

Fly Times

2021 Board Member:

Gene Tsukamoto 272-6367
President

Wilson Taguinod (408)

Vice President 234-5195

Fred Swanson: 601-5632
Secretary

Chuck Schlough: 235-7578
Treasure

Greg Smith: 595-4406
Member

Fred Farius 247-2740
Member

Richard Higgins 750-9132
Member

Chairmen:

Rick McCombs: (209)

Newsletter ed. 267-8088

Bill Pshide: 424-3063

Fly Tying Chair / Raffle Dandy

President's Message

August was a particularly stressful month for the SVFF. Our general meeting had to be cancelled because the Flying Artichoke was closed. We had to scramble to find a place where we could hold our dinner meeting. We came to realize how fortunate we are to have the restaurant as a meeting place. The Board had a dinner meeting in July, when it looked like Monterey County was coming out of COVID restrictions. It turns out that it was not financially feasible for Jonathan to have the chef and server come in for so few meals. We want to support the Flying Artichoke and Jonathan, who has managed to survive the Pandemic, but clearly there are limits to his good graces and hospitality. The Board has decided to give as much support as we can to the restaurant and hope that we can continue have the facility for our meetings. With that in mind, we're asking that you please consider joining us for dinner @ 6:00 on Wednesday before the regular meeting as a way of saying thanks and to support Jonathan. We've made a commitment to guarantee a minimum of 15 dinners, so please

By: Gene Tsukamoto

help us meet that minimum and assure us that we'll continue to have the airport's restaurant as our meeting place

In other news, It's time to think about club officers for next year. The Nominating Committee will be presenting the slate of officers at the November meeting. In addition to the election of Board members, we're looking for members to step up to fill the positions of Vice President and Secretary. If you have recommendations for Board members or would consider serving on the Board yourself, please call any Board member.

Lastly, with bright eyed optimism, plans are still set to fish the Mt. Lassen area's Nor-Cal Stillwater Fest. Everything is dependent on the weather and the fires, so we'll keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best. T'll then please join us for this week's meeting and remember Fly Tying on the 15th.

-Gene



Upcoming Events:

September meeting:
Sept. 8th

Fly Tying:
Sept. 15th @ 7:00

SVFF Board Meeting
September 22nd. @ the Airport

Meeting this Wednesday. Come @ 6:00 for dinner!

September Fly of the Month
Madam X

- Hook: [TMC 5263 #10-14](#)
- Thread: [Danville 6/0 Yellow Thread](#)
- Body: [Elk Hair/ Yellow Thread](#)
- Tail: [Elk Hair](#)
- Underwing: [Elk Hair](#)
- Wing: [Elk Hair](#)
- Legs: [Rubber Leg Material](#)



Doug Swisher developed the Madam X in the 1980's. It is most commonly considered a Stone Fly imitation, but the Madam X can also be tied as a cicada, grasshopper, crickets, and other large aquatic or terrestrial insect. The original pattern was composed mostly of Elk Hair using a yellow thread ribbing. The Madam X is usually tied with an underwing, or even a foam strip to ensure that it stays afloat in a "Hopper / Dropper" set up. Deer Hair can be substituted for the elk hair, particularly in smaller flies. The rubber legs add to the fly's movement and are a time tested fish attractor. For members who fish the Merced at this time of year. An Orange bodied version makes a great October Caddis pattern for late evening or early morning fishing.

(note: The above picture and some of the description courtesy of Steve Ojai's Fly Box)



Nor Cal Stillwater Fest

When we last checked, there were still RV spaces available. Come join us.. It's the Nor Cal Stillwater Fest. It's a week long, so plan to attend all or any part of it. We'll be returned to the Rancheria R.V. Park in Hat Creek long about September 20th-26th to ply the ponds and lakes of the northern California. call the R.V. park for reservations @ (530) 335-7418 or (877)

335-0203

More information on Page 5

Salinas Valley Fly Fishers Fly Tying
Every 2nd Wednesday evening @ 6:00 (Quest welcome)
August 18th.

Monthly meeting
Salinas Airport
Wednesday Sept 8th.
Dinner at 6:00

Fly Tying
Sept. 15th @ 7:00
Board Room @ the Airport

SVFF Board Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 22nd..
Airport @ 6:00 P.M.

September Outing
Nor Cal Stillwater Fest
Join up @ Rancheria RV Park
September 20-26th.

Fly Tying is Back

Drag your tying tools out of that musty closet and head on down to the Salinas Airport next Wednesday (August 18th. @ 6:00). If you're new to this game and don't have all the prerequisite stuff, don't fear.. Come on down anyway. You can come and just watch or join right in. These guys always have all the stuff you'll need. Everyone is welcome! This month meet the Madam X.

Wilson needs your help

Wilson needs material for the website from our members. He's asking for good quality photos, fishing reports, anecdotes and stories. If you have anything that you'd like to share, please forward it on to Wilson @ wilson-inc@comcast.net



Mick Micheli on the North Platte

“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 take a long look at one of our Life Members, **Mick Micheli**. Mick and Deb Micheli have been fixtures in our club for over thirty years.

Mick grew up in Castroville, moved to North Salinas in his mid 50's and now at age 70 is a full time, on the road, RVer. I'm not just sure how long Deb and Mick have been married, but we doubt that Mick can count that high. They have a son and daughter, Nick and Melanie and what they describe as a ton of grandkids and one great grandson

Amongst his other odd jobs, Mick started work for Hayward Lumber when he was in high school, then became a union carpenter, did finish carpentry and finally became a cabinet maker. In 1975 he began working with his father at Micheli Custom Woodworks. He took over the business in the early 90's and finally retired in 2016 and has been on the road ever since.

If you know Mick, you know that this guy has dabbled in just about everything over the years: surfing, snow & water skiing, dirt & street bikes, hang gliding, sail boarding, camping and hiking. Now days he just travels, plays his harmonica and looks for great places to fish.

Mick says that he first started fishing when he was 5 or 6 and taught himself how to fly cast when he was 12 years old. But, he didn't really get serious about it until his first trip to Alaska. The guide handed him a fancy high end fly rod and put him on a bunch of Silver and some big Rainbows and he and the fish were both hooked.

Mick and Deb joined the club in 1990 and before he knew it, he was on the Board and serving as Vice President under Bill Dickens. Ultimately he served several years on the Board and became one of a very few who served multiple terms as club President. later he was voted in as a SVFF Life Member.

When asked about favorite places to fish he mentioned New Zealand, the Sierras and Pyramid Lake. But his current favorite, with his recent travels under his belt, is Wyoming's North Platte River near Grey Reef. Like a lot of trout fisherman he sights trout as his favorite fish...mainly because of the beautiful places where they live. Mick ticked off three flies as his "go to" favorites: the Elk Hair Caddis for sure, the Flash Back Pheasant Tail Nymph and your basic Black Bugger.

When it comes to special club memories, He had a bucket full; a club outing at Lake Nacimiento when Deb, much to the chagrin of all the old guys, caught a near lake record White Bass, The three day float trip on the Deschutes with Rick McCombs, Frank Cunha and Clyde Green, A float down the Merced River in the middle of Yosemite Valley, and finally a trip down to Laredo with Sonny Wun and Fred DeYoung where he blew out his rotator cuff the first 30 minutes.

In closing Mick said: "I have learned so much from the guys and gals over the years. But, the best are the lifelong friendships we have made. Even though my life style now keeps me from being an active in the club, I am so proud to be a member of the Salinas Valley Fly Fishers."

.....ed.

Event Calendar / Fishing reports

Date	Event	Location	Contact
Sept. 8th.	General meeting	Salinas Airport	Gene Tsukamoto
Sept. 15th.	Fly Tying	Airport Board Room	Bill Pshide (424-3063)
Sept. 22nd.	Board Meeting	Airport Board Room	Gene Tsukamoto
Sept. 20th-26th.	Club Outing	Mt Lassen area	Fred DeYoung

Message re: Lassen area "Nor Cal Stillwater Fest"

Fellow fishers, So far, our Lassen area outing is still on. We'll keep you posted on any changes and they happen. We'll go from Monday, Sept. 20th. through Sunday, Sept. 26th. You can come and join in for any or all of the week, whatever you chose. We're still planning for the crazy hat night and a root and a beer float night as well. We are headquartered at Rancherias RV park ((877) 335-0203) which is on hwy 89 east of Redding. We have a choice of lakes and rivers. Those coming so far include; President- Gene, Fred D., Wilson, Rick, Tim, Greg, Jay, David, Roger, Rod, Bill, new members: Duncan & Liz, Fred F., and maybe you. Float tubes, 5 wt rods, drys and nymphs of all types. (831) 229-1916.

Tight lines----- Fred Deyoung, fishmaster



Deb Micheli with a beautiful rainbow near Grey Reef on the North Platte, Wyoming

(Editor's note-Some information and photos from the stevenojai website (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