



Main Stream

Mission Peak Fly Anglers

PO Box 7263 • Fremont, CA 94537



June 2006

Club Meeting

PLACE: Silliman Community Activity Center
6800 Mowry Avenue, Newark CA 94560
(510) 742-4400

DATE: Wednesday, June 28th, 2006

TIME: 7:00 PM (Social hour begins at 6:30 PM)

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COMING EVENTS

- Tues. June 13th **FLY TYING - 7:30 PM** Loc same as Club Meeting
Fly Tying on 2nd Tues of the month from now on
- Wed. June 28th **CLUB MEETING 7:00 PM "New Time"**
Silliman Community Activity Center, 6800 Mowry Avenue, Newark CA 94560
- Wed, July 5th **BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM – Malcolm Dunn**
- Sat. July 8th **CLUB BREAKFAST : At the Denny's in Hayward on Whipple – 9:00 AM**
- Tues. July 11th **FLY TYING - 7:30 PM** Loc same as Club Meeting
Fly Tying on 2nd Tues of the month from now on
- Wed. July 26th **CLUB MEETING 7:00 PM "New Time"**
Silliman Community Activity Center, 6800 Mowry Avenue, Newark CA 94560
- Wed, Aug. 2nd **BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM – Dave Heyes**
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May MPFA Club Meeting

May Club Meeting Summary

Submitted by Dave Heyes

President Malcolm Dunn called the meeting to order.

There was no Conservation Report this month.

Gene Kaczmarek, FFF Representative, stated that election of new officers for the Federation of Fly Fishers is coming up - members should be sure to vote. New officers will serve for 18 months, rather than 12 months.

The FFF Conclave will be in July at Bozemen, Montana - classes are filling up slower than anticipated.

Ed Huff - stripers are in the Feather and Yuba rivers but you need a boat - the flows are really high..

Craig Gittings reported that Tom Knoth has a house available near White Pines lake should someone want to set up a fishout.

Joe Abinanti reported that they caught ½ dozen shad on the Russian River at Johnson's beach while wading.

Treasurers report by Bill Peakes - the club is solvent.

A fly casting class is in the planning stage - a sign up sheet was passed out to determine interest in taking the class.

There was considerable interest at the intermediate level.

The fishout to Kistler Ranch was a success - all caught fish and had a great time.

Fishouts:

1. Craig Gittings is fishmaster for a surf perch excursion to Manressa Beach (south of Capitola) on June 10th. Will arrive at the beach at 4:30AM, meet at Albertson's in Fremont at 3:30AM. Call Craig for more info.
2. Manzanita Lake on June 17th and 18th: Mark Kaharick is fishmaster and will bar-b-que the tri-tips for the evening potluck. The roads are now free of snow into the campground and reports are that the fishing is fair to good and improving as the water warms.
3. Wayne Culp will be fishmaster for a trip to Tuolumne Meadows on September 21, 22 and 23 (inside Yosemite Natl. Park). Either fish for brown trout in the meadow or hike to a lake for rainbows.
4. Bill Peakes will be fishmaster for a fishout on the Silver Fork of the American River (upstream of Kyburz on route 50) starting on Sunday August 27th, and continuing through the 28th and 29th.

Special Raffle for a Bill Peakes built bamboo rod, a 7'-8" 5 wt. rod blank from MPFA, and with guides and reel seat and all the other parts donated by REC. \$2 Tickets will be sold until \$450 has been collected - then the drawing will be held.

PROGRAM

Mike Carlson of the Tracy fly fishing club gave a Powerpoint presentation on Heritage Trout of California which was based on a number of his recent backpacking trips to the Sierra Nevada, several wading trips for steelhead on the Feather River (near Buck Island) and a float trip on the Trinity River.

The wild trout species he seeks have survived in California since prehistoric times and include golden trout, the Lahontan cutthroat (lake & stream variations) and steelhead. He showed photographs of the Levitt Lake area, including Ski Lake and a number of golden trout caught from Ski Lake. There are lots of brook trout in Levitt Lake, though stunted in size.

He also fished the headwaters of the upper Truckee River, the largest tributary flowing into Lake Tahoe, for Lahontan cutthroat trout. The best nearby lake he found was Showers Lake and they caught quite a few Lahontan cutthroat trout in the 10-12 inch range. The fish tended to be opportunistic, not keying into any particular insect.

Steelheading on the Feather River was best during foggy or overcast weather. The largest steelhead on this river are in the 7-8 pound range and he usually uses bead patterns or green colored nymphs. Overall, the program was enjoyable but heavy on fish pictures.

June MPFA Board Meeting

June Board Meeting Summary

Submitted by Craig Gittings

When it was realized (yes, I forgot to tell anyone) that club secretary, Dave Heyes was not attending the meeting.

Malcolm Dunn went straight to business. June 13th fly tying will have Craig Gittings demo balsa wood poppers. Anyone else wishing to carve along should bring their sharpened carvers ready to dismember their fingers.

June club meeting will have equipment maintenance and swap meet. Anyone wishing to sell or swap his or her fly-fishing equipment should bring their wares and be ready to barter and bargain.

July's meeting will be a casting night adjacent to the Silliman Center followed by the pizza at the Round Table Pizza at Cedar Ave and Thornton Ave in Newark.

August club meeting will be the August and Dave program, that is if the projector, computer are compatible and the cords are correct- ah technology, only a few understand it.

Bill Peakes asked to add August 27-29 Silver fork fish out to the list and reminded others that the Sept. 9th week was the Clark's Fork fish out.

Sat. July 8th will be the next the date for Intro to Fly-fishing class at the Silliman Center. Volunteers are needed for this program only if the park and recreation department gets any signups.

Newsletter and website maintenance was brought up. Up dated roster was mentioned, Dave Heyes was not present to discuss the roster and will be held over as old business. Membership application will get a rework by August Abellar and Doug Fear before printing.

Other than that it was Doug's birthday. We did without the formalities of singing Happy Birthday and cake.

George Bouvoin will be at the Fremont REI on July 11th presenting a program on backpacking and fly-fishing. All are encouraged to come and provide catcalls.

Meeting was adjourned.

The Fly Tyer for June

Guest Craig Gittings

Carve along balsa wood poppers

with Craig Gittings

Having fared well in his popper class with Leo Gutterres in Tracy a few months back, Craig is ready to share what he remembers and garnered that evening. And if you wish to carve along bring with you an Exacto Whittling knife with a #26 Whittling blade or similar knife. For the casual observer and first aid aficionados, there should be plenty of blood to practice your life saving skills. As Craig claims, "Bring plenty of rags to soak up blood and stop the bleeding." This may not be suitable for the faint at heart group within the club. Waiver forms will be available for both observers and participants. All kidding aside, a material list will be available along with instructions for the casual observer. Craig will provide balsa wood to practice on as well as all other materials for this evening's fly tying event.

July Board Meeting

Host: Malcolm Dunn

Date: July 5th @ 7:30 pm

Place:

New Annual Award

Annual Trout Bum award

Starts Jan 1st, 2006

Awarded by MPFA Board of Directors at December board meeting

Requirements:

Candidates must:

Have fished 10 or more waters during the calendar year (**no private pay to play waters**)

Waters may be tributaries of any river or lakes domestic or international

Used fly fishing tackle only

Have fished for trout (**This is a Trout Bum Award**)

Have reported to the club and shown photos to the club at a regular meeting


This description to be affixed to the back side of the plaque

Chairperson: Ken Brunskill

2006 EVENTS

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE OF EVENT	CONTACT	COMMENTS
June 13 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Fly Tying	Mitch Matsumoto	7:30 pm
June 28 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Monthly Club Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:00 pm (New Hours)
July 5 th , 2006	Malcolm House	Board Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:30 pm
July 8 th , 2006	Denny's in Hayward	Club Breakfast	Bill Peakes	9:00 am
July 11 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Fly Tying	Mitch Matsumoto	7:30 pm
July 26 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Monthly Club Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:00 pm (New Hours)
Aug 2 nd , 2006	Dave Heyes House	Board Meeting	Dave Heyes	7:30 pm
Aug 8 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Fly Tying	Mitch Matsumoto	7:30 pm
Aug 12 th , 2006	Denny's in Hayward	Club Breakfast	Bill Peakes	9:00 am
Aug 23 rd , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Monthly Club Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:00 pm (New Hours)
Sept 6 th , 2006	Wayne Culp House	Board Meeting	Wayne Culp	7:30 pm
Sept 9 th , 2006	Denny's in Hayward	Club Breakfast	Bill Peakes	9:00 am
Sept 12 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Fly Tying	Mitch Matsumoto	7:30 pm
Sept 16 th , 2006	Garin Park, Hayward	Club Picnic	Malcolm Dunn	11:00 AM
Sept.27 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Monthly Club Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:00 pm (New Hours)
Oct 4 th , 2006	Steve Clup House	Board Meeting	Steve Clup	7:30 pm
Oct 10 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Fly Tying	Mitch Matsumoto	7:30 pm
Oct 14 th , 2006	Denny's in Hayward	Club Breakfast	Bill Peakes	9:00 am
Oct 25 th , 2006	Silliman Community Activity Center	Monthly Club Meeting	Malcolm Dunn	7:00 pm (New Hours)

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ANNUAL MPFA CLUB PICNIC

The annual Club picnic will be held on Saturday, September 16th at Garin Park in Hayward. Parking is \$5:00 this year. Bill Peakes is requesting all members planning to attend to **PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND PAYMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

The cost is \$5 per person over the age of 12. Kids 12 and under are free. The Club will provide the drinks and main course (chicken, ribs, etc.). Otherwise, you will need to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert for ten, please see below.

Last names beginning:

A to J bring an appetizer (use your imagination!)

K to O bring a salad (potato, macaroni, green leaf with dressing, or your favorite)

P to Z bring a dessert (YUMMIE!)



2006 Mission Peaks Annual Summer Picnic

Deadline is September 6th

Members Name _____

of Tickets needed (Adults & children over 12 years) x \$5.00 = Amount
(enclose check) Total Amt. _____

Return to:

Bill Peakes,

Yuba River Shad Float Trip

A shad float trip on the Yuba River last Friday with Al Smatski and company has to go down in the record books as at least memorable in more ways than one. August Abellar, Steve Foti and Jeff Lorelli joined me for a day on the water and here is how it went. I have taken certain liberties in my reporting of the facts by exaggerating the truth (more like distort) as it were. I'll let you be the final judge.

At the put in we all got grabs off a nice seam as we all took a turn loosening up the casting arm for the day. We also had two shad virgins with us for the day. Steve Foti could be considered a shad virgin with his standout record three days out on high water and only a single shad to show for it. Today would prove different and change the way these guys would react to conversations about shad from now on. This was a vocal group as the two boats floated the river along in search of shad. Two-way radios were not necessary to indicate whether the fish were cooperative or otherwise. August, the poster child for Orvis never lost his voice as he called out from first fish at the put in to the take out what can be only termed as his patented, "Yeehaw!!" indicating fish on or his "What, another one?" for his boat partner, Steve Foti- the hot rod for the day. Wishing to share in our good fortune, we made a few calls to Fishcounter, better known as Tom Knoth, notifying him how the action was, but more importantly to rub it in. On a previous trip we called during the day and it was hard to keep the conversation going- much less disclose our location in between the grabs as we told him we would call back when things slowed down. This time Fishcounter was ready for the calls via caller ID and decided not to field the calls and humiliation of hearing first hand the red-hot bite while far from the water. He did try to return the favor later with a call on his dime comparing his time off the water was just as good by mentioning his high light of the day- mid day sex. We weren't quite certain if that was by himself or manolito, as we were hesitant to ask for the details.

Jeff Lorelli, one of shad virgins as he points out, apparently had not fished from a boat previously either- at least not with heavily weighted shad darts. This might just qualify him for the Schlep Award. His cast was as erratic as my driving when I spill hot coffee in my lap. One of his early back casts came back low across the middle of the boat with a resounding thud followed by an apology to me for the whacking. No apology was necessary as I never felt the stinging impact from the dumb belled shad dart. A few minutes later I notice a newly formed circle of blood on our oarsman centered so perfectly midline on his forehead. That's odd, never saw that earlier and never gave reference to it either as it now appeared reminiscent as a Tika or Tilaka - a religious custom of Northern India indicating that he might be off the market in the marital sense and only if his religious beliefs passed along that custom so that now it be required the same on men. Recognizing a serious risk management situation I suggest that Jeff take my position so he need not cast over the middle of the boat. Our oarsman, possibly a little groggy from the impact, thought that was grand idea also and thanked me. It was gonna be long day for him otherwise and I am certain he wasn't relishing the idea of flinching all day with the incoming casts from Jeffery. To make things worse, the impact zone on our oarsman was beginning to slowly ooze blood and drip down the forehead only to coagulate before getting to the bridge of the nose. Not only did we have difficulty maintaining eye contact while engaging this fellow, the area that will now be referred to as "the wound site" was still oozing and now building layers upon layers of newly coagulated blood and histamine. I am truly thankful the guide never said a word until we finally made reference to it with, "How the hell did that happen?" knowing full well that the apology for whacking me earlier was misdirected. Jeff made it a point now to try some awkward variations on his across the body casts to avoid his casts across the center console. Recognizing his struggles with that particular cast I mentioned Jeff, "I don't row, how about we change positions on the boat." After lunch it was, "Jeff, how about you change boats."

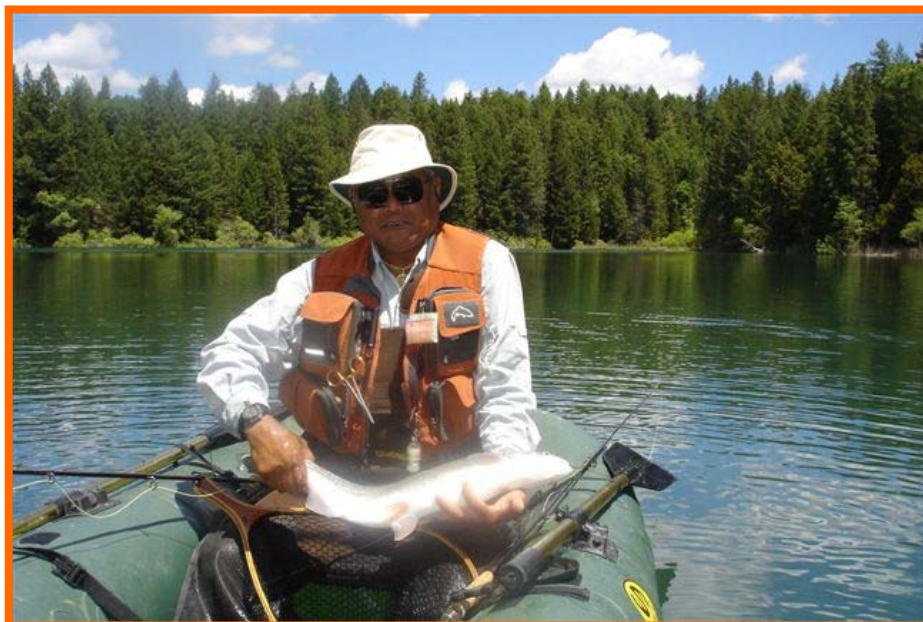
Other than the early morning convenience to our oarsman, the day could not have been better. Shad were more than cooperative through out the day. On a high note, Jeffery bagged a 18" rainbow trout on shad dart. It sure was difficult to follow it up with a surfperch trip the very next day, but someone has to do it. The Motrin helped ease the tightness across the back and the casting stroke was back to normal the following morning after the first few casts at dawn in the surf. Yes, a few of us are gluttons for punishment. Jeff passed on the early morning surfperch run to recuperate and write an apology letter. Disclaimer- all of the names were changed except Jeff's, mainly to protect the innocent from guilt by association. Any similarity to real individuals, either living or dead, is purely coincidentally as well as unintended.

By Craig

Yuba River Shad Float Trip Pictures



Rock Creek Fishout Pictures



Conservation News

By
Larry Dennis, June 2006

The man who coined the phrase, “money can’t buy happiness” never bought himself a good fly rod – Reg Baird

Alameda Creek Study Funding

Five water-related agencies have contributed to a \$240,000 fish and water flow study to determine the flow levels needed to restore steelhead runs to Alameda Creek and its tributaries stretching as far as the Livermore Valley.

The California State Coastal Conservancy is contributing half of the total amount followed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Pacific Gas and Electric Co., Alameda County Water District and Zone 7 Water District.

The study will look at how much water might be needed in creeks during critical times of the year to support a viable steelhead population. One large question is whether municipal water deliveries will be adversely affected if water districts are required to release water from reservoirs to maintain adequate flows for fish. Also in question are operational changes for dam operations which may be needed for different flow regimes.

Nimbus Hatchery Fish Kill

Over 1 million salmon fry out of a normal 5 million fish population in the Nimbus Hatchery, on the American River in Sacramento, have died in the last month from a mix of problems. Two of the problems are infections; the first being ‘coldwater disease’ which can be treated with antibiotics. The second; infectious hematopoietic necrosis, a viral infection for which there is no treatment. The third problem is ‘gas bubble disease’ which can kill or stress the fish to the point that they are vulnerable to infections.

The gas bubble situation occurs when water plunges, whether over a natural drop or a dam, into receiving pools resulting in excess air being forced into the water. The term is known as super saturation. When fish breathe this supersaturated water excess air bubbles are formed in their bodies. The bubbles then can block blood flow and kill tissue. An obvious symptom of gas-bubble disease is known as “pop eyes.” Divers experience a similar sickness known as “the bends.”

The EPA has set a recommended limit for dissolved gas concentrations in waterways at 110 percent. Over the last eight weeks, Nimbus Hatchery tests have shown readings as high as 175 percent and as low as 128 percent.

State Water Officials Fear Pike May Escape From Lake Davis

Officials are nervously watching the water level at the lake where non-native northern pike have been multiplying for more than a decade. Twice the normal amount of snow fell in the mountains feeding water into the Plumas County Lake. If the reservoir spills over, it would, most assuredly send pike into the Feather River and then downstream into the Sacramento River and ultimately into the Delta decimating the state native fishery. George Heise, a DFG hydraulic engineer said, “The last thing we want is a spill over the Lake Davis spillway”. A continuous watch has been ongoing for the past month to make sure controlled releases of water will be able to prevent spilling.

On a related issue, DFG officials set up two checkpoints for six hours at the lake, stopping anglers to inspect their catch on a recent Saturday. They caught five fishermen removing a pike each, and two of those fish were still alive. There were no indications that any of those fishermen intended to transplant the pike. It was the state’s first inspection effort which prompted fears that pike may have already been transplanted elsewhere. DFG Spokesman Steve Martarano said that pike have not been found in any other state waters, but the inspection effort brings new urgency to ongoing efforts to eradicate pike from Lake Davis.

In total, game wardens inspected 71 vehicles and found 30 trout in addition to the pike. This means one of every six fish leaving the lake during those six hours were pike. “It’s maddening. They probably wanted to keep a trophy, that’s my guess,” said county supervisor Bill Powers, a member of the Lake Davis Steering Committee, a panel of local and state officials that oversees the problem. “We do the best on all sides of this thing to encourage and educate the public to cooperate, and yet we get this kind of reaction to it.”

All of the anglers involved said they planned to take the pike home and eat them. One of the live fish was on a stringer for transport and the other was in an empty cooler.

State law allows anglers to catch pike at Lake Davis, but not to keep the fish. They must cut off the heads of the pike and turn the fish over to state officials. This can be done at the Grizzly Store at the lake and in Portola at the DFG office or Dollard’s Market. The penalty for possessing a live pike is \$1,000 and/or six months in jail. One of the caught anglers was referred to the county district attorney for possible prosecution, and stern warnings were issued to the rest of those caught.

SALMON: Guest Opinion: It takes a watershed to sustain our salmon **San Francisco Chronicle – 5/17/06**

By Peter Moyle, professor of fisheries at the University of California at Davis

One of the special things about California is that we still have large salmon spawning in some of our rivers, the southernmost populations of the species. The presence of salmon defines the nature of the rivers as "salmon streams," invoking images of wildness and abundance. Yet today salmon fisheries are being shut down as our rivers lose their wild salmon, the result of decades of neglect of rivers and watersheds. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Klamath River, where Chinook and coho salmon are at low ebbs of their populations. Given the complexity of the problems besetting Klamath River, it is going to take a long time to bring back the salmon to historic numbers, assuming our society has the will to do so. In the meantime, we need to protect the few remaining healthy populations in California, to make sure the salmon are not forgotten and to make sure that we have sources of fish for damaged rivers as they recover. For example, the continued protection of the beautiful and little appreciated Smith River, the next major river north of the Klamath, is an investment that will help sustain salmon fisheries in California and will also support recovery of the Klamath River. The Smith River is a stronghold for salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout in California; at least five species in multiple runs use the river. It is unparalleled in its combination of natural river flows, protected habitat and healthy fish populations. Much of this watershed is within the Smith River National Recreation Area and the Redwood national and state parks, but not all. We now need to protect the entire watershed, to make sure that the Smith remains an example of what a healthy river is like. The Smith can also become our salmon insurance policy, a potential source of wild fish for restoration of other watersheds such as the Klamath. Right now, we have an opportunity to further secure the Smith River as a refuge for wild salmon. Thanks to the action of three hard-working organizations, Western Rivers Conservancy, California Trout and the Smith River Alliance, the public has the rare opportunity to purchase the lands surrounding Goose Creek, the Smith's largest tributary and an important spawning area for salmon. The timber company owners of the 9,500-acre Goose Creek property made the decision to sell the land and the nonprofit guardians moved quickly to forge a deal to add it to the Smith River National Recreation Area. Thanks to support from many individuals and organizations, including Del Norte County, more than half of the purchase has been completed with funds from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Senators Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer and Rep. Mike Thompson all deserve credit for their diligent work to make this happen. But \$2.7 million is still needed to complete the acquisition, and, this year, no funds have been allocated in the federal budget for Goose Creek. The need for forward-thinking restoration measures to recover California's northern salmon populations has never been more evident. Protecting Goose Creek is an important action we can take now with long-term, positive consequences for the Smith and Klamath rivers. Those of us who continue to be optimists about the restoration of California's rivers see this as a major, highly visible step toward reversing decades of abuse of our salmon rivers.

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