

The Barbless Hook



**January
2012**

The January meeting is TVFF's Annual Fly Tying Expo. Gary Turri demonstrates his craft at the 2011 event.

President's Message

Tom Vargas

Happy New Year to all of my fellow Tri-Valley Fly Fishers,

I hope your Holidays are happy and safe and that you are planning to include a new fly fishing destination or learning and trying something new to your New Year's resolutions! Our January 5th meeting has once again been coordinated by Jim Broadbent and will feature many talented fly tiers from the local area demonstrating their skills. This is always an interesting evening and a real opportunity to learn some new flies and tying techniques, whether you are a beginner, novice or experienced tier.

My term is coming to a close and Ken Javorsky will be taking over as club President at the installation dinner next month. It will be on our regular meeting date of February 2nd and will also be our annual pot-luck dinner with the club providing the meat and beverages. Be sure to sign up for this fun event.

It has been a great pleasure to serve this year with such a great group of club members and of course, the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. We are finishing the year in great fiscal shape and have a nice reserve balance. I think 2011 was an excellent year filled with quality programs and education. We had a number of club fishing outings and several well attended club events. The new installation dinner and potluck was a huge success, followed by the Del Valle Lake picnic with the Oakland Casting Club assisting and culminated by the August pizza night at a new venue. The participation of club members is what makes TVFF successful and builds friendships among our membership. Be sure to get involved in 2012!

Tight lines,

Tom

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2011 Officers, Board Members, and Coordinators

President	Tom Vargas
Vice President	Ken Javorsky
Secretary	Daniel Kitts
Treasurer	Russ George
Membership	Richard Tarbell
Conservation Director	Derrell Bridgman
Raffle Coordinator	Rob Vellinger
Member at large	Tom Fessenden
Member at large	Robert Nishio
Newsletter Editor	Bob McCollum
Trout in the Classroom	Derrell Bridgman
Outings	Jim Broadbent
Education	Hal Wilson
Speakers	Martin Plotkin
Silent Auction	Bob McCollum
Website	Bob McCollum
Refreshments	Robert Nishio
Video Librarian	Frank Gordet

2012 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers*	
President	Ken Javorsky
Vice President	Daniel Kitts
Secretary	Bart Hughes
Treasurer	Russ George
Conservation Director	Derrell Bridgman
Other Board Members*	
Past President	Tom Vargas
Members at Large	Tom Fessenden & Martin Plotkin
Raffle Coordinator	Rob Vellinger
Newsletter Publisher	Tom Vargas
Youth & Education	Frank Gordet & Kyle McCammon
Committee Chairs	
Membership	Richard Tarbell
Trout in the Classroom	Derrell Bridgman
Outings	Hal Wilson
Speakers	Jim Broadbent
Silent Auction	Don Gardner
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January 2012 Meeting: Fly Tying Expo

Join us at our regular January meeting on the 5th for the annual Fly Tying Expo. We have 8 to 10 elite bay area fly tiers showing their skills and answering questions. You can also enjoy a pizza, salad and drink dinner for \$5 if you call Jim Broadbent by Tuesday January 3rd. (925) 455-1046.



February Meeting: 2012 Installation Dinner

Join us at our regular meeting on February 2nd for the annual TVFF Installation Potluck Dinner. The Club will provide the BBQ'd meat and beverages as well as the paper plates, etc. Please sign up at the meeting to bring a food item to share. In addition to a sumptuous dinner, we will honor the out going Board members and install the new Board for 2011.

Please bring your spouse and any guests that you'd like to introduce to the club. Just be sure to indicate the number of guests when you sign up so we have an accurate count for the BBQ.

See you there!



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Kistler Ranch Outing - Hal Wilson

We have an exclusive reservation for the Kistler ranch ponds on Hwy 108, 17 miles east of Oakdale on March 24, 2012 (two days after the new moon)

For many years, our club has enjoyed fishing the three ponds which are large enough to be considered small lakes and contain black bass, crappie and bluegill.

There are bathroom facilities a short walk from the ponds. There is no launch ramp, but easy walk-in access for float-tubers or pontoon boats. Success can also be had by walking the perimeters of the ponds and casting from the shore. Waders are recommended. This is a great place for a novice fly fisher.

Although in recent years we have had a club-provided BBQ lunch, we do not plan for one this year, so bring your own lunch and drinks.

The ranch asks that we respect the following rules:

- Catch and release with artificial lures only

- Drive on roads only, no vehicles on levees

- Leave gates as you find them

- Front gate opens at 6:00 am and guests must be out by dark

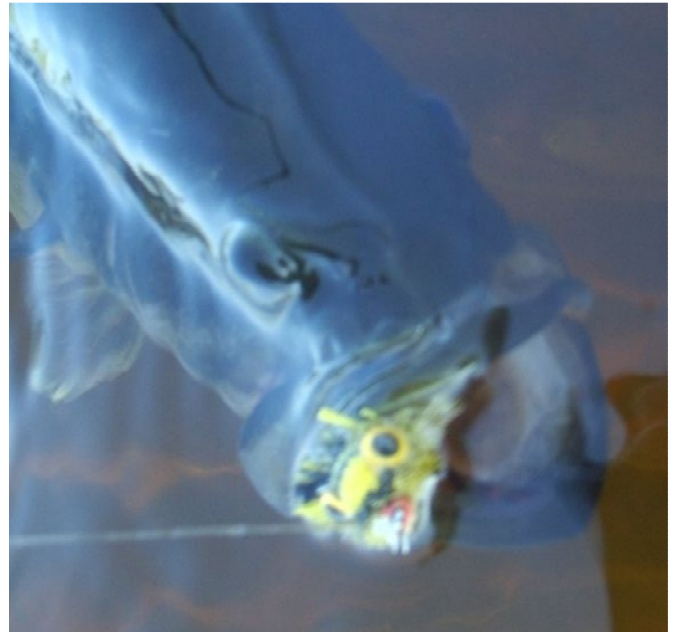
- No overnight camping or open fires. BBQs' OK.

- No motors, gas or electric on the ponds

To defray cost to the club, we will charge \$20 per angler. Nonmembers are welcome to attend this event. Sign up at January meeting. Information regarding flies, etc. will be provided to those who sign up.

Hal Wilson

(925) 846-8766



December 3, 2011 Delta Striper Outing Report

We knew our annual striped outing, fish mastered and planned by Rick Mikla and Tom Vargas, was going to be tough when we awoke to 15 mph winds in Livermore. The winds that wreaked havoc the prior few days returned, gusting to as high as 25 MPH, making for a challenging day to control the boat position and cast sinking lines. It was a good thing that we could find protected areas within Discovery Bay, and we were able to locate fish. Though they were a bit more reluctant to take our offerings, the good news was that they had arrived from their long trek through the Delta from San Francisco Bay.



At about 7:00, three boats filled with warmly layered flyrodders, convened at the Kellogg Creek entrance to Discovery Bay. Rick and Corey, Ken and his sons along with Bart and Don, and Tom and Martin all braved the winds in this piscatorial pursuit. They found some success with all the boats landing fish, but not all of the fishermen having luck. Hal Wilson and George Allen, being wise, postponed their outing until Monday, and Tom and Don (who purchased Tom's striped buddy trip at the auction) and Rick, joined them for a spectacular day on the water and enjoyed much better weather and fishing results. It's great to have such a diverse fishery at our back door and to top it off, it is less than an hour away.

Rick landing one of the stripers caught this blustery day.



Captain Javorsky pilots his crew while Bart Hughes and Don Gardner ply the depths

Martin Plotkin with a nice "schoolie" striper.



Don with his first striped on a fly and Tom with a nice 10 pounder from Monday's outing. (This was caught in Rick's bay)



Flies Needed for Presidential Fly Plate

We are looking for fly tiers in our club to donate flies for the Presidential Fly Plate. Please bring them to the next meeting (January 5th) if you can. Multiple contributions are welcome. We will need to pull this together for the Installation Dinner at the February meeting.

Some people might worry that their tying is not good enough, but it's more important that we get as many member contributions as possible.



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Silent Auction Update: Start Tying Flies Now!

The silent auction, held during the April meeting, is the single largest source of funds for the club. These funds are used to support conservation organizations as well as the operations of the club.

One of the most productive areas of the auction is the flies donated by members and friends of the club. Gary Turri will once again chair this section. Gary asks that all tyers start tying on these cold winter nights. Please bring your donations to the January, February, and March meetings.

Also, please start to consider other donations: fishing gear, wine and other items, as well as vacation rentals and services. Be creative!



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Flycasters Annual Dinner and Conservation Fundraiser

The Flycasters, Inc. of San Jose Conservation Committee is hosting its annual dinner and fundraiser on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at the Cupertino Quinlan Community Center at 10185 N. Stelling Avenue just north of Stevens Creek Blvd in Cupertino, CA. All proceeds from this gala event will support conservation projects for Steelhead habitat restoration in the Bay Area. All area fly fishing club members, relatives and friends are encouraged to attend and purchase tickets towards the many great raffle, silent auction prizes, and door prizes. Every effort will be made to make you feel welcome.

The committee has really been hard at work developing a really outstanding array of silent auction and bucket raffle prizes. We already have over 125 prizes with a total estimated retail value of already over \$41,000. More are being added every day with great value. We have eight restaurants, Beer and wine valued at over \$1,200; art, great fly plates, gift baskets, tours of San Francisco, Day Spas, over \$13,000 in fly fishing gear including float tubes, rods and reels, about 20 night resort stays and guided fishing trips, five private casting lessons, and lots of flies. They have some great trips in Alaska, Oregon, and a 6 1/2 days trip for 2 anglers at a great Lodge in Argentina. Pre bids are possible on large items by sending a check to Bob Davis who will enter the amount on the bid sheet. If you are not the highest bidder, your check will be returned. Credit cards will be accepted at the party. Bucket raffle tickets are \$1 per ticket and cash, check and credit cards will be accepted at the party.

The headliner is Hal Janssen. If you've seen Rivers of a Lost Coast you probably already admire anglers who are really much better at the craft and that's the kind of guy national known, world class angler, artist, author, and innovator, Hal Janssen is. He has been fly fishing for over 50 years and has fished extensively throughout North and South America for nearly every species of fresh and saltwater fish. Not only will he present his new unique Stillwater fly fishing concepts but no doubt will be very entertaining. (Continued next page)

DeltaStrippers.Com - Jerry Neuberger

DeltaStrippers.Com is dedicated to guided catch-and-release fly fishing for stripers and large mouth bass on the waters of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta.

A fishing day starts about sunrise and lasts nine to eleven hours with a break for lunch. While catching lots of fish is never guaranteed, a typical fishing day will yield from six to ten stripers per rod or a dozen or more bass per rod. Some days are much more productive and yes, some days are a little tougher! However at the end of every cast there may be that 35 pound striper or a 15 pound largemouth just waiting to rip that rod out of your hands.

Come spend a day on the delta. I can't guarantee you'll catch fish but I'll guarantee you'll have a great day on the water!



E-mail: gneuberger@yahoo.com
Phone: 209-369-5752, Cell: 209-327-5993

Flycasters Annual Dinner and Conservation Fundraiser - Continued from previous page

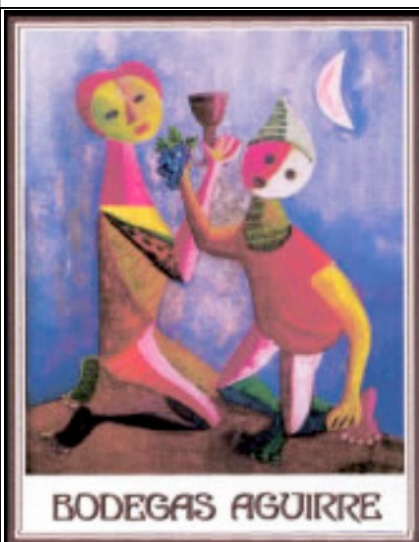
The gala event will begin at 6:00 PM with a social hour with beer, wine, soda and Hors d'oeuvres and an informal buffet dinner beginning at 7:00 PM in a great modern facility, all for only \$40/person. Our caterer, Abby Huerta, comes highly recommended with dinner entrees of Salmon Medallions, Tri-Tip with barbeque sauce, and Chicken Breast Marsala.

Advanced reservations are required and can be made by going to the web site, www.flycasters.org, from the Home Page, use the link to the Online Store for the Annual Dinner and make your reservations early. This event has limited space available. You can see the complete Donors List on our web site which will be updated regularly. Advanced raffle ticket sales are available through the Home Page and will be sold in blocks of 20 for \$20. There will be three bucket raffle prizes for non- attendees, so you need not be present to win. The raffle prizes for non-attendees will be a 2 for 1 float fishing trip on the Lower Sacramento River with guide Jim Pettis, a Fat Cat LCS float tube, and a RL Winston or Sage 9 ft. 5 wt. 4 piece fly rod.

Reserve and order your tickets today. We have additional information and on line payment via credit card and PayPal on our web site at: www.flycasters.org. Deadline for reservations is February 8, 2012.

For more information and to get on our mailing list for updates contact:

Chuck Hammerstad (chamerstad@aol.com, 408-997-5460) or Jack Hahn (jack_hahn1@yahoo.com, 408-660-5252)



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Member Reports and Pictures:

Trinity River – Gary Turri



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The Tier's Bench No. 21: Tube Flies

By Jim Cramer

How would you like to tie a REALLY large fly for strippers or that next trip to Baja? By big I mean eight to twelve inches long. About now you are all shaking your heads and thinking that old Jim has lost it, and that you could never cast a fly that large. Wrong on both counts! The solution is to tie the fly on a tube.



Tube flies are not new and have been around for many years. The most common application of tube flies in the past has been for trolling and in some locals for salmon fishing. In recent years that has started to change albeit slowly. Tube flies and their general construction limit them primarily to streamer and bucktail types of patterns. In my opinion the resurgence of tube flies with the expanding interest in salt water fly fishing makes for a perfect marriage. Not only are the tube flies easily tied to represent bait fish but they can be tied in very large sizes in weights that can be easily cast.

Very briefly for those of you not familiar with tube flies, they are commonly constructed on small diameter brass or hard plastic tubing. When you are ready to fish the leader is run through the tubing and a hook of the appropriate size is tied to the leader. If the fly is tied with a short section of soft tubing at the rear the eye of the hook is inserted into it to hold the hook in proper position. One of my favorite materials is oil pressure tubing available from auto parts stores. It is the right diameter and the right price. Plastic tubes from ball point pens can also be used. Years ago I used use a very short piece of surgical tubing at the rear of the main tubing to hold eye of the hook. The surgical tubing will deteriorate over the years and now a piece of clear soft tubing of proper diameter is recommended. Cut it about half an inch long and slip it 1/4 inch over the rear of the oil pressure tubing with a drop of super glue. With the hook eye slipped in the soft tubing at the rear the fly will tend to ride up right in the water. Years ago a treble hook was common with tube flies and they were generally tied "in the round." In the round means that they had no top or bottom side and looked the same all around. In the round flies still work in the salt and are easy to tie.

Some vise manufactures sell a tube fly attachment which facilitates the tying process but it really isn't necessary. When tying extremely long tube flies I dispense with the vise all together. I leave the tube in a longer section than I actually need for ease of handling and cut it to proper length after completion the fly. Tying tube flies without a vise is really quite easy as the fly can be turned end for end to facilitate the tying. Half hitch the thread when you need to set the fly down for any reason. The wing is built up on the long tube flies by starting at the rear of the fly and adding wing material in over lapping bunches as you work forward. There are very few traditional patterns for salt water tube flies so select colors that have worked for you in the past.

When tying short tube flies, 1 to 2 inches I slide the tube over a large long shank salt water hook from which I have cut the eye and the point. The large hook is placed in the vise and the tubing slipped over it. The tubing is forced part way down the bend which prevents the tubing from rotating on the hook shank as the fly is tied.

Continued on next page.

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The Tier's Bench No. 21: Tube Flies — Continued from previous page.

Tube flies are extremely simple to tie. You can make them as fancy or as simple as you desire. You can add eyes, foam heads, glass or plastic beads, just let your imagination loose. I have found that the easiest way to cut the tubing is with a pair of clippers used to cut cat and dog toe nails. The clippers don't crush the tubing the way some others do. If you are concerned with the thread slipping off the front of the hook you can form a small flange by heating the end of the tubing over an open flame and quickly pressing it against a flat surface. Do this before you tie the fly.

One of the real advantages of tube flies comes when you're transporting them. With no hooks attached it is very convenient to simply shove them in a plastic bag and put them in your shirt pocket.

For those of you headed to Baja tie yourselves a bag full of tube flies and be ready



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We meet at the Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club (directions below) on the first Thursday of every month except July and August at 7:00 PM.

Directions to

Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club: 4000 Dagnino Road, Livermore, California.

Exit Highway 580 on North Livermore Avenue

Proceed North on North Livermore Avenue to May School Road (~2.5 miles).

Turn right onto May School Road and proceed to stop sign at intersection with Dagnino Road (~1 mile).

Entrance to Rod and Gun Club is directly across intersection

