

# Fly Times

## 2020 Board Member:

Gene Tsukamoto 272-6367

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Member

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Rick McCombs: (209)

Newsletter ed. 267-8088

Bill Pshide: 424-3063

Fly Tying Chair / Raffle Dandy

## President's Message

No April fools: Monterey has moved into the Orange Tier. For the club, that means that if Jonathan can accommodate us, we may be able to hold our April Board Meeting at the Fly Artichoke Restaurant. Then depending on the restaurant's occupancy percentage, we might even be able to have our General Meeting at the airport again starting in May. It's been a long tough haul and hopefully we're turning the corner. Remember the general trout season opens on the last Saturday of this month. That makes it this coming Saturday, the 24th.

In fishing news, It sounds like the boys had a bit of a rough go at Pyramid. I hear that Rod Sanchez arrived early and picked up a few as did with Wilson. Fred and Greg both caught at least one according to my report and the rest of the boys got skunked or were stuck with near misses.

Talking about fishing. The Board got together and was talking about possible outing and activities for the year. The things that are currently on the schedule include: the Muddy River Classic on July 17th, The Lassen still-water outing on September 20-26th, an outing for Stripers at the San Luis Forebay and the annual Dinner on January 15th.,

By: Gene Tsukamoto

There's a lot of holes in the schedule and this being a dry year, the trout fishing is going to be happening real soon, so we need to come up with outing. Here's a few thoughts: April/May = Rancho Seco, June = Lower Sac (shad) / Davis Lake (trout), June/July = Almanor / Lewiston Lake, August = Sierra lakes, September = Crowley, Heenan, Indian Creek Reservoir. Take a look at this list and maybe think of a few others that you'd be interested in, then let me or one of the Board members know what you're thoughts are before the Board meeting on the 28th of this month, so we can get busy on come up with a list for the rest of the year. Let's see if we can make it happen.

Well that's about all that's in my "to do box" for this edition. So, until next time, I hope you get a chance to get out on the water and wet a line and I look forward to seeing you on the stream.

Reel'm in and grin-  
.....Gene



## Upcoming Events:

General meeting

(Maybe in May)

Fly Tying:

April 21 (canceled)

SVFF Board Meeting

April 28th. @ the Airport

March Fly of the Month:  
Bird's Nest

Bird's Nest

**Hook:** 2xl long Nymph hook

**Thread:** 6/0 tan

**Rib:** Sm. Copper wire

**Tail:** Lemon wood duck or similar

**Abdomen:** Opossum dubbing

Colored to match

**Thorax:** Same as abdomen

**Hackle:** Lemon duck or mallard  
colored to match

**Bead:** optional



The Bird's Nest is a nymph pattern designed by the late Cal Bird in the 1950's. Cal owned a small fly shop in San Francisco. According to Steve Ojai, he developed this fly for the Truckee River and it was tied in tan colors to imitate caddis pupae, other colors used are cream, brown, and olive. Cal actually used a blend of Australian Opossum and dyed Coyote for the dubbed body. He used Wood duck for the tail and hackle, but other tiers often use Teal or Mallard Flank. There is some argument as to whether Cal actually named the fly after himself or for a bird's nest that hooked on his back cast one day. Nowadays the fly is tied in a variety of colors, with or without a bead head. Considered a general purpose nymph, it deserves a spot in every fisherman's fly box.

***On Persistence***

Nature marches to the beat of it's own drum. And the fish bite when they're ready, not before. An angler's frustration will not force a fish to bite. Nor will his worry.

Since one can not hurry a fish, angling inevitably becomes a lesson in patience and persistence. Once a fisherman has done his best, the rest must be left up to the prey.

So remember: If the fish aren't biting, let them not bite, but keep fishing. The next cast may catch a big one.

**Nor Cal Stillwater Fest**

Jay Jefferson say that it's never too early to start planning. We'll be returned to the Rancherias R.V. Park in Hat Creek long about September 20th-26th to ply the ponds and lakes of the north end of the state for trout. Plan to join us. contact Jay for info and call the R.V. park for reservations @ (530) 335-7418 or (877) 335-0203

**Salinas Valley Fly Fishers Fly Tying**  
**Every 2nd Wednesday evening @ 6:00 ( Quest welcome)**  
**Fly Tying is temporarily suspended**

**Monthly meeting**  
**Salinas Airport**  
**Cancelled**

*Fly Tying*  
**No fly Tying this month.**

**SVFF Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 28th.**  
**Airport @ 6:00 P.M.**

**Call your Board Members**  
**with your ideas for outings**



Invitation from the Nature Conservancy

The Determining Decade virtual summit on April 21 is packed with fascinating speakers you won't want to miss. Tune in for as long as you want, or pop in and out for the sessions that interest you most. Here are a few quick highlights of special guests:

- Dr. Jane Goodall & Jennifer Morris, Nature Conservancy CEO — 2:05 PM Pacific/5:05 PM Eastern
- Delores Huerta, Pioneering Community Organizer & Jerry Brown, former Governor of California — 11 AM Pacific/2 PM Eastern
- Alexandra Cousteau, Explorer — 10 AM Pacific/1 PM Eastern
- See the full agenda [\*\*when you register for free\*\*](#)

This special event is free — simply RSVP by April 21. [\*\*Register now\*\*](#) and join us to learn more about the tremendous impact we can make for our planet.

## “Who Are These Guys Anyway” an irreverent look at the people who make up the membership of the Salinas Valley Fly Fishers

This month we feature **Tim Frahm**. Tim is our resident Trout Unlimited representative, More precisely he's the Central Coast Steelhead Coordinator for TU. He's the guy who can tell you about all the worthwhile thing that TU does.

Tim is 69 years old and grew up on the Central Coast. He has roots all through the area going back to his Great Grand Parents.

Tim is married to wife Chris and they have a daughter Cassie, who you may have met at one of the Pre-COVID Muddy River Classics. Tim went to college at Cal Poly and worked with the Farm Bureau on water quality and water conservation prior to joining TU in 2012.

Tim says that he learned to fish with his Dad. They spent many days fishing the Middle Fork of the Eel, Garcia, Gualala, and Russian Rivers- chasing steelhead, or walking the perimeters of Sierra lakes, casting for trout. He bought his first fly rod when he was about 10 years with 4-H profits from selling lambs. It was a 5 wt glass Fenwick Ferrolite which he says he still has. Back then, he would fish the coastal streams during trout season. Tim says: “I'd hike the streams starting at the top end, dancing a dry fly as I marched downstream, catching trout that were probably juvenile steelhead, but I sure remember also catching browns in some streams, and rainbows in others. Back then, CDFW had a policy of planting fish all over the place.” He also started tying flies as a youngster and he's been tying ever since.

When asked about his favorite fish, steelhead was the answer, without hesitation- “I spend a lot of winter time at it. I landed my first steelhead on one of many trips to the Trinity with Dad, who was a civil engineer. We'd go up for his business trips and stay at the Lewiston Hotel so that I could fish while he worked.” That first fish was caught around Junction City on a Mepps spinner (okay, so that's not really a fly) Tim also shared memories of steelhead fishing on the Klamath and Trinity and mentioned Herb Burton as a mentor who got him into skating flies for steelhead. Some of you members will recognize Herb as the owner of the Trinity Fly Shop in Lewiston. Tim also recounted winter fishing on the Gualala and Garcia were he'd run into folks like Ed Givens (SVFF Life Member) from time to time.

Tim, Chris and Cassie love Yellowstone and spend 2 weeks every summer up there – hiking, fishing and dodging hail and bison. He says: “It's a treat to net the girls fish and have them net mine”. With all the steelhead, trout and

Yellowstone adventures, Tim hasn't lost contact with his coastal roots. He also walks lots of miles on the beach during the summer, throwing lead core with his old Sage rod chasing Perch and Stripers.

Tim joined the club when we moved down to this neck of the woods about 9 yrs ago. He mentioned that he's not much of a social fisherman, but he enjoys the club members enthusiasm for the sport and likes to share stories. There's a lot of experience in the club to be had and Tim is one of those members who is well worth sharing a chat with.

.....ed.



## Event Calendar / Fishing reports

Date	Event	Location	Contact
CANCELED	Monthly Meeting	Salinas Airport	Gene Tsukamoto
CANCELED	Fly Tying	Airport Board Room	Bill Pshide (424-3063)
April 28th	Board Meeting	The Flying Artichoke	Gene Tsukamoto
April / May	Club Outing	?	?
July 17th	Muddy River Classic	Annual BBQ	Jay Jefferson (809-0290)
Sept. 20th-26th.	Club Outing	Mt Lassen area	Jay Jefferson (809-0290)



## The Upper Sacramento River

The Upper Sac is an amazing River that for some reason is well known, but doesn't get nearly as much play as it deserves..The portion of the river commonly called the Upper Sac begins below Lake Siskiyou and heads downstream for nearly 40 miles, eventually dumping into Lake Shasta. You can't drive by it without thinking: "Now that's trout stream". Your second thought will probably be: "Where are all the fisherman"? It is probably the best 'roadside' fisheries in the West. and despite having nearly 40 miles of easily accessible the river remains surprisingly lightly fished. The river is extremely diverse featuring something for everyone: riffles, runs, pocket water, holes, huge pools and undercutts, all of which provide anglers with opportunities to fish whatever kind of fly they want with whatever kind of technique they want to use: dry flies, a variety of nymphing techniques, or even streamers, all in a day's fishing. Rainbow trout are the predominate fish in these waters, and most are healthy, wild, and native to the river system. So you might want to consider putting this one on you bucket list.. ..ed.

(Editor's note-Some information and photos from the stevenojai website ([www.flyfishingthesierra.com](http://www.flyfishingthesierra.com)) may have been included in this newsletter with the expressed permission of site founder Steve Schalla)

We encourage members to visit Steve's website and take advantage of it's extensive information.



THE END