

The Barbless Hook

April 2019

Edited by Mark Spruiell



tri-valleyflyfishers.org

President's Message

by Albert Mansky

Greetings fellow TVFF's,

Well, March has come and gone. The rain has let up, a little, but the rivers are still running high and fast. I got out on the Delta for the first time this year, but the fish were nowhere to be found. The big fish of the day was Martin's 10-inch striped bass. Martin also had a "quick release" on a 6-inch striped bass.

Just to give you a "heads up" if you were wondering. We will not be having our auction or swap meeting and bucket raffle at our April 4th monthly club meeting. We missed the six-month time frame window in order to contact various vendors for donations for our raffle. Hopefully, we'll have a bigger and better event next year.

I hope you all enjoyed Jim Roberts's lecture at our March club meeting. We had a number of prospective new members show up at the March meeting, which Rob Farris hosted, that had expressed interest in our club at the February Fly Show at the Alameda County Fair Grounds in Pleasanton. I don't have an exact count, but we did pick up some new members. All in all, the Fly Show was a success for our club. I'd like to thank those members who manned our booth at the show for a job well done.

Last month I mentioned the subject about our club rejoining the Fly Fishers International organization. At our last Board of Directors meeting, the board decided to wait upon any action to rejoin the FFI. This will give us time to evaluate their claims for the "new FFI".



Dennis Rankin with a nice Lahontan Cutthroat he caught on the club's recent Pyramid Lake outing.

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Well, spring is in the air, the weather is starting to warm up and the trees are starting to bloom. It's time to clean your fly line and check out your fly collection and get out there and do some fishing. Till next month, tight lines and good fishing.

I asked Mark to include an email from Eric Drew about his injury on the Putah Creek outing last week. Hunting can be dangerous, but fishing can also have its hazards. Take a moment and read what Eric experienced on his trip to the great outdoors. Never think "it can't happen to me". You never know when that fickle finger of fate will catch up to you.

AL

Jim Roberts' Fly Fishing Guide Service



Lower Sac Floats, Upper Sac
and McCloud
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Steelhead

Tri-Valley FF Special Offer
2nd day is ½ off!

Jim Roberts
916-765-8668
flyfisherjim@charter.net

2019 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers

President	Albert Mansky
Vice President	Martin Loomis
Secretary	John Price
Treasurer	Chris McCann
Past President	Roger Perry

Directors

Auction	Open Position
Conservation	Mitchie McCammon
Education	Kent McCammon
Outings	Rob Farris
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Member at Large	Ron Dueltgen
Member at Large	Tom Vargas
Membership	Steve Johnson
Newsletter	Mark Spruiell
Publicity	Martin Plotkin
Raffle	Gary Phillips
Refreshments	Gary Prince
Speakers	Patrick Donovan
Trout in Classroom	Daniel Kitts
Video Library	Steve Johnson
Webmaster	Tom Fessenden

2019 Membership Fees Due

Membership renewal dues are now due and payable: \$40 if paid before the February 2019 meeting, \$45 thereafter. Checks (preferred) and cash will be accepted. See Marty Loomis.

The club's mailing address is:

TVFF
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

Outings and Activities

Club Meetings

All meetings at Livermore-Pleasanton Rod & Gun Club at 7pm

Apr 4	Zach Miller – Gearhead: matching rods, reels, lines, etc.
May 2	Bill Scharninghausen – Shad Fishing
Jun 6	TBD
Sep 5	Patrick Samuel – CalTrout, Bay Area Programs
Oct 3	Dave & MaryAnn Dozer – Bamboo and fly fishing pursuits

Fly Fishing Outings

Apr 20	Kistler Bass Ponds Day Trip	Ken Tetzl
May 7-9	Hat Creek Salmonfly hatch/Baum Lake float	Rob Farris
May 18	High Water Tactics workshop on the Truckee	Jon Baiocchi
Jun 20-23	Truckee camping trip (Big Truckee, Little Truckee, Milton Lake)	Rob Farris
Jun 30-Jul 7	Stewart's Lodge, British Columbia (Trout & more trout)	Don Jower
Jul 11-14	Float/camping trip – Medicine Lake, Baum Lake, Manzanita Lake	Mark Spruiell
Summer	Wente Boy Scout Camp – Teaching and bass fishing	Daniel Kitts
Aug 24-31	Annual Yellowstone/Montana trip #1	Marty Loomis
Aug 31-Sep 7	Annual Yellowstone/Montana trip #2	Marty Loomis
Oct 30-Nov 6	Palapas Mexico/Mag Bay for snook, snapper, bonefish	Don Jower

Fly Tying Sessions

All meetings at Livermore-Pleasanton Rod & Gun Club at 7pm

Apr 1	Fly tying class – Prince Nymph and Copper John	Jim Broadbent
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Fly Fishing Lessons

Sessions are scheduled based on signup interest.

Apr 17, 24, 27	Fundamentals of Fly Fishing (still accepting students – see p. 9)	Kent McCammon
TBD	Casting Class #1 – Back to Basics	Gary Turri
TBD	Casting Class #2 – Improved Accuracy and Loop Control	Gary Turri
TBD	Casting Class #4 – Single and Double Haul Casts	Gary Turri
TBD	Casting Class #5 – Shooting Heads and Sinking Lines	Gary Turri

Conservation and River Activity

Sessions are scheduled based on signup interest.

Jun 1	TU Lower Truckee/Nevada clean up	Mitchie McCammon
Jul 20	TU Little Truckee gravel spawning bed enhancement	Mitchie McCammon
Sep 7	TU Stampede Road cleanup	Mitchie McCammon
Sep 21	TU Great Sierra River cleanup – Truckee, CA	Mitchie McCammon

Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge – Summer

Share your Fly Fishing Knowledge with Scouts Plus BIG BASS Fishing...

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 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...

You just have to help teach the Boy Scout (BSA) Fly Fishing Merit Badge during a few hours each day.

Since 2014 we have helped the BSA put on a Fly Fishing Merit Badge program at their Wente Scout Reservation Summer Camp located in Willits, CA.



Private lake full of BIG BASS.

The details are simple. There are eight one-week sessions beginning each Sunday starting June 16th. The Merit Badge is taught Monday through Thursday of each week with one class in the morning and another in the afternoon covering different parts of the merit badge each day. Each week teams of 3-4 women and men fly fishers go to the camp. Some volunteer a few days and others have gone up several weeks.

Where does the Big Bass Fishing come in? The Wente Reservation Camp has their own 75-acre lake with lots of 5+ lb. bass and as a volunteer you have the opportunity to fish it anytime you're not teaching the class. In one evening I caught 15 bass in the 3-8 lb. range.

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. Eighty five percent of the scouts come from the greater Bay Area so your efforts are impacting local youth. During the 2018 program 160 Scouters participated.

If you want more details or to be included in future communications on this fun adventure, please call me at 510-816-2846 or e-mail me at dckitts@aol.com.

Daniel Kitts

Stewart's Lodge B.C. Outing – June 30-July 7

This is a trout fishing trip to Stewart's Lodge on Nimpo Lake in British Columbia, 250 miles NNW of Vancouver. The week includes six days of fly-out fishing to lakes and rivers, including the Dean River.

Estimated cost is \$2,900 Cdn, or approximately \$2,175 US at the current rate.

Package does not include license, gear, guides, liquor, taxes, gratuities and transportation from Bay Area to the lodge.

Contact Don Jower to sign up or ask questions:

djowerclay1@gmail.com

510-735-5167



The lodge provides 12 to 14 foot boats with 3hp to 8hp motors.



Private log cabins on Nimpo Lake with hot showers, toilets, two double beds, linens, daily maid service and three meals a day.



Fish cleaning, smoking and vacuum packing services available.

Mexico Madness Ocean Fishing Outing – October 30-November 6

This is a broad based guided fishing excursion across two resorts in Baja Mexico with fishing for snook, mangrove snapper, bonefish, grouper, jacks, marlin, tuna, Dorado, rooster, wahoo, and cabrilla pargo.

Cost including all food and accommodations is \$1,980 per person, not including airfare, drinks, airport shuttle, licenses, and guide tips. All lodging and food is provided as is daily guide services.

Contact Don Jower to sign up or ask questions:

djowerclay1@gmail.com

510-735-5167



Trip Report

Putah Creek – Eric Drew

Ok so now that I am not all doped up, here is what happened. The creek was running really high and fast and there were limited access points to fish. I had tried 3-4 spots and had no bites. I was walking up stream on the bluff above the creek when I spotted a likely place to fish, so I made my way down a tiny trail to creek level. It was probably a 50-75 foot descent then made my way to the water. It looked solid but as I got near, the bank gave way and took me with it. I think my leg got caught on a root as I twisted and fell back first into the water and mud. I got lucky that it was shallow slack water. I knew instantly that the fibula was broken. I grabbed some brush and pulled myself up and onto the bank. When I was able to stand and put weight on the leg I figured that the tibia was mostly intact. One of the guys in the group I was with from the Club saw the fall and came over to check on me. I used his wading staff to work my way back up to the truck. Once there I got a cardboard splint out from behind the back seat and my first aid kit out and got my waders and boots off. I could feel the fibula break and with that we splinted the ankle and I got in the truck and drove myself 18 miles to Kaiser Vacaville. The pain was intense but bearable. Pain meds and a temporary cast later I am at home. I will have surgery this week to insert screws and plates. All in all it just added a nasty twist to an otherwise great day.

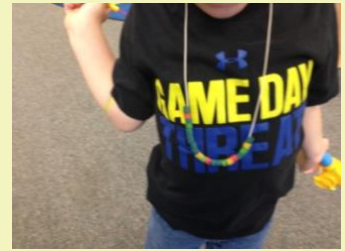
Don't Throw Away Your Old Fly Lines, Recycle Them

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



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The Tier's Bench

Monthly Club Get Together

Monday, April 1st, 2019 from 7-9pm at the Rod and Gun Club; small room next to the BBQ area.

This is a monthly get together where members can drop in and participate in discussions, learn skills, or tie flies. During each meeting we decide what subject will be discussed the following month.

Next meeting:

Monday, May 6th, 2019 from 7-9pm

Fly Tiers Library and Trading Post (LTP)

Most fly tiers, like me, have materials which would probably last several life-times. Often, to tie a new fly, we need a small amount of material which means buying some from the net, which may arrive next week, or jumping in the car for an hour+ drive to a fly shop in the area.

To remedy this, we are creating the LTP. The LTP has 2 resources: the Library for getting small amounts of material (a couple of feathers, small swatch of hair, etc.) and the Trading Post for exchanging your excess with others. Here are the details of how it will work. Both the library and Trading Post are only available to members.



Library: The library will be supported by donations of fly tying material from members. The material will be packaged in gallon sized zip locks with colored labels about the contents. Any member may take a small amount of material for a project and make a modest donation (\$1 min). The donations will be used to buy supplies and, if any is left over, other material for the library.

Trading Post: The trading post allows members to exchange excess tying material for other material. Any member may submit a gallon sized zip-lock bag with the material along with a very brief description to Jim Broadbent. Jim will assess a point value to the material based on his experience (Jim's decision is final). The material will be labeled with a different colored label than the library. Members may exchange their points for material in the trading post. Martin Plotkin will arrange for the LTP to show up at all general, board and fly tying meetings. It can also be accessed by special arrangement made with Martin.

LTP kicks-off, at the meeting, on Thursdays so bring your Trades and Donations.

Education

TVFF is now taking signups for our Fly Fishing Fundamentals Class for beginning flyfishers in April. This three-part class is ideal for the new flyfisher who wants to get educated ahead of buying new gear.

Fly Fishing Fundamentals Class

Dates: April 17, 24, 27

TVFF is pleased to offer the Fly Fishing Fundamentals Class as taught by an experienced group of TVFF members. This three-part course consists of two evening classroom sessions and a morning of casting instruction (equipment provided for class). Wednesday evening classes are usually 7pm (sharp) to 9:30pm (approximately) at the Livermore Rod and Gun Club, 4000 Dagnino Road, Livermore. The club has offered this class in previous years and typically once a year. Don't miss out, sign up early! We will confirm once a minimum of 8 are paid for the class.

Fees for this course are: **TVFF members \$45, Non-members \$85**. The non-member fee includes TVFF membership dues for 2019. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. A comprehensive presentation will be available to students provided in PowerPoint/PDF downloadable from the member website. Please make checks out to 'TVFF' and mail to Tri-Valley Flyfishers, P.O. Box 2358, Livermore, CA, 94551. **We have room for several more students, please mail a check to secure your spot.**

Day 1: Classroom – Wed April 17, 7-9:30pm

- Introduction to fly fishing and equipment needed for the sport
- Recommendations on fly fishing equipment
- Basic aquatic entomology
- Stillwater fishing (lakes)

Day 2: Classroom – Wed April 24, 7-9:30pm

- Knots you need to know; How to rig a fly rod
- Reading the water, fishing streams
- Etiquette and courtesy while fly fishing

Day 3: Casting – Sat April 27, 9am-12pm

- Casting instruction by certified instructor Gary Turri
- Use loaner equipment or bring your own
- Learn roll cast, pick up and lay down cast, false casting

**If you've registered for this class,
please mail your check ASAP!**

Contact Kent McCammon at 925-449-3507, reeltrout1@att.net

Cleaning Gear – Mitchie McCammon

This weekend we had an outing to Putah Creek for the Entomology class. One of the discussions centered on the best way to clean waders and boots, especially because of the invasive New Zealand mud snail. This snail is so prolific that there can be as many as one-half million per square meter. Mud snails are able to withstand desiccation, a variety of temperature regimes, and are small enough that many types of water users (anglers, swimmers, picnickers, and pets) could inadvertently be the mechanism for interbasin transfer of this nuisance species. As you see, this is a very real problem and we need to learn the best ways to clean and care for our expensive gear.



Some of the suggestions were to freeze your gear which is great if you have a large enough freezer and your family doesn't mind. Yuck is what I say, but I digress. Another was to scrub and hose your boots and waders then hang them to dry in the sunshine for a couple of days. That seems to be the easiest, but with all the rain we have been having, there isn't always a sunny or hot enough day to feel like the little buggers have been dealt with properly. There was even talk about washing your waders in the washing machine with special detergent. So, what is the best way to clean them?

First of all you should at least hose off your waders and boots to remove any debris or hitchhikers. Do this in a place where the invaders cannot get back into the watershed. Use a brush to get into any nooks and crannies. Felt soles need to be thoroughly checked as even tiny snails and invaders can cling to the fibers.

As I mentioned before, you can then put your waders and boots in the freezer. This could take 12 hours or more as the items need to freeze until solid. One TVFF member says he freezes one boot overnight, then the other, then the waders. If you have the room in a freezer, this could work for you. It goes without saying that you should wrap them well and inform anyone else in the household as to the contents of said bag. Some people might be looking for ice cream, not smelly wading boots.

According to some websites, including Orvis, you can safely machine wash your waders on the delicate cycle. Be sure to use a detergent that is free of additives such as color-safe bleach or fabric softeners. Brands like powdered Ivory Snow work, as well as, Nikwax Tech Wash or Revivex Synthetic Fabric Cleaner. There are also products to restore the DWR coating if you feel that is necessary. Two brands are Nikwax TX-Direct and McNett Revivex Spray-On Water Repellent.

If you are unsure about using your washing machine, you can always hand wash. The easiest way to hand wash fly fishing waders is in the bath tub. Simply fill up your tub with warm water and add some detergent. Dunk your waders in the tub and use a soft cloth to give them a thorough once-over scrub. Turn the waders inside out and wash the interior. When you're done washing, rinse your waders with cold water. You can use the shower to rinse the waders or take them outside and spray them with a hose.

If you choose to hand wash your gear there are many different solutions you can use. Whatever solution you decide to use, make sure it is gentle enough for your waders. Check with the manufacturer of your gear to see if there are cleaning agents you should avoid. The last thing you want to do is destroy your expensive boots and waders. The table below is a compilation from different websites.

Treatment	% Solution	Formula	Duration	Gear to treat
Dish detergent (Dawn or Palmolive)	5%	1 cup per gallon of water	Greater than a minute 30+ minutes for felt	All gear
Salt	5%	2 cups per 2.5 gallon water OR 1 pound per 5 gallons water	Greater than a minute 30+ minutes for felt	Non-metallic items
Formula 409 degreaser/disinfectant . . . NOT regular Formula 409!	50/50	Equal parts water and Formula 409 degreaser/disinfectant	Greater than a minute 30+ minutes for felt	Waders and boots
99% Copper Sulfate Pentahydrate		3/4 tsp (3.8 grams) of 99% Copper Sulfate Pentahydrate in 1 gallon of water	Greater than a minute 30+ minutes for felt	Waders and boots

After rinsing your gear, the most important step is to thoroughly dry your waders and boots. You can hang them to dry, preferably in the sun. The heat should kill any hitchhikers. This should be done for more than 48 hours to ensure that all parts of the boots and waders are completely dry. Don't forget to turn the waders inside out and dry the inside as well. I loosen all my laces and pull the tongue of the boot forward to expose as much of the tongue folds and insoles as I can.

Lastly, I found an article asking to consider dedicating a set of wading gear to waters known to harbor New Zealand Mud Snails or whatever invasive species is in the waters you most frequent. For many of us, this is not feasible. Perhaps new waders and boots for birthdays and Christmas might be the answer? Whatever method you choose to use, please be diligent so we can stop these invasive species from reentering our waterways. The health of our water depends on you.

- <https://www.murraysflyshop.com/pages/cleaning-and-disinfecting-your-fly-fishing-gear>
- <https://guiderecommended.com/how-to-clean-fly-fishing-waders/>
- <https://putahcreektrout.org/mudsnails/>
- <https://www.orvis.com/s/fly-fishing-waders-care-repair/744>

Items for Sale

Gear Collection – Todd McDaniel

New	2018 Simms G3 Stocking foot Waders, Size LL 9-11 Foot, Cinder Color	\$420.00
New	Fishpond Summit Sling Bag, Gravel Color	\$65.00
New	Lamson Speedster 2 Reel, Silver, Includes Neoprene Case	\$175.00
New	Galvan Torque 8 Reel, Bronze	\$330.00
Used	Galvan Torque 6 Reel, Green. Some rash and nicks but fully functional	\$200.00

Contact Todd – 925-588-6388 cell

Minn Kota Bow Mount Trolling Motor

Donovan Rittenbach has donated a nearly new trolling motor to the club to be used for fund raising. The motor has a MLP of \$700, and is sold used on Ebay and Craigslist for between \$300 to \$500. We are offering the motor to any member for \$200 or non-member for \$250 which includes membership in TVFF.

Description:

- Minn Kota [Power Drive – Bow Mount](#) 12 Volt Motor
- 55 pounds thrust
- Electronic foot pedal
- 54" shaft length

For more information, to look at the motor or to purchase the motor contact Martin Plotkin at angler@outlook.com.



Dr. Slick Spring Creek 5-inch curved clamp

Gold color, asking \$12. Contact Ron Grady – 925-336-0803 – rongradyrph@gmail.com

Spey Rod - Sage TCX 8119-4 (4pc 8wt 11'-9")

Brand new never used, retails for \$850.00. Asking \$400.00 send me an offer

Contact Joe Cerniglia – sawmilllake@sbcglobal.net

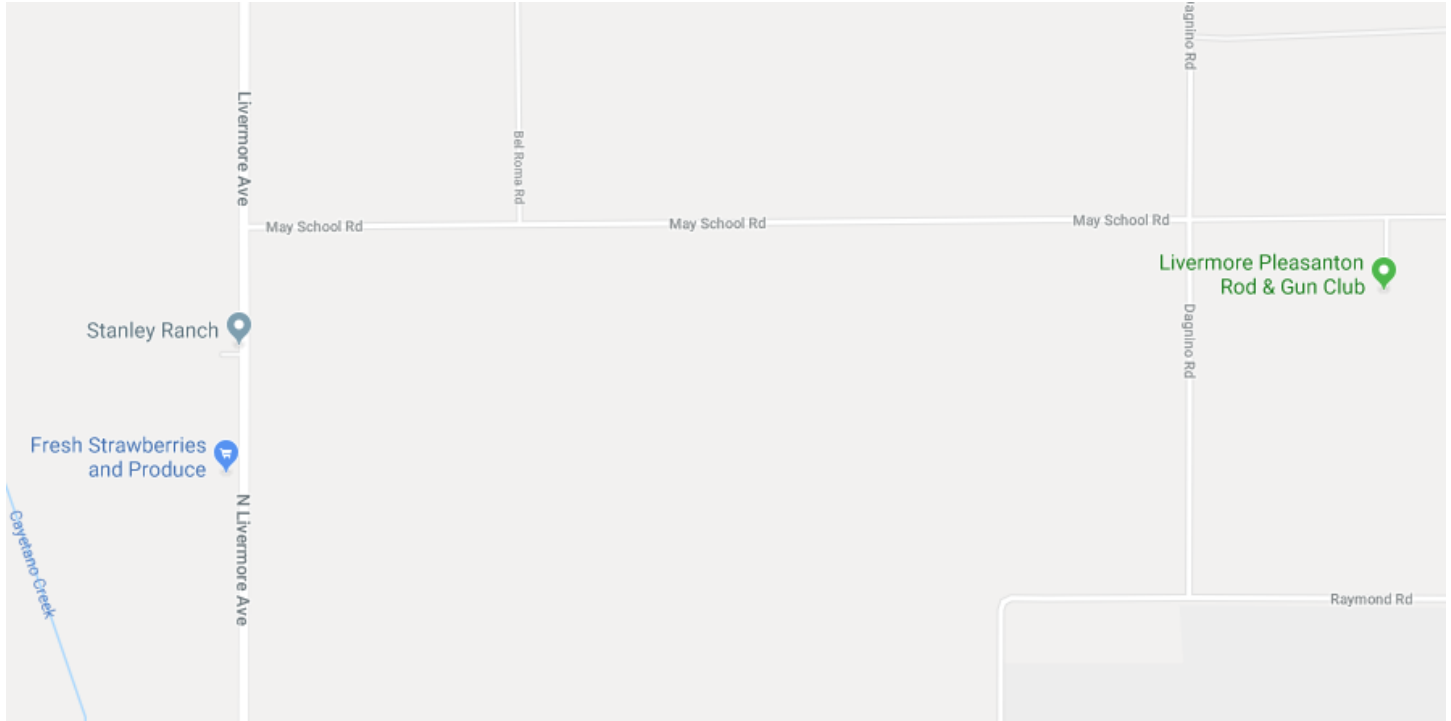
Spey Rod - Sage FLi 8140-4 (4pc 8wt 14')

Includes Rio Skaget Line, 15ft Skaget Floating Tip and 5ft Skaget Cheater Tip for Sale. The equipment is all in very good condition. \$175 for all or best offer – open to trades. For more information, to see the equipment, and try it out or to buy it contact Martin Plotkin at angler@outlook.com.

Directions

We meet at the Livermore Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club on the first Thursday of every month except July and August at 7pm.

Click the map for Google Map directions to 4000 Dagnino Road:



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

