

The Barbless Hook



**May
2016**

Editor: Tom Vargas

President's Message

Martin Plotkin

Reflections in the Pond

IMPORTANT MAY MEETING NOTICE

Our May meeting will be delayed one week to the 2nd Thursday in May, which is May 12th.

Okay, I've been running around all day getting ready to go down to Mexico to try a little bone fishing and I find an email from Tom reminding me that it's time to do the monthly article for our newsletter --- what to write about?

First off I encourage you all to look at Doug Wetmore's article on what's going on in the Delta, the twin tunnels and the SoCal water's end run buying up some of the Delta islands. Preserving the Delta is an issue that needs our backing or our kids and grandkids aren't going to have the recreational advantage of the rivers

continued on page 2

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Photo:

Marty, Bob and Rob with a trio of Pyramid Lake Lahontan Cutthroats.
<http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org>
Remember to send your fishing pictures to the editor!

Presidents message, continued from page 1

and delta we've come to enjoy. Picture a delta without bass and the Sac without salmon.

On a lighter note, a little challenge this month.

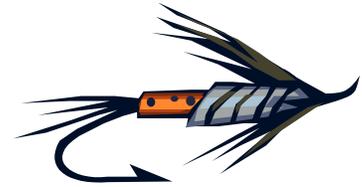
President's Challenge: For next month's newsletter I'm going to send Tom a fishing report and pictures of our group fishing in Mexico and my challenge to you is to send a short report of where you've fished in May and a picture. Let's see how many fishing trip pictures (even day trips) and reports we can get into the next issue of our newsletter.

Now I've got to tie just a couple of more flies before I leave at 5AM tomorrow. I really don't know why I'm bothering - the guide isn't going to like any of 'em.

I'll leave you with Abe's Third Law of Fishing:

The number of fish rising around you is directly proportional to how badly your line is tangled...☺

-m



**2016 TVFF
Speakers Program
"At A Glance"**

**Note: May Meeting
Date Change!**

May 12th :

**Denis Pierce
Lake fishing with
Streamers**

June 2nd :

To be announced

July:

Summer Recess

August :

Club BBQ

**Jim Roberts'
Fly Fishing
Guide Service**



**Lower Sac Floats,
Upper Sac and
McCloud
Klamath River
Steelhead**

**Tri-Valley FF
Special Offer
2nd day is 1/2
off!**

(530) 245-0906

2016 TVFF Board of Directors

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2016 Dues Notice

It is time to pay Membership Dues! The cost is \$45. See page 5 for more information.

Frank

The club's mailing address is:
TVFF
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

Program
Don Gardner

May 12th Meeting Featured Speaker:

Denis Pierce

"Lake fishing with Streamers "



From Denis' Facebook page:

As a life long outdoorsman, my passion is fishing. I host the KNCO Fishing and Outdoor radio program, write the Fishing and Outdoor weekly column for the Grass Valley, CA newspaper, The Union. I teach classes and give presentations on fishing.

It's time for 2016 Dues!

TVFF club dues for this coming year are \$45. 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. If you have any questions, email Frank at frankgordet@yahoo.com or call 925-846-3069.

Checks or cash can be given to our treasurer, Tom Fessenden, or our membership coordinator, Frank Gordet 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

Caples Lake—July 8-10

Tom Fessenden

Caples Lake is located 59 miles east of Jackson along Highway 88 a couple miles short of Carson Pass at an elevation of 7,800 feet. The 600 acre lake has 6 miles of shoreline. Small craft are allowed on the lake with a 5 MPH speed limit. The Launch Ramp is completed. At nearly 8000 ft the nights can be cool. There is a no-reservation campground on the north side and Caples Resort with rooms and cabins for those wanting a bit more comfort. Kirkwood Station is only 1/2 mile east of the spillway and an interesting place for a beer and hamburg. Food is also available at the resort and at a couple places in the Kirkwood ski area.



The lake is heavily stocked with fingerlings and catchable rainbows several times each summer. It holds rainbows and lake trout (Mackinaws) up to 10 lbs or more.

Most fishermen use spinning gear or troll for the big trout. However, fly fishing along the east side from the dam to Emigrant Bay can be very productive. Woolly Buggers and Calibaetis imitations should work well. As the summer progresses the fish tend to look more for things like Rubber Legs and the bigger terrestrials.

I must admit I have never fished Caples although I have been fishing the area every summer for over 15 years, I have fished Kirkwood and Red Lake in wet seasons but I mostly fish Woods Lake which is just above Caples.

For Questions: TomJF@comcast.net or phone 925-837 6483

Campground map: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev7_018856.pdf

Caples Lake Resort: http://capleslakeresort.com/summer/?page_id=1 Phone (209) 258-8888

Fishing Reports: <http://www.fishhound.com/fishing-reports/caples-lake-ca>

May Outing and Fishing Reports

I want to thank all of the members who participated in submitting reports and pictures of the past month's outings.

You clearly listened to my request at the April meeting!

Enjoy,

Tom Vargas



Marty Loomis gets nymphing tips from Jim Roberts

Lower Sacramento Tom Fessenden

On April 2 and 3 Doug Witmore and I hit the lower Sacramento under the guidance of Jim Roberts. The river had been running at around 5000 cfm for a week or so since the washout of 20,000 cfm that disrupted the March group outing. Saturday



morning we put in at the Posse Grounds but couldn't fish until we passed under the Route 44 bridge. As we emerged from under the bridge on my very first cast I hooked one that headed upstream and as I tried to turn him he just kept going and broke off. Could have been a salmon but Jim didn't think so. With any action Jim would back-row a stretch 4-5 times. At the end of the day we came out at Bonneyville having boated 10-12 nice rainbows up to about 18 inches.

On Sunday we put in at Bonneyville and continued down to Anderson. There were lots of fishermen on the water and all were boating fish. Doug and I took six out of the stretch just downstream of the put-in. When we arrived at Anderson we had boated perhaps 12-14 fish that included 4-5 small ones (Doug got the record small), one pike minnow, and had one double-header.

The weather was perfect; around 60 degrees in the early morning with a light overcast and no wind warming up to the low to mid 70s with a breeze in the afternoon. We caught most fish on small (#16-18) nymphs and a few on a white egg. We must have hooked over 40 fish for the two days with most 15-18 in and the largest maybe 19 in. Surprisingly, each day the back of the boat fished somewhat better than the front.



Member Reports

Pyramid Lake, Nevada - March 31st - April 2nd

Robert Schroeder

Let the fish parade begin... was the theme of this wonderful trip. For a trip that had the most amazingly great weather to produce some fantastic fishing was a mystery to everyone. Our guide, Rob Anderson had said that the lake fishes better when the conditions are awful and windy but this was not the case for our trip. Pyramid lake fishing always starts early with a 5:00am lake arrival but even earlier for Bart and Marty with a 1:30am fire alarm wake up call that forced them down the exit stairwell in their PJ's and of course the others slept peacefully thru the event like nothing happened.

According to our guide, the guys; Bart Hughes, Marty Loomis, Bob Mc Collumn, Robert Nishio, James Williams and Rob Fletcher caught around 80-100 Lahontan Cutthroat Trout the first day. When I joined the guys on Friday we continued our success with everyone catching their limits. Our key to success was a parade of fish that streamed by us for upwards of 2 hours. It was fun to target the fish and see the fight in the cold clear water right in front of our ladders. The fish ranged in size from 2lbs to a few larger 10lb monsters. Our final day started slow but ended with a fury of fish streaming by for what seemed like hours and allowed everyone to keep the guide busy netting fish. It was awesome and re-booking plans are in the works for 2017.

A big thanks to Bart Hughes for making the arrangements.



Pyramid Lake



Member Reports

Bob McCollum

Lower Sac-stravaganza!

I fished the Lower Sac with Jim Roberts in early April with fantastic results. I have heard that Spring fishing on the Lower Sac can be epic, and I this trip allowed me to experience it first hand.

The first day we fished from Bonneyview down to Anderson. I caught a very nice fish on the second cast and continued to fish well through out the day. The fish were smaller the further we progressed down river.

The second day, we put in at the Posse Grounds, but could not start fishing until the Highway 44 bridge. DFW recently closed water above the bridge beginning April 1 to protect spawning salmon. I caught a nice fish on the first cast. The action continued hot and heavy and the fish were bigger and feistier than those below Bonneyview. We finished the day at Bonneyview and I caught my last fish exactly where I caught the first fish of the trip. Here are a few pic's. I posted more pics' and some GoPro video on the TVFF Face Book page.



Member Reports

Ken Gotelli

Lake Nacimiento!

In the first week of April, Gary T. and I went to Lake Nacimiento in Central California to fish for white bass and spotted bass. This was our second trip to this lake. The lake was only 35% of capacity and the water was very clear. The hills were covered in a beautiful green and the weather was warm. We stayed at the lake's RV trailers.

We fished small Clousers with 6 and 7 wt. rods with fast sink lines along drop offs and points. The white bass were not on the spawn as we had hoped, but if you time it right, you can catch one after-the-other. We did catch a lot of spotted bass and about a half dozen white bass. The white bass fought really well and you knew immediately when you hooked one.

I recommend giving this lake a try. It is a nice lake with rolling hills covered with oak. They have camping, lodging and RV trailers at the lake. You can get there in under 3 hours when towing a boat.



Member Reports

Mitchie McCammon

Upper Sac Nymphing Class

My First Outing

Beginning Nymphing Trip

My first outing with the Livermore Flyfishers was a two day nymphing clinic in Mt. Shasta. I was excited but also nervous. I was the only female and so new to flyfishing that I hadn't even taken the tags off my new waders and boots. Too late to back out now, and besides, I really wanted to learn what I could. The extent of my experience was learning casts at the Club's flyfishing class and a few weekends at the San Francisco and Oakland casting ponds.

Our weekend started with Kent and me meeting the other flyfishers, Roger, Tom, Marty and Steve. A dinner of lasagna, salad and scrumptious apple pie was prepared by our instructor and guide, Jim Roberts. Dinner was followed by a lesson on how to set up our rig for nymphing using dry droppers and indicators. We learned about the different types and sizes of fly line, leader and tippet as well as the best knots to use. Being the only novice, I was sorely behind in the area of understanding these things and my knot tying skills needed practice. All of the gentlemen were more than happy to assist me when I got stuck or had questions.

Saturday we awoke to a beautiful sky, cool, crisp air and a delicious breakfast. Jim took us to the Upper Sac with a small beach where we practiced our casts and learned a few new ones. From there, we set up our lines with the dry droppers and proceeded to fish up into Box Canyon and down to Canterra Loop. The water was fast and high and the fishing was tough. No one caught a single fish. After lunch we moved to Dunsmuir and fished in different places along the river. I believe there was only one fish caught that day. After a beautiful day on the water I went to bed excited for the next day's adventure. My dreams were filled with scenes of fishing.

Sunday was an equally beautiful day and I was ready to head out and fish again. After packing all of our belongings we headed out to the river again. On this day we started at Sweet Briar. There we used our indicator lines and cast into the current, mending as we followed the line through the water. Kent caught two fish there. We left Sweet Briar and made our way down the Upper Sac, stopping at other fishing holes. At the end of the day, not many fish were caught, but we all had opportunities to try our newly learned techniques.

Accessing the river required us to hike through thorny berry bushes, climb over rocks, and down steep hills. On one occasion, I almost did a face plant when a log disintegrated as I leaned on it. Did I catch any fish? No, but that's ok. I got outdoors and went to places that not many people get to see. Would I do it again? Yes! Would I encourage others to do it too? Yes! I got a few scrapes, learned some new skills, and had a lot of fun, but best of all, I made new friends.

See you on the river in the not too distant future.

Member Reports-Continued - Nymphing Class



Conservation

Doug Witmore

Delta Flows: April 22, 2016

[Read full newsletter at our website](#) or below.

How not to end groundwater overdraft by *Tim Strohane*

I recently read an ostensibly scientific paper with the impressive title, [“Economic and Water Supply Effects of Ending Groundwater Overdraft in California’s Central Valley”](#) by several researchers led by Jay Lund, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of California, Davis, and a researcher with the Public Policy Institute of California.

The study was disappointing, and short on good science. Sadly, the Lund team’s results are often more “truthy” than complete.

In 2014, the “Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” became law in California. This bill requires every groundwater basin in the state to get on a path toward sustainable groundwater management and usage by 2040, and to have a plan in place by 2020 or 2022, depending on where you are. According to Lund’s research team, the Central Valley’s groundwater overdraft stands at about 1.2 million acre-feet per year. That’s about 391 billion gallons of water withdrawn every year from underground, without getting replaced.

Their study was about how to eventually eliminate that 1.2 million acre-feet of overdraft.

The bottom line for the Lund team is that 23 percent of the eliminated overdraft will come from “lost groundwater pumping and reduced agricultural water use” (that is from actual hardship by, mainly, San Joaquin Valley farmers), while the other 77 percent of the ended overdraft will be made up via “increased recharge” and “decreased Delta outflow” comprised of “increased Delta exports and upstream diversions.”

This means that other regions of California like the Delta and the Sacramento Valley would “pay” for the San Joaquin Valley’s debt to nature. (See Figure 10 for their breakdown of the sources of overdraft reduction.)

The cost of ending overdraft statewide, their study estimated, would be at least \$50 million per year.

That may sound like a lot of money until you put it in perspective. It would be a water cost of about \$41 per acre-foot (\$50 million divided by 1.2 million acre-feet), which seems very affordable compared with the Governor’s Tunnels project, which would cost somewhere between \$700 to \$1500 per acre-foot (depending on whom you ask). With about 60,000 farms in the Central Valley, that’s a cost of ending groundwater overdraft of about \$833 per farm per year, assuming all farmers pitch in. (Isn’t that about what some people pay for a year of basic cable?)

Conservation continued

So, either this is a tempest in a teapot, or the Lund team's study has flaws. Or maybe both. Silences abound in this study. The Lund team's study results were aimed at an audience of state and federal water contractors, though this purpose is not disclosed.

While it is common practice for many top-flight scientific research publications to disclose the researchers' funding sources, no such disclosure is found in the Lund team's acknowledgements.

The Lund team is deafeningly silent about how Tunnels conveyance would facilitate the end of groundwater overdraft. Certainly, the Tunnels would ease connection of Sacramento Valley flows and Delta exports via water market transfers, for the sake of offsetting long-term San Joaquin Valley water mismanagement. Such deals would redirect impacts of ending the southern valley's groundwater overdraft to the rest of the Central Valley.

Usually, careful and caring researchers disclose early in the paper the strengths and weaknesses of their method and approach. The Lund team buries their model's limitations at the end of "Discussion", page 16, rather than present them up front in the methods and assumptions section.

The Lund team misses an obvious reality that farm land retirement would likely reduce agricultural water demand in the future. Such retirement may be voluntary (due to water cost) or involuntary (due to salinization or climate change). But the Lund team ignores this likelihood altogether.

A more relevant and useful research priority would have been to consider keeping water in reservoirs for temperature control and water quality for both upstream protection of salmonid spawning habitat and migration corridors, and Delta estuary protection in the face of climate change—all while reducing Delta exports. What would be the long-term economic benefits of recovering these fish populations and the recreational and commercial fishing industries they support? (Just silence.)

The team concludes with a sense of faux realpolitik that "even if it is not politically and environmentally feasible to provide such substantial shifting of Delta outflows to accommodate ending groundwater overdraft, these results show that substantial pressure to increase (and not reduce) Delta exports is a likely result of recent state legislation on groundwater sustainability." (p. 16)

Why is it logical, let alone necessary, that San Joaquin Valley farmers might shoulder just one quarter of the responsibility for ending overdraft that they themselves were fully responsible for creating?

Since insanity is when you keep doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result, perhaps it's time to try a regional self-sufficiency approach to end groundwater overdraft.

The Tier's Bench:

Jim Broadbent-

The Club Get Together

Monday, May 9th, 7 to 9pm

Rod and Gun Club ; small room next to the BBQ area

This month we are going to tie midges in the 20 to 24 range. Robert Nishio will come up with a pattern and I another.

- Hooks: size 20-24 I will have hooks if you don't have them.
- Size 8/0 thread in assorted colors
- Small flash: i.e. crystal flash, flashabou
- Some sort of magnifier or magnifying glasses.

Midges are always around and make great droppers.



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Member Spotlight on Steve Ruley



Q. How long have you been a club member?

A. 10 years.

Q. Do you currently or have you ever held an office in the club?

A. Currently I'm the Outings Coordinator

Q. What occupies your time other than fishing?

A. Travel and photography

Q. Classify yourself as a fly fisherman:

A. Beats the heck out of working.

B. I can't wait to wet a line.

C. I dream about fish & flies.

D. I need some serious help for my addiction.

A. A., It beats working.

Q. What is the fly rod set up you use for the majority of your fly fishing?

A. Nymphing rig on a 5 weight

Q. What is your favorite species to fish for and why?

A. Trout, because I enjoy the habitats where they live

Q. What body of water do you fish most often?

A. Streams

Q. Do you consider yourself a dry fly or nymph fisherman?

A. Both

Q. Do you prefer fishing stillwater or streams?

A. Streams

Q. If you could only fish with one fly what would it be?

A. Birds nest.

Q. Do you have a fishing license for any states other than California?

A. No

BIG BASS Fishing... All To Yourself!

Ever wanted to be able to spend a few days fly fishing for 5-8 lb. largemouth bass on a lake that doesn't see any fishing pressure and being the only person fishing on the lake getting access to the nooks and crannies where the large bass are lurking?

And, on top of that having a comfortable place to stay, three meals a day and a boat provided... All without having to pay a small fortune!



You just have to help teach the Boy Scout (BSA) Fly Fishing Merit Badge during a few hours each day. For the last couple of years I have helped the BSA put on a Fly Fishing Merit Badge program during their summer camp at the Wente Scout Reservation located in Willets, CA. We have had volunteers from TVFF, other clubs in the area and Fly fishermen not affiliated with any club that came from as far away as San Diego. Some of the TVFF members who have volunteered their time in the past are **Jim Broadbent, Dave Fontaine, Marty Loomis, Roger Perry, Martin Plotkin, Hal Wilson and Doug Whitmore.**

The details are simple. There are 8 one week sessions beginning each Sunday starting June 18th going through August 13th. The Merit Badge is taught Monday through Thursday of each week with one class in the morning and another in the afternoon with different parts of the merit badge covered each day. Many people go to the camp for one of the weeks, some volunteer a few days and others have gone up several different weeks.

Where does the Big Bass Fishing come in? The Wente Camp has their own little lake with lots of fish and as a volunteer you have the opportunity to fish it anytime you're not teaching the class. In one evening last year I caught 15 Bass in the 3-8 lb. range. Just ask Jim Broadbent about it!

In addition to the fishing you get the personal satisfaction of teaching some young people the art of Fly Fishing, seeing them tie their first fly or catching their first fish.

I am starting to develop a list of people who are interested in learning more about this summer opportunity. No commitments required at this time, which will come later if you want.

If this intrigues you please ask any of your fellow club members who have been there about their experience.

If you want more details or to be included in future communications on this fun adventure please talk to me at a meeting or let me know by calling me at 510-816-2846 or e-mail me at flifish2@gmail.com.

Daniel Kitts



DVD of the Month - Bugs of the Underworld

Kent McCammon

Bugs of the Underworld is a film about the flies important to trout, if you like Nature documentaries you will like this DVD, the DVD informs the viewer with quality video, sound, and narration. The video shot underwater of bug movement is terrific to help you know how the different bugs move through the water. Produced by Ralph and Lisa Cutter covers both stillwater and river insects. Check out this DVD and over a hundred other titles at an upcoming meeting.

Also, let me know if you have a DVD Title idea to suggest to add the our library or want to donate a DVD.

Thanks Kent

News Flash:

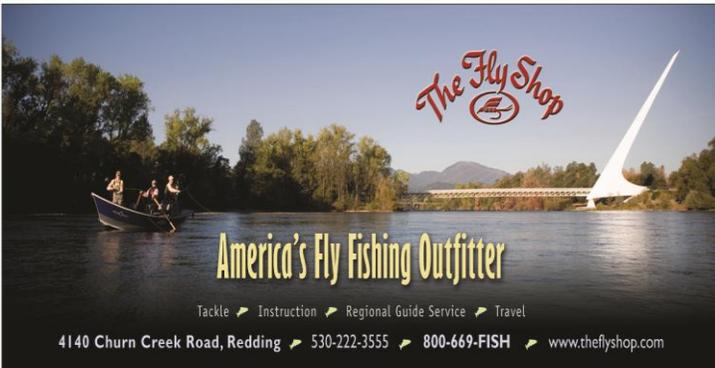
Our club library DVD title list has been updated and now available in the members section of our website. Thanks to Dan for the website help.



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Joe Cerniglia email sawmilllake@sbcglobal.net

Rods and Gear for Sale:

1. **Reduced** Orvis Super Wading Tac-L-Pak. Medium size, Tan color Like new condition. \$30.00, (\$119.00 new)
2. Echo Glass Fly rod 369-3 6 foot 9 inch 3 weight 3 piece, new in case. \$125.00- great small stream trout rod
3. TFO BVK 9 foot 6 weight 4 piece, new condition, \$180.00-great all around trout rod
4. TFO BVK 9 foot 6inch 7 weight 4 piece, new condition, \$210.00-great steelhead rod
5. Redington RS3 9 foot 10 weight 2 piece, new condition, \$125.00- great rod for stripers, salmon.

Great Prices on Fly lines:

1. Orvis Wonderline Advantage Striper WF-10-F new in box \$35.00
2. 444 SL DT-7-F, like new condition \$25.00
3. Add Echo Sphere Presentation Wf-3-F, new in box, \$35.00
4. Rio Grand WF-7-F new in box \$45.00

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Gary (925) 786-5184 cell



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Don't Throw Away Your Old Fly Lines, Recycle Them

I am a Preschool Special Ed teacher and the floating fly line comes in handy for many projects that preschool children make: necklaces, lacing, hanging art, fishing poles.....I would be happy to collect it and give it away to other preschool teachers.

Dave or I attend the meetings pretty regularly; we could have the members bring it to the meetings?

Thanks for the consideration.

-Cathy Hiromoto



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

