 to 6 weight, 9 foot fly rod will serve. A floating line with a long leader and some split shot should work just fine, but an intermediate line, sink tip, or full sink Type II or III might come in handy for stripping streamers as well. Leaders can be 4-5x, and your fly choice might include: Sheep Creek Special, #12-10, tied thin; Bead Head Flashback Pheasant Tail, #14-10 or any other callibaetis pattern; standard Woolly Bugger and Crystal Woolly Bugger, #12-8 in olive and black, or whatever your favorite damsel nymph pattern; and the other usual suspects for still water. If there is a callibaetis hatch in the afternoon or evening, you will not want to be without Parachute Adams, #12-16. Bring a camp chair, lunch, beverages, etc.

To get to Fuller Lake, take Highway 80 east to Highway 20 (just past Emigrant Gap). Follow Highway 20 west 4.3 miles to Bowman Lake Rd. Turn north and follow signs 3 miles to the lake. The folks who run the lake (PG&E) have been threatening for the last year to charge a day-use fee but at the time of this writing, they have yet to follow through. Regardless, it would be a good idea to bring some cash along in case they do start charging between now and June (probably \$6-9 per vehicle).

Following the tradition of a hearty meal before we fish, those who are interested should plan on meeting for breakfast at Baker's Square in Auburn (13365 East Lincoln Way) at 7:00am. In Auburn, take the Foresthill Road exit to the right and right again on to East Lincoln Way. The restaurant is on the right, next to the gas station. If you have any questions, drop me an email (jedaniels@ucdavis.edu) or give me a call (hm.530-750-3511) and on the day of the outing, I will actually turn on and carry my cell phone (530-219-3450), assuming I can find it. - [John Daniels](mailto:jedaniels@ucdavis.edu)

Fly of the Month

By [Bob Zasoski](#)

Yellow Stimulator



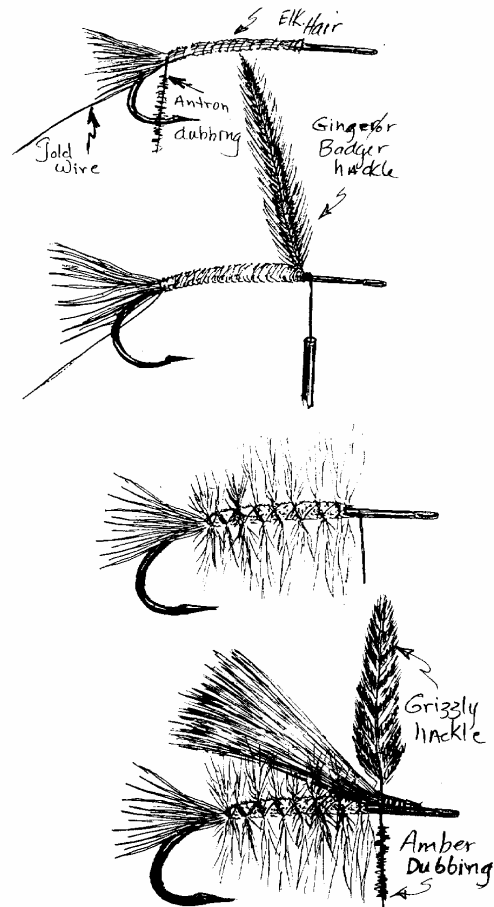
The Yellow Stimulator was originated by Randall Kaufmann. A stimulator is a very good searching pattern and is tied with a lot of floatation so it can be used in rough waters. Stimulators can imitate a stonefly, a caddis or a grasshopper. In addition to the yellow stimulator, color variations in the stimulator series including olive, green, royal and orange in addition to the yellow. Some versions are tied with rubber legs attached to the thorax similar to a Madam X. This pattern is one that should be in the box of those that fish western rivers.

Yellow Stimulatory

- Hook:** Tiemco 200 R in sizes ranging from 6 to 16.
- Thread:** Orange for the head and black or orange for the rest of the pattern.
- Tail:** Fairly thick bunch of light elk hair, flared.
- Rib:** Fine gold wire, or small oval gold tinsel.
- Body:** Antron in fluorescent yellow. It can be either wrapped as a stand of antron or dubbed.
- Hackle:** Ginger or badger palmered over the body. Grizzly palmered over the dubbed thorax.
- Thorax:** Dubbed amber goat hair (or substitute) over the butts of the elk hair wings.
- Head:** Orange thread head.

Tying Instructions: Attach and secure the thread near the rear of the hook. Wrap the thread toward the eye dressing about 2/3 or the shank. Stack a clump of light elk hair and tie it in at the 2/3 position leaving enough to make a tail which should extend about one gape length beyond the barb. Wrap the elk hair on top of the shank back to the tail position. At the tail take a tight wrap to make the tail flare. Tie in the gold tinsel (or wire) rib and either dub or wrap yellow fluorescent antron to the 2/3 position where the tail was tied in. Tie in a badger or ginger hackle by the butt and make two wraps close together around the body then palmer the hackle to the tail position. Tie off the hackle with the gold wire as is done on the Elk Hair Caddis and spiral the gold wire to the front of the

body securing the hackle. Wrap both the hackle and the wire clockwise. Alternatively, you can tie in the hackle by the tip at the tail position and palmer it forward tying it off at the thorax position. At the end of the body (2/3) up the shank, dress the hook shank and tie in a clump of stacked elk hair which will extend to the bend of the hook. If the elk has any curvature, tie in the hair to have a convex wing. Trim the butts of the elk hair to make a tapered thorax, (larger at the rear) leaving sufficient room for a moderately large thread head. If you are not using orange thread, change over now and return the thread to the base of the wing. Tie in a grizzly hackle and dub a tapered thorax over the butt ends of the elk hair to the eye position. The thorax is covered with amber dubbing. Wind three to five turns of grizzly hackle over the dubbed thorax and secure it at the eye. Hold the hackle fibers back and make a moderately large thread head with the orange thread. Apply head cement to finish the fly.



From the CONSERVATION DESK

By Lowell Ashbaugh

Delta Pumps may be halted In a stunning legal decision a judge has ordered the state to halt pumping water from the delta by late May unless it complies with environmental laws that protect fish. The Department of Water Resources has argued it has the right to kill fish (incidental take) in the pumps as it delivers water to southern California. Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch found that the state Department of Water Resources lacks the proper permits to pump water from the delta into the California Aqueduct. As it does so, endangered Coho salmon smolts and Delta Smelt are killed in the Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant. Those fish are protected under the California Endangered Species Act. The suit was filed by the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance against the California Resources Agency, which oversees the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Project. The state has 60 days from the date of the ruling to get the proper permits or halt pumping.

Conservation News From NCCFFF

Update on the Big Horn River – MT The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation proposed a slight increase in spring flows to benefit trout along Montana's stretch of the river, while slowly building summer storage capacity in an upstream Wyoming reservoir. The operating plan calls for an increase in flows from 1,500cfs to 2,000cfs in early May, and holding the flows at 2,000cfs through the summer. We continue to communicate with involved parties to maintain adequate flow in the river.

Endangered Fishery Initiative Listing Updates: Salmon Trout River, MI – In August 2006, the FFF listed the Salmon Trout River in the upper peninsula of Michigan as an Endangered Fishery with the threat of a sulfide mine. The MI Department of Environmental Quality announced in March that it has withdrawn its proposed decision to approve a permit for the Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company to conduct mining operations at the proposed Eagle Project Mine. The decision was made after discovering that two reports on the structural integrity of the mine were not properly made part of the public record or given a comprehensive technical review. Because those reports were left out, all decisions on this project have been put on hold until the DEQ finishes an internal investigation done by an outside party.

North Fork of the White River, AR – In October 2006, the FFF made an emergency listing of the North Fork of the White River with the threat of massive erosion upon a prime fishery. A land developer had caused the damaging erosion for a new subdivision and in the process did not comply with environmental law. What resulted was a lawsuit by the

Arkansas Dept. Natural Resources and TU, and an FFF Endangered Fishery listing. After many months of waiting, some legal decisions have been made. The developer has until May 1 to secure the site from any further erosion. If the developer cannot fulfill this decree, the Governor of AR and the AR Department of Fish and Game have committed to donate funds to secure the site from erosion.

Boise River, ID – In August 2006, the FFF listed the Boise River as an Endangered Fishery with the threat of a gold mine near a significant wildlife area. Interesting things have occurred since the listing. In the Fall of 2006 ID Legislative Representative Miller had planned to introduce legislation to ban cyanide heap leach mining (the technique that will be used in this mining operation), unfortunately Representative Miller was not re-elected. However, Representative Anderson has introduced legislation to protect water quality of the state and ban the permitting water treatment in perpetuity as would be required for this mining project. This summer this legislation will be discussed in committee. Also the Mayor of Boise recently signed a resolution against the mine providing additional opposition to this mining proposal.

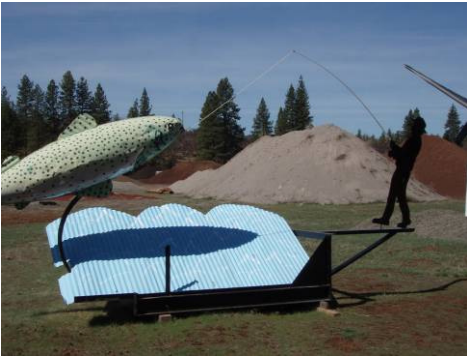
Trout of the Desert Southwest The recovery of Threatened Gila Trout on the West Fork of Oak Creek, AZ has been a long process involving collaboration with the US Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, AZ Dept. of Game and Fish and all FFF clubs in AZ. Dick Brown, of the Northern AZ Flycasters, is the glue that has held this project together. He has lead meetings, kept essential momentum and brought native Gila closer to the goal of restoration. The restoration plan include the installation of a barrier to protect pure Gila trout in WF Oak Creek which requires lots of planning, collaboration and money. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is being prepared, but slowly. The target goal to begin stocking genetically pure Gila trout is in 2009. We are cautiously optimistic that all the identified tasks will be met to achieve this goal.

Invasive Species The Clean Angling Pledge continues to gain support with pledges received from 16 states and from as far away as Ireland and New Zealand. Some of our partners in the effort include: Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, American Fly Fishing Trade Association, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks, National Marine Manufacturers Association and Patagonia. Go to www.cleanangling.org and make your pledge to prevent the spread of invasives today.

The fly tying class prior to the second Baum Lake Iron Canyon trip followed by pictures from that trip.



The ones that got away – Beautiful waterfowl – And finally... next month's fly of the month



Here are a couple of shots taken on mid March the Redding trip. Thanks Brian!



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

Since last report there have been 2 outings. The first was the annual Fly Shop trip in March. It was a far cry better than in 2006 with everyone catching a number of fish and Jim Humphrey leading the lunker crew with 2 steelies. Those who missed Friday at Red Bluff missed some great cocktail eats provides by Tom Burton and a very nice meal at the Riverside. And Saturday AM found 13 of the 14 attendees at breakfast together which was a great way to get started.

The second trip was to Iron Canyon which for the first time in Club history was a total bust with only 4 fish hooked in the swollen lake. Fortunately, we fished Baum Thursday and Saturday where luck was better, particularly for those who had trolling motors and went to the dam where fish rose steadily all afternoon both days. Darwyn won the size award with a 3 pound beauty and Tom the numbers game when he discovered that the rising fish could not resist #18 soft hackle pts, a good number of which were left in their jaws with the required light tippets.

At the April meeting there will be the same signups as were out in March. Unfortunately low water has caused cancellation of John Reynolds's Payne in the Ranch trip. However, the same low rain means near perfect flows for Lewiston (flip side is that you may need to bring your own rock to fish near the dam-there is a plan B fortunately). Of particular concern from a planning view is the October Sac trip. Because of the absence of July and August signup opportunities, interested members need to sign up soon. Similarly when signing up please make sure you note the commitment as it has been a real problem when there are last minute dropouts and little or no time to find replacements. Currently the signups for this trip, which is generally productive and offers a real chance for steelhead of up to 28 inches, are fairly light and it would be hoped we can fill it up over the next few months.

PS: As interested members know, a Pyramid trip never got off the ground this Spring. After a trip there for me for the first time in 15-20 years and more than doubling my lifetime catch in several hours, I am now an advocate for this trip (Daniels stop your snickering) and will attempt to make sure one happens next Spring (there will be one this Fall). Not being a fan of gambling points or wasting fuel in round trips to town, there may be an option of a Crosby's trailer if there is enough interest. If anyone has any questions who knows me: indicators and midges (size 10 candy canes and black ones with red wire, black bead and antron whiskers). Also 4x tippet is neither needed or a good idea as I regrettably learned when a hog easily left me flyless. - [Cary Boyden](#)

2007 OUTING SCHEDULE (tentative dates)

TRIP	FISH	DATES	FISHMEISTER	Comments/Fees
Trinity	Steelhead	Jan 8 th - 9 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip (per day)
Baum Lake	Trout	Mar 2 nd - 4 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Redding Sacramento	Trout	Mar 17 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip
Iron Canyon	Trout	Mar 30 th - Apr 1 st	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Payne Ranch - (overnight)	Bass	Apr 30 th - May 1 st	Donn Erickson 707-718-7724	CANCELLED - Low H2O
Shad	Shad	May 25 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Payne Ranch	Bass	May 26 th	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	CANCELLED - Low H2O
Frenchman Lake	Trout	Jun 1 st - 3 rd	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
McCloud	Trout	June 8 th - 10 th	Gene Gantt 707-451-3262	
Loreto, Baja, Mexico	Dorado / Sailfish	Jun 24 th - 28 th	Donn Erickson 707-718-7724	\$90 down by Feb 15 th
Fuller Lake	Trout	Jun 30 th	John Daniels 530-750-3511	
Lewiston	Trout	Jul 12 th - 15 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	
Annual Picnic	Stories	Jul 31 st	Lowell Ashbaugh 530-758-6722	
Old Fogies - Backpack	Trout	Aug 10 th - 12 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
Sierra Lake - Backpack	Trout	Aug 18 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
High Country - Backpack	Trout	Aug 22 nd - 25 th	Tom Burton 707-678-3850	
Klamath	Half Pounders	Aug 29 th - Sep 1 st	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	Limited Space
Payne Ranch	Bass	Sep 22 nd	John Reynolds 530-753-2682	CANCELLED - No H2O
McCloud	Trout	Sep 28 th - 30 th	Gene Gantt 707-451-3262	
Klamath	Half Pounders	Oct 5 th - 7 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	Very Tentative
Redding/Sacramento	Trout & Steelhead	Oct 13 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip
Delta	Stripers	Oct/Nov	Jim Humphrey 707-678-2149	
Trinity - or - Klamath	Steelhead	Nov 29 th - 30 th	Cary Boyden 530-753-3826	\$150 + tip (per day)
Pyramid	Cutthroat	Nov/Dec	Jon Knapp 530-756-9056	

Officers, Directors and Committees

President:	Lowell Ashbaugh	530-758-6722
Vice President	Tom Burton	707-678-3850
Treasurer	Tom Burton	707-678-3850
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Membership	John Reynolds	530-753-2682
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Fly Tying	Bob Zasoski	530-753-2241
Picnic Chair	(vacant)	
Youth Programs	Adney Bowker	530-758-2674
Video Library	John Reynolds	530-753-2682

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The Fisherman's Line is published by:
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P. O. Box 525
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The Fly Fishers of Davis (FFD) is a non-Profit 501.C.4 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:rcbeverlin@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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Fly Fishers of Davis
PO Box 525
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