

The Barbless Hook

November 2019

Edited by Mark Spruiell



tri-valleyflyfishers.org

President's Message

by Albert Mansky

Fall is here, more or less. I think we've had more hot days than cool days. The fire season that accompanies Fall is definitely upon us, with PG&E turning off power to thousands of customers. I lost power Saturday night at 8:48pm and it was not returned until Monday around 11:30am.

Thanks to my portable generator, I kept the freezer, refrigerator and some lights going, using up all my extension cords. All of Pleasanton didn't lose power, just those of us unlucky ones living on the west side of 680.

I got to do the lower Sac trip in October. I think Tom is putting a narrative together with some pictures for the newsletter, so I will not go into a lot of detail about the trip, just to say that Don and I got totally skunked on Monday. Not a bite between us. Who ever heard of such an outing on the lower Sac when the Salmon are spawning? The vultures were having a feast on the dead Salmon carcasses. Jim Roberts didn't think the Salmon spawn was in full swing yet from the small number of dead Salmon we saw.

I'm putting together a list of Officers and Directors for next year's Board of Directors. We have a few openings to fill for next year. Mitchie McCammon will not be returning as our Conservation Director. Tom Fessenden will not be returning as our Webmaster. The good news is, Mark Spruiell will be assuming that responsibility in addition to the Newsletter. Gary Phillips will not be returning to host our monthly Raffles. Patrick Donovan will also not be returning as our Speakers Director. As you can see, we have a few positions to fill for next year. If you are at all interested in serving on the board and helping out the club, we could certainly use your



Tom Fessenden and guide Jim Roberts with two Lower Sac rainbows.

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knowledge and expertise. Many of our current board members have served on the board for a number of years and I appreciate their commitment and dedication. We are always looking for "new blood" and new ideas to keep our club strong and moving forward in the coming years.

That's it for now. I hope to see more of you at our next club monthly meeting on Thursday, November 7th at 7pm.

Al

Jim Roberts' Fly Fishing Guide Service



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

Next meeting on Nov. 7th!

Please join us at our next monthly meeting on Thursday, November 7th at 7pm. Our guest speakers will be Bob and Ginny Stewart from Stewart's Lodge in BC.

TVFF meets at the Livermore Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club. See the last page of this newsletter for directions.

Outings and Activities

Some of our outings are described below. Please visit the [Event Calendar](#) on the TVFF website for a complete list of all upcoming meetings, outings and activities.

Mexico Madness Ocean Fishing – 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: djowerclay1@gmail.com, 510-735-5167



Trinity River Steelhead – November 17-19

This is the annual TVFF outing to the Trinity River for steelhead. The club will stay in Weaverville and fish each day with professional guides on the Trinity depending on the location of steelhead at that time of year.

To sign up or find more information, [visit the event](#) on our website.



Member Reports

Lower Sac Rainbows – Tom Fessenden

Six of us fished the lower Sac on Monday and Tuesday Oct. 21-22 with the help of Jim Roberts and two other guides. On Monday Ted Orzechowski and I fished with Roberts, and Al Mansky and Don Jower fished with a guide named Ellis. Ted is a colleague from work and came as my guest. We fished from the Posse Grounds to Anderson. Ted and I had a pretty good day and hooked over 30 fish and of these we boated about 20 with perhaps 13 being in the 15-20 inch class. I fished all day with an egg, a caddis imitation, and a copper john and caught fish on all three flies. Ted got the record small as well as 6 or 7 like the one shown here. My best fish and I are shown below. We didn't measure the fish. Ted and I got a nice double of almost identical fish. (I think mine was bigger). Al and Don didn't get a thing! Guides do make a difference.



On Tuesday It was Al Mansky and Alan Wyosnick with Jim Roberts, and Richard Tarbell and I with Jim Pettis. We fished from Bonnyview to Ball's Ferry. Al finally got into some rainbows with Roberts's help and landed nine, of which three were really nice ones and lost at least nine. Tarbell and I did almost as well although I thought Monday's fish were a bit bigger. Tarbell and I spent most of the day using a different technique that Jim Pettis had developed. It consisted of two eggs on a really long (≈ 20 ft) leader with a small shot and no indicator. The long leader was difficult to manage and took some getting used to. Also, with no indicator there was no mending. The eggs were allowed to roll along the bottom and the takes were quite subtle. I found it an interesting technique and would like to try it again. I couldn't help but think that, with no bobber, Hal Wilson might be willing to try the Lower Sac. It was fun for me to get back fishing again.



Lower Sac – Bob McCollum

Couple of good days on the Lower Sac with Dave Neal. Egg bite just starting. Lots of salmon coming in and starting to dig redds. It's only going to get better.



The Tier's Bench

Monthly Club Get Together

Monday, December 2nd, 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.

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.

Creek Clean Up Report – Mitchie McCommon

One cold, Saturday morning in October, nine of us trekked out to our section of the Arroyo Mocho to clean up the creek. What we found was both sadness and beauty. As we walked the banks, we found everything from small bits of paper and cigarette butts to large pieces of PVC pipe, cardboard and even a deflated soccer ball. In addition to the garbage we also found two homeless encampments. It was sad to see these areas that were so close to where people walk, bike and play soccer. One of the homeless encampments appeared to have a living area and even a cooking area with a makeshift camp stove. Along with the trash were multiple 5-gallon buckets and even a battery pack to recharge cell phones. This homeless encampment was one of the tidy ones as they had bagged all of their recyclables and it was kept relatively clean.

Seeing the trash and homeless encampments makes one realize the necessity of these clean up days. We were given a sharps container in the event we found broken glass and syringes. Thankfully we did not find any of those. Another thing we did not find was contaminated water from illegal grows or dumping, although in some waterways it is a real possibility.

In the midst of the trash was also beauty. The morning was peaceful, the air was crisp, and the company was fun. Normally this creek is completely dry and desolate, but at this time of the year there is a small amount of water. Hearing the trickling creek and seeing the clear water, one could almost imagine there were trout waiting to be caught.

Thank you to all who came out to clean up the creek. In all we collected about 50 gallons of trash and 20 gallons of recycling. For those who weren't able to make it, please remember to pick up just one piece of trash when you are out on the stream or the trail. Help us to keep our favorite places clean and beautiful.



Denis Haire, Rob Farris, Roger Perry,
Daniel Kitts, Mitchie McCommon, Marty
Loomis, Michael Prokosch, Mark Spruiell,
Bart Hughes



The beauty of the creek



Crossing the creek



Battery pack to recharge cell phones



Oh look! Get that cigarette butt!



Homeless encampment #1



Homeless encampment #2 near the soccer fields

Education

The Season of Education Cometh – Kent McCammon

The cold nights of Fall provide a signal that winter is coming, the season to learn and prepare for flyfishing in 2020. Whether you enjoy reading a flyfishing book by a crackling fire or enjoy watching video and seeing articles from the glow of your screen while browsing the excellent content on the Club's website. This article will highlight Education plans on tap for the Tri-Valley Flyfishers in this season of Education approaching.

Our Tri-Valley Flyfishers [Education](#) page has been recently updated and includes a location to click if you are interested in courses the club can offer. It's crowd-sourced and we ask you to go and click on your interest levels.

Flycasting

In October, a group of four of our club members enjoyed Gary Turri's 'Back to Basics' Flycasting Course. The class was organized by Mitchie following the excellent Program at the October meeting. A presentation and hands-on clinic was held on bamboo rods with Dave and Mary Ann Dozer and a Lady Flyfisher dinner was held

as well. For those who want to take a class or lesson in flycasting, Gary can be contacted with information on the site.

Also, our friends at the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club provide a [free casting lesson](#) on most 2nd Saturdays of the month. The next one is scheduled for November 9th, they only ask that you submit your name if you plan to go, no obligation, no cost. The lessons are fun and free at Golden Gate Park. Consider a big day in the City with flycasting with a friend and some time in the City for the Holidays. You can just show up at the facility too on other days, check their calendar as they do have a lot of events at the casting ponds too.

[Oakland Casting Club](#) also offers free courses and a great casting pool facility to hook up with friends and cast.

The next Fundamentals Class

We are now planning to have the Fundamentals class starting in February. We are planning to add a fishing day in addition to classroom and hands on casting sessions, new for 2020. Look for more information in December. In the meantime, please indicate your interest on the [class page](#).

Items for Sale

Rods for Sale – Martin Plotkin

1. Sage 14', 8WT Spey Rod w/RIO Skaget Line (hardly used) - \$150
2. Cabela 9', 3WT - \$40 (barely used)
3. Wright McGill 9', 8WT, BRIGHT Blue (good bass rod) - \$40

Contact Martin – angler@outlook.com

Fly Lines for Sale (lines are new in box or like new condition)

1. RIO Bonefish WF-7. \$50
2. RIO In-Touch Salmon/Steelhead WF-7. \$50
3. SA GPX WF-9. \$45

Contact Gary – gjturri@comcast.net or (925) 786-5184 cell

Gear Collection – Todd McDaniel

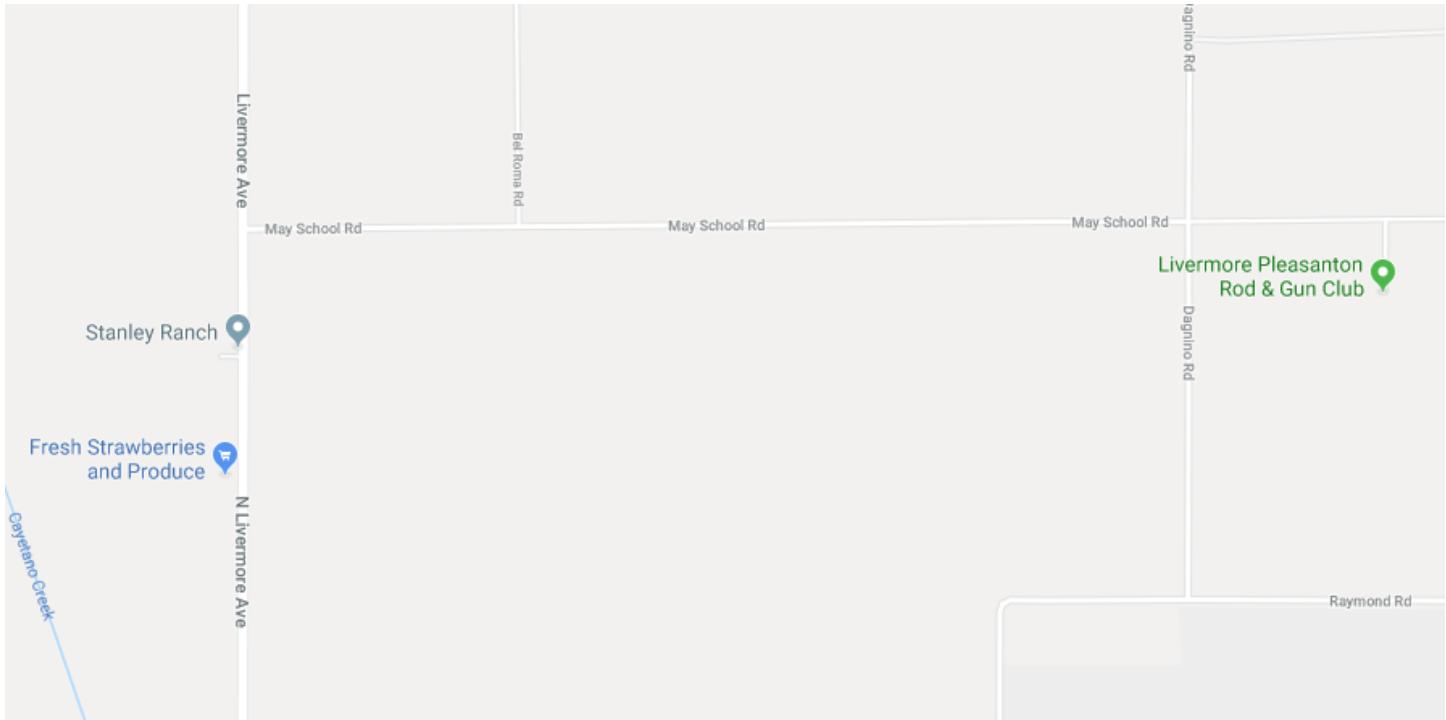
New	2018 Simms G3 Stocking foot Waders, Size LL 9-11 Foot, Cinder Color	\$420.00
New	Fishpond Summit Sling Bag, Gravel Color	\$65.00
New	Galvan Torque 8 Reel, Bronze	\$330.00
Used	Galvan Torque 6 Reel, Green. Some rash and nicks but fully functional	\$200.00

Contact Todd – 925-588-6388 cell

Directions

We meet at the Livermore Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club at 7pm, typically on the first Thursday of every month. Check the club's [event calendar](#) for upcoming meeting dates.

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

