

The Barbless Hook



January 2015

Editor: Tom Vargas

President's Message

Daniel Kitts

I hope you all had a great Holiday Season and were able to score some new toys. And now it is time for...

Out with the Old...In with the New...

With the election of the new officers and directors at our December meeting this will be my last President's Message for the Barbless Hook as the new slate will be installed at the February Installation Dinner. For those of you who have not previously been to an installation dinner mark February 5th on your calendar and be sure to invite your significant other as well. This is a dinner with lots of good food and comradery not to mention all the fabulous prizes for the raffle that you don't even have to buy a ticket for. More on that later!

It may sound a little corny to say but...it has truly been an honor and a privilege to represent TVFF as the president for the last two years

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Photo:

Gary Prince with one of his first Trinity steelhead.

Remember to send your fishing pictures to the editor!

<http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org>

I have enjoyed working with the members who directly participated on the board in 2013 and 2014 and with all of the members who have given of their time in many different ways to make TVFF a club that I think our members enjoy. And I appreciate all the support that members have shown whenever help was needed.

I could try to list all the members who have helped during my tenure as president and that list would be very long. But I'm afraid I would miss some deserving person and hurt their feelings so I am taking the cowards way out and will just say "I thank you all for everything you have done to help me and TVFF."

And speaking of reaching out and getting help...TVFF is still in need of someone to shadow Ron Dueltgen to learn the ropes for the Silent Auction we have in April with the intent of taking over the Silent Auction Director position for the 2016 auction.

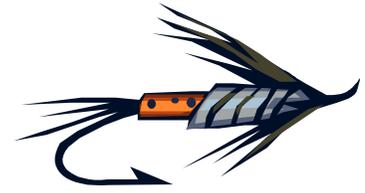
New Year's Resolution? If you're looking for one...Consider getting more involved with TVFF activities. That doesn't necessarily mean serving on the board, you could attend more meetings, go on one of our fishing outings, and maybe help fishmeister an outing or many other options. Whether it is outings or general club functions the more you participate in club activities the more you will benefit from TVFF. And if you are like me, you will find a lot of personal satisfaction from your participation.

Here is wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2015 with more time with wet lines and hoping we get more water for our fisheries.

Tightlines,

Daniel Kitts

A fisherman is always hopeful -- nearly always more hopeful than he has any right to be. - Roderick Haig-Brown



**2014 TVFF
Speakers Program
"At A Glance"**

January :
Fly tying Expo
*"Expert local fly tyers
demonstrate their
craft"*

February 2nd:
*Annual Installation of
Officers and Potluck
Dinner*

OUTINGS AND EVENTS

Bart Hughes

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays with family and friends – and maybe even sneaked out for some fishing. And hopefully Santa found his way to your tree with some fishing goodies!

I understand that our Trinity Club Outing went well (thanks Bob for organizing) and there was plenty of action to go around. And it was good to see the informal network working with club members reaching out for informal fishing outings. It's too easy to sit on a warm couch during these cold/rainy months and miss all the good fishing that California offers during these winter months – e.g. hopefully some of will be able to take advantage of the great Trinity steelhead fishing post the recent high-flows. It should be good!

It's time to start thinking about outings for next year. No need to wait until May/June for activities as there are plenty of options in the interim. In years past, we've done outings to Hot Creek mid-winter and I've heard that Lake Pyramid fishing has improved significantly these past couple of years. A couple of options to consider – think about serving as Fish Meister for one of these – it will help you shake off the winter blues.

Ideas for other potential outings:

- January - Stanislaus River below Goodwin Dam/Lake Tulloch, Boca/Little Truckee, O'Neill Forebay for stripers
- February – March – Yuba River, Hot Creek, East Walker
- April – May – Pyramid Lake, McCloud (after opening)
- California rivers and lakes that are open year-round

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT / LOCATION</u>	<u>FISHMEISTERS</u>
JANUARY 8, 2015	CHANGE OF THE JANUARY MEETING DATE!!	
APRIL 9, 2015	CHANGE OF THE APRIL MEETING DATE!!	
APRIL 9	SILENT ACTION	RON DUELTGEN
JUNE (after Fathers Day)	LAKE DAVIS	HAL WILSON

NOTE: The January Meeting will be moved to Thursday, January 8th

January Program

January general meeting will be held on Thursday Jan 8th , a week later than usual, in order to give us a little breathing room from the holiday festivities.

This is our annual fly tying meeting, coordinated by Jim Broadbent, in which there will be eight of the Bay Area's finest fly tiers. Whether you are an experienced tier or a non-tier, everyone will get something out of the evening.

It has been traditional to have a pizza dinner prior to the tiers showing their talents, and yes, we will have it again this year.

Dinner 6:15 RSVP to Jim

Tying at 7pm

Cost; \$5 for Pizza, please bring correct change

RSVP required email Jim Broadbent: nob8@prodigy.net

(925) 455-1046



Gary Turri demonstrates his craft at the 2011 event

Outings - THINKING W-A-Y AHEAD

Hal Wilson

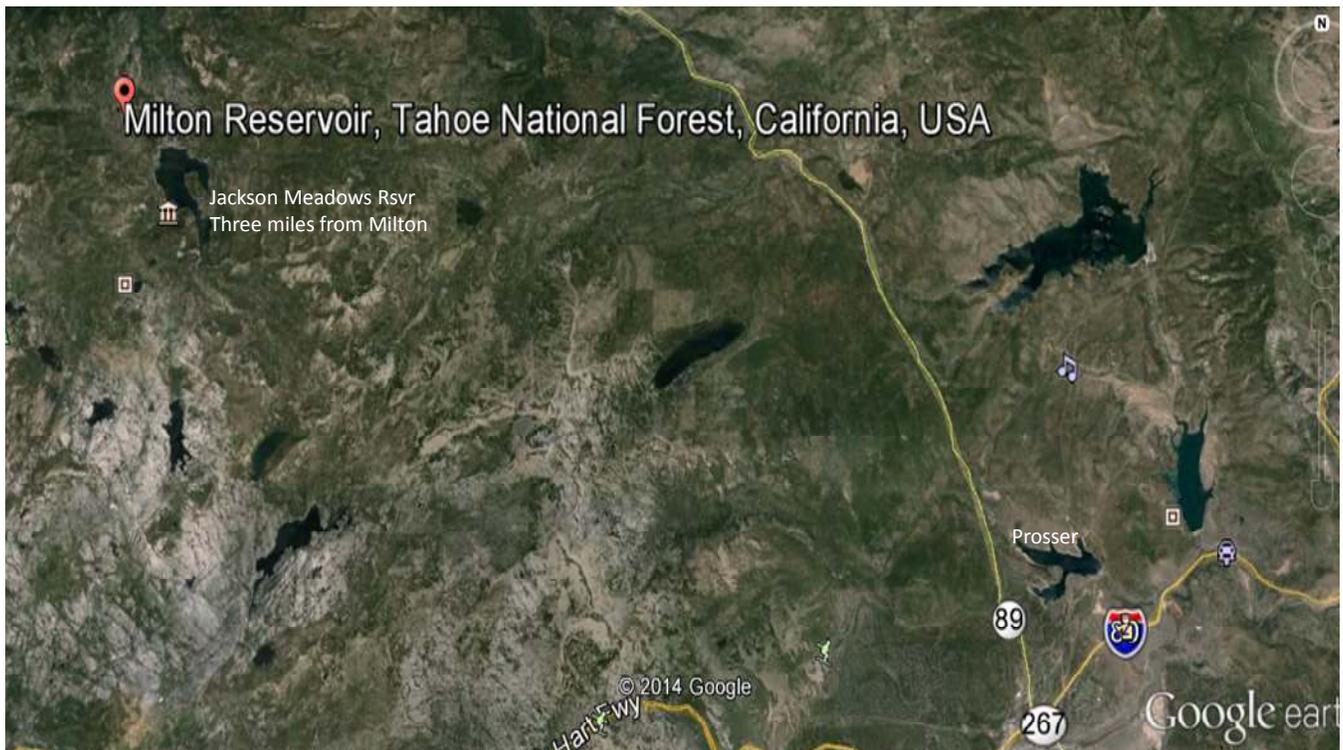
I didn't get nearly as much fishing as I wanted last year, so in an effort to be sure that doesn't happen again, I have done some far-in-advance research. In addition, although Lake Davis during damselfly emergence is a "must do", I have often wanted to expand my fishing horizons, so that hope has also been part of my pondering these last few weeks.

In reading through Bill Sunderland's book, Fly Fishing California Stillwaters I find other stillwaters in the Truckee area which would be on the way to Davis. Three stand out as potential waypoints worth trying – **Milton Reservoir**, **Jackson Meadows Reservoir** and **Prosser**. Boca and Stampede Reservoirs are often associated in one's mind with Prosser, but in checking this all out, I learned that water-skiing is allowed on Boca and Stampede, but not on Prosser. In addition, Prosser has reservable campsites (as does Jackson Meadows).

So, the plan as it is now outlined in my mind is to begin the trip on Monday or Tuesday following Fathers' Day, establishing camp at Prosser or Jackson Meadows. After fishing any or all of the above three waters, moving on to Lake Davis to set up camp (in previously reserved sites) Thursday afternoon. We go through the town of Portola a few miles before reaching Davis, so restocking of food and ice is easily accomplished. Our last two years at Davis we have camped in Grasshopper Flat campground, with campsites near the coin-operated hot shower which would be very welcome our third or fourth day out! This break in the trip to relocate makes it doable for those who can only make part of the trip.

The excellent presentation by Jon Baiocchi at our last club meeting gave us lots of great information about Lake Davis, so I have been tying flies he recommended for a Lake Davis specific fly box.

Reservations for Prosser and Davis can be made 6 months prior to the requested dates, so I will be firming up this plan in order to request in early January the sites and the dates I want.



Call me if interested or have questions

Hal

**Jim Roberts'
Fly Fishing
Guide Service**



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Upper Sac and
McCloud
Klamath River
Steelhead**

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off!**

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2014 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers	
President	Daniel Kitts
Vice President	Martin Plotkin
Secretary	Kelly Ng
Treasurer	Tom Fessenden
Directors	
Past President	Hal Wilson
Conservation Director	Roger Perry
Member at Large	John Price
Raffle Coordinator	Gary Phillips
Newsletter Publisher	Tom Vargas
Youth & Education	Kent McCammon
Membership	Marty Loomis
Trout in the Classroom	Derrell Bridgman
Outings	Bart Hughes
Speakers	Russ O'Brien
Silent Auction	Ron Dueltgen
Website	Robert Nishio
Refreshments	Keith Thomas
Video Librarian	Richard Tarbell
Fly Tying Class	Jim Broadbent

2015 Dues

TVFF Club dues are payable now and are \$35.00 until the February 5th meeting.

See page 15 for more details

The club's mailing address is:

TVFF
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

YOU are invited to the 2015

**Tri-Valley Fly Fishers
Silent Auction**



Thursday, April 9, 2015

*Fly fishing gear, hand-tied flies, guided
trips*

vacation rentals, and more!!

Preview @ 6:30 pm Auction starts @ 7:00 pm

***Livermore-Pleasanton Rod & Gun Club
4000 Dagnino Road
Livermore, CA***

Call Ron Duelstgen at (925) 449-0528 or

ron@duelstgen.net for more details

www.Tri-ValleyFlyFishers.org

We are not able to accept credit cards. Cash
or check only, please



Fishing Reports

2014 Steelhead Outing: Perfect Timing, Good fishing and Great Times Tom Vargas

Bob McCollum organized another great trip to the Trinity River. This year our early December outing found 16 TVFF members fishing for the elusive Steelhead – the fish of a thousand casts. This year temperatures were much warmer than previous outings and ran from the low 40’s in the morning to the high 50’s in the afternoons with overcast conditions. We also had a largest fish pool for each day that kept things interesting! Martin Plotkin at 28” and Matt Vargas at 27” were the two winners.

There was a major storm that hit much of Northern California, but somehow missed the Trinity basin as we were on the shoulders of the storm. Another storm hit as we were fishing on Friday afternoon, which blew out the river the next day! The water had just the right amount of color depending on where you put in and there were eager fish to be found. They were scattered in the river, with no large pools of fish and everyone was awaiting the arrival of new fish that were bound to move up from the new flows.

Most of us hooked up and landed several of these remarkable fish, as well as catching many of the “half pounders” that were in the river this year. The power and beauty of these steelhead have us all longing for the next opportunity to get out on the river.



We fished the “Drop” on the 4th and 5th!



Members enjoying our “Last Supper” of the trip at a new venue

Fishing Reports-Continued from page 8



Rob Vellinger with a wild one



Dan Vargas scores at the "JC" takeout



Matt Vargas with a 27" winner



Ben Vargas measuring a steelhead



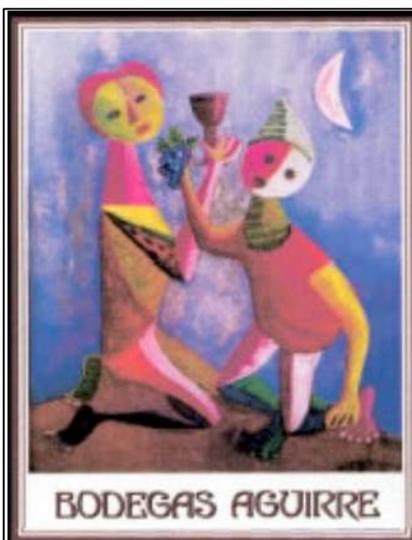
Bob McCollum with a surprised "half pounder"



Smile:Al, Wynn, Bob and Rob

INCOMING 2015 Officers and Directors

Officers	
President	Martin Plotkin
Vice President	Roger Perry
Secretary	John Price
Treasure	Tom Fessenden
Past President	Daniel Kitts
Directors	
Auction	Ron Dueltgen
Auction BU & MAL	tba
Conservation	Doug Witmore
Education	Steve Johnson
Outings	Hal Wilson
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Membership	Jo Dee Widmayer
News Letter	Tom Vargas
Raffle	Gary Phillips
Refreshments	Keith Thomas
Speakers	Marty Loomis
Trout in Cls Rm	Darrell Briggeman
TIC BU & MAL	tba
Video Library	Richard Tarbell
Web Master	Dan Vargas



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Please come and enjoy our signature Petite Syrah, Bordeaux varietals and special blends.

The Tier's Bench:

Jim Broadbent-

On February 5th we have our installation and pot luck meeting . This year we would like to show your fishing pictures on the big screen through out the evening. Please go through your pic's and send a few to Martin Plotkin. With everyone's help it should be one heck of a show.

The next meeting of the Fly Tying group will be Monday, February 2nd at Christensen Middle School located at 5757 Hagan Oaks Ave in Livermore from 7:00 to 9:00PM.

Presidential Fly Box

It is that time of the year again. Please bring your contribution flies for the Presidential Fly Box to Jim Broadbent at the December or January meetings at the latest!



An example of the really nice work that Jim does to create the Presidential Fly Box. This becomes a treasured item to proudly hang on your wall in recognition of the Presidents service to the club.



Around the Web: NorCal Fishing News-Putah Creek update!

http://www.norcalfishingnews.com/stories/putah_creek_given_wild_trout_and_trophy_trout_designation?id=1622

***MPFA Fly Anglers of Fremont
Annual Awards & Installation Dinner***

Swiss Park
5911 Mowry Avenue
Fremont, CA 94560
Tel.: (510) 793-6272

Saturday, January 24, 2015
5:00PM – 6:00PM No Host Bar
(Check Out Raffle Items)
6:00PM – Dinner

<Raffle Items, Silent Auction, Live Auction and Grand Prize Raffle Drawing>

Dinner: Choice of Entrée (Pasta Primavera for our vegetarian guests) with Dinner Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Roasted Potatoes, Coffee, Tea and Dessert (Served Buffet Style)

\$35.00 per person

-----Please Return Portion Below With Your Payment-----

Name: _____ **Club:** _____

Address: _____

Dinner Selection:

Tri-Tip: ____ **Chicken:** ____ **Salmon:** ____ **Pasta:** ____

(Please Enter the Number of Each Dinner Selected)

Total Number of Dinners Selected: _____ x \$35.00 each = _____ (Amount Included)

Please Make Checks Payable To: **Mission Peak Fly Anglers**

Mail Checks To:
Mission Peak Fly Anglers
c/o Stephen Culp
29293 Whalebone Way
Hayward, CA 94544 Tel.: (510) 461-3831

January Auction Update

Ron Dueltgen

SAVE UP/PAIR UP FOR TVFF AUCTION

Now's the time to start making strategic alliances in support of our Silent Auction, scheduled for April 9, 2015 at our regular clubhouse meeting site. We already have several donations from vendors and members offering "2 for 1" deals on guided trips and buddy trips. But, even at half price, a two-person guided trip will run \$100 per person per day in addition to the price of your winning auction bid. For me, that's a lot of money and has to be factored in to my overall budget, starting right about now. These trips typically are designed for two anglers, so teaming up on the bidding could make a winning bid more likely.

The auction really depends on donations from our members to be successful. Just as ideas, past auctions have featured buddy trips, new or gently used fishing gear and clothing, gift baskets, local wines and other spirits, cabin rentals, framed art work, lots and lots of tied flies, and other good stuff. Please consider hosting a buddy trip, check your gear closet for unused items, and start now tie your favorite flies to help our club. Together, we'll make this a great auction! Questions? Contact Ron Dueltgen at auction@tri-valleyflyfishers.org or 925-449-0528.

It's time for 2015 Dues!

TVFF club dues for this coming year are \$40 (\$35 if paid on or before the club meeting on February 6, 2014). A membership covers you and all family members living at home. All are encouraged to participate in club outings however, liability release signatures are required of those 18 or over.

Checks or cash can be given to our treasurer, Tom Fessenden, or our membership coordinator, Marty Loomis at any regular club meeting.

Checks made out to TVFF can also be mailed to :

Tri-Valley Fly Fishers
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

Exploring New Waters –O’Neill Forebay

Bob McCollum

Don Gardner and I recently explored the O’Neill Forebay of San Luis Reservoir near Santa Nella. O’Neill Forebay is an equalizing impoundment which collects irregular water releases from San Luis Dam and powerplant in its 56,400 acre-ft /2,250 surface acre basin. The forebay and dam are part of the central valley water system, holding water pumped in from the Delta. A variety of fish are pumped in with the delta water, including striped bass. O’Neill Forebay and San Luis Reservoir are well known for large, land-locked stripers. In fact, the largest striped bass caught in California was caught in the O’Neill Forebay. The fish taped out at 52.5 inches and weighed 70.6 pounds.

Our adventure started with Don attending a tailgate presentation on fishing for striped bass at Oneil Forebay and San Luis Reservoir at California Fly Shop. Don first explored O’Neill on his own; once in his small Port-a-bote and once in his float tube. Encouraged by Don’s success of 10 fish on his first outing, we made plans to return with my boat; first in mid-November and again on Thanksgiving weekend. The first outing, we managed 10 fish between us and we boated 20 fish on the second outing. Most fish ranged 12-16 inches with a few larger fish to 22 inches boated. Stripers are hard-fighting fish regardless of size, so even the smaller fish are fun to catch.

Don and I used gear similar to what one would employ for Delta stripers: 6-8 wt. rods with sink tip or shooting head lines and reels with strong drag systems. Shooting heads of 250-300 grains work well. Intermediate lines can be used in shallow water under 6 ft. The hot flies are medium-size Clousers in chartreus, olive and grey over white, about 2.5-3.0 inches long – smaller than what one would use in the Delta. Big delta-style flies are reported to not work well in O’Neill/San Luis. A fish finder with depth gauge is helpful. Most fish were caught in 6-12 feet of water.

O’Neill Forebay can be effectively fished from a small boat or float tube. However, special attention must be paid to weather conditions. O’Neill and San Luis are well known for strong winds that can arise with little notice. Both lakes have wind warning lights to apprise boaters of unsafe conditions. Current wind conditions can be retrieved via phone (1-800-805-4805) or internet (http://en.windfinder.com/forecast/san_luis_reservoir). Anglers should stay off the water if winds of 12 MPH or higher are forecasted.

Don and I feel that O’Neill Forebay would make a good club outing for boaters and float tubers alike. It’s only 75-90 minute drive from Pleasanton. We’ll consider setting up a trip in the future. Timing will need to be flexible to account for wind and weather conditions.

For more information see Dan Blanton’s excellent online article:

<http://www.danblanton.com/blog/san-luis-reservoir-stripers-on-the-fly/>



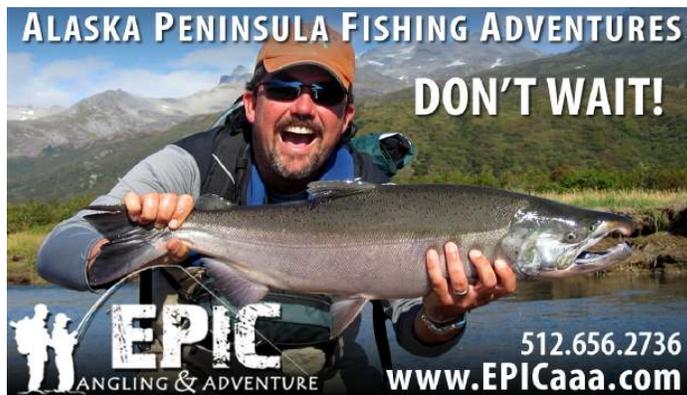


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Items For Sale

Fishing Vests for Sale:

1. **Reduced** Orvis Super Wading Tac-L-Pak. Medium size, Tan color Like new condition. \$30.00, (\$119.00 new)
2. Patagonia Mesh Vest Medium size, Grey color Good condition. \$20.00

Great Prices on Fly lines for Sale:

1. Cortland 444 WF6 F/S 10 foot Sink Tip Type 3, New in Box \$20.00
2. Cortland 444 SL WF7 F/S 20 foot Sink Tip Type 3, New in Box \$20.00
3. SA Mastery XPS DT4 Grey color, one end used - \$10.00
4. Cortland 444 SL WF7 F/S 20 foot Sink Tip Type 6, New in Box \$20.00
5. Redington RS2 Reel for 7/8 lines, with Albright WF7-F Yellow new fly line, excellent cond.-\$60.00
6. SA Mastery Distance Taper WF9-F Mint Green, excellent cond. \$20.00

All lines come on plastic spools with boxes as from the factory. Will install lines on your reel as requested.

Gary Turri (925) 786-5184

Antique solid oak roll-top desk, circa early 1900's. Very good condition. Great for tying flies~ lots of compartments and drawers to organize and store materials Matching desk chair needs minor repair \$200.

**Daniel Kitts at (510) 816-2846
(cell) or 925-484-0561 (home)**



Vacation Home For Rent:

Three-bedroom/2 bath modern home in Twain Harte/Crystal Falls area.

Sleeps up to eight in five beds (1 queen, 1 double bed, 1 double loft bed, 2 twins).

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Modern kitchen opens onto large great room with propane pot-bellied stove. Master suite with queen bed and large bathroom. Garage with parking for one car. Ample outdoor parking. Elevation: 3400 feet. NO PETS. NO SMOKING.



Bob McCollum (925) 989-2358



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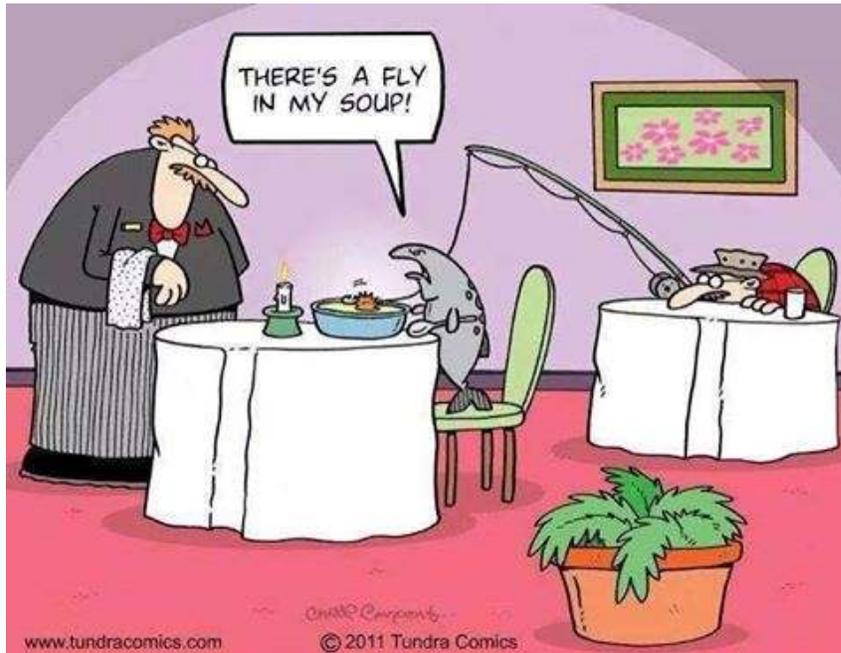
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We meet at the Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club (directions below) on the first Thursday of every month except July and August at 7:00 PM.

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

