

Fly Times

2022 Board Member:

Officers:

Elizabeth McCarter
President (831) 869-8865
Vacant
Vice President
Gene Tsukamoto
Secretary (831) 272-6367
Chuck Schlough
Treasure (831) 235-7578

Members:

Dave Gambetta
Member (831) 970-5065
Fred Farius
Member (831) 247-2740
Jay Jefferson
Member (831) 809-0290

Chairmen:

Rick McCombs:
Newsletter (209) 267-8088
Bill Pshide:
Fly Tying (831) 424-3063

President's Message

By: Elizabeth McCarter

As I write this I am anticipating a great fishing trip with my fellow SVFF members at Pyramid Lake. We have a good turn out with 8-10 members going with Fish Master Richard Higgins leading the way. For me, it is going to be a new experience. I have learned how to rig lines, rods and reels and figured out which flies are needed. I manages all this with help from our members, especially the presentation given at our last meeting by Richard Higgins and Greg Smith. Also, members have been generous with loaning me equipment, transporting ladders and making sure I have the right equipment. This speaks highly of the caliber of all you folks.

Our next outing will be May 13-15 at Rancho Seco lead by Fish Master Rick McCombs. Rick tells me that they have been catching some nice trout and have started catching Crappie. Rancho Seco has an annual trout derby coming up on April 9th. and 10th. Hopefully they'll be some nice holdover trophy trout for us to catch along with Bass, Bluegill and Crappie. At our next fly tying class on April 20th. Bill will be showing us how to tie a great Crayfish fly which we can put to good use at Rancho Seco.

I am pleased to report and welcome four new members; William Elisade, Johnathon Foresman, Dennis Plinck and Pat Givvin. Please welcome and introduce yourself to our new members at our next meeting.

Be sure to let me know if you have some special places the you'd like us to add to our list of outing destinations and don't forget possible conservation projects that the club could do in addition to the Salinas River clean-up. Lastly, the general trout season starts April 29th, so if you haven't already done so, go on line or run down to the local tackle shop and get your 2022 fishing license.

Thank you for showing up for my first meeting as President, your support and generosity is appreciated. Also thank you to those who came for dinner as it solidifies our ongoing meeting place.

Look forward to seeing you at our next general meeting on April 13 and hearing lots fishing reports and the stories that go with them.

Catch one 4 me.
...Elizabeth



Upcoming Events:

General Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th. (6:00 pm)

Fly Tying

Wednesday, March 16th. (6:00 pm)

SVFF Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 23rd. (6:00 pm)

Fly of the Month
Best Ever Easy Crawdad

Easy Crawdad Recipe

Hook: #2 3x long

Thread: 6/0 Brown waxed thread

Antenna: Orange / brown rubber legs

Claws: Hen back or partridge feathers

Weight: 10 wraps .015 lead wire (optional)

Under body: Burnt orange dubbing

Shell back: Scud back, Edge Bright or similar

Ribbing: Medium copper wire

Fishing the Crawdad

Crawfish are present in both streams and lakes. In lakes, focus attention on rocky shorelines, gravel bottoms and areas of downed timber. Fish crawdad pattern right on the bottom. In shallow water, floating lines work just fine. For deeper water, go to an intermediate sinking line or sink tip. Crawdad can move quite fast. So let the fly sink to the bottom and then work it with varying retrieves. Let it sink, pause twitch, jerks, wiggle.. It can all be effective. As the weather warms both the fish and the crawdads become more active, so speed up the retrieve as water warms, but still remember to pause now and then... ed.



Monthly meeting Salinas Airport

April 13th.

Salinas Airport Restaurant

Fly Tying

Wednesday, April 20th.

@ 6:00 @ airport

SVFF Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 27th.

@ 6:00 P.M.

Club Outing

Rancho Seco May 13th.-15th.

Bass, Trout Bluegill, Crappie

Salinas Valley Fly Fishers Fly Tying

Every 3rd. Wednesday evening @ 6:00 (Quest welcome)

Next meeting: at the Salinas Airport Conference Room

Who's The GOAT?

Who's the Greatest Of All Time among fly fisherman? This is a question that often arising among fly fishers. Not long ago Fly Fisherman magazine did a feature on Lefty Kreh referring to him as the GOAT. Others might suggest it's Dave Whitlock or Joe Brooks, maybe Vincent Marinaro or even Ted Williams. This month guest editor, Brookside Muser makes a case for Lee Wulff as the Greatest of all time.

Lee Wulff

Lee Wulff (1905-1991) is an icon in the American fly fishing community. Born in Brooklyn, NY, Wulff's father uprooted his family to seek gold in Valdez, Alaska. By the age of 10 he was learning how to fly fish with silk lines and leaders in the streams around Valdez.

Wulff earned a degree in Engineering from Stanford but eschewed his education to become an artist. The Great Depression caught Wulff newly married and unemployed but eking out a living doing free lance work with more and more time spent fly fishing. It was a seminal trip to Nova Scotia (where he caught his first Atlantic Salmon) which tipped the scale for Lee. That trip marked the crossroads in his journey into the world of fly fishing. The public started to take notice of him with his release of the book "Handbook of Freshwater Fishing" in 1939 where he introduced anglers to the concept of catch and release.

Wulff put his education and training to good use as he became more immersed in the fly fishing world. Among his many contributions were inventing the fly fishing vest, introducing practice casting rings, inventing palming spool fly reels, advocating reeling with the off hand (thus being able to keep the rod in ones dominant hand), designing a triangle taper line, and using the ruffle hitch for salmon fishing. His best known innovations, however, were the flies he developed.

Wulff believed West Coast fisheries required more robust flies than the English inspired flies endemic to the streams of the country's East Coast. He started tying bigger flies and used hair for wings and tails to increase buoyancy. Eventually his flies evolved into the Grey Wulff, White Wulff, and the highly effective and popular Royal Wulff.

Lee Wulff was, along with all his other accomplishments, an avid pilot. He died on April 28, 1991 near Hancock, New York when the Piper Super Cub he was piloting crashed into trees at the end of the runway during a landing. It is believed that he had a heart attack and that was the cause of the crash.

So, after catching a nice fish on a Royal Wulff using a triangular tapered line and then retrieving forceps from your vest to safely release the fish, stop and think of Lee Wulff. We all benefit from the products of his inventiveness and creativity every time we go fishing.

by: Brookside Muser

Pyramid Progress Report

As the newsletter goes to print, intrepid members of the Salinas Valley Fly Fishers are beating their brains out trying to catch a fish or two along the windy shores of Lake Pyramid. Elizabeth reports live from the scene that in addition to she and Duncan, Fred Farias, Greg Smith, Richard Higgins, Bill Pshide, Rod Sanchez, Chuck and Chris Schlough, Gene Tsukamoto and Roger Caton are all there. She says the fishing is a little slow and the wind is rock'n. As is the custom, they had blueberry pie and ice cream. In addition Greg and Richard furnished up hot dogs, chili and cornbread for lunch out at Indian Head...so all is well and we wish them safe travels.

Rancho Seco Outing



Rancho Seco

Are you planning to go to Rancho Seco in May? If you are, chances are that you've already made reservations to camp. As far as getting there, from Salinas it's about a 3 hour drive. You can either go through San Jose or over Pacheco Pass. The San Jose can be a little bit quicker, but is often a traffic nightmare. If you go over Pacheco, Hwy 5 is probably better then going over to 99.. Take Hwy 5 to Stockton then Hwy 4 to 99. once you're on 99, you'll go 13-14 miles to Twin Cities Rd. (Hwy 104) and go east for about 12 miles. You'll see the Huge concrete cooling towers and all you need to do is turn in when you get there.

Out Guessing the Flows

Anybody want to fish the Merced this year, how about the Truckee or the East Carson. Not to mention the lakes: Davis, Frenchman, Almanor, Manzanita and all the rest.. I notice that Geoff at Central Coast Fly Fishing has two guided trips on the Merced coming up in July. If you're interested, check out his web-site or stop by. It might give you a leg up for the outing that we have scheduled for August. But, don't be surprised if that outing get cancelled.

There's a good chance that the water will be too hot and too low by the time August comes around. Checked the flows on the Merced today, it's white water rafting time and the water is flowing at 2800 cfs. Keep in mind that what's good for fishing is more like 300-500 cfs. None-the-less I wouldn't be surprised to see rafting that usually goes into late June or July, over and done with by the end of this month. We'll be keeping an eye on it, but that could mean good fishing in the cooler weather of May and early June. If you're thinking about going to Almanor this year, The same kind of thinking might apply. The Hex hatch usually happen somewhere around the 4th. of July, now some of us are thinking maybe we should go 2-3 weeks earlier. Who knows?

In the mean time I'll pass on a couple of tips that Geoff put in his newsletter. It's time to clean and grease up those reels, clean the ferrels on your rods and put a little wax on them.

Clean and dress your fly lines. Get some fresh tippet, Throw out those old rusty flies and buy yourself a new lucky fishing hat and a new tube of sunblock. I'm sure that there's a lot more to do, but that's good enough for now..so let's go fish'n..ed

2022 SVFF Club Event Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Contact
April 4th.-8th	Club Outing (Cutthroat)	Pyramid Lake, Nevada	Greg Smith
April 13th	Monthly Meeting	The Flying Artichoke	Elizabeth McCarter (831) 869-8865
April 20th	Fly Tying	Airport Board Room	Bill Pshide (831) 424-3063
April 27th	Board Meeting	Airport Board Room	Elizabeth McCarter (831) 869-8865
May 13th.-15th.	Club Outing (Bass & ?)	Rancho Seco Reservoir	Rick McCombs (209) 418-8425
June 3rd.-5th. (tent.)	Club Outing (Trout)	Davis Lake	TBD
June 24th.-26th. (tent.)	Club Outing (Trout)	Lake Almanor	TBD
July 9th.	MRC Annual BBQ	To be determined	Elizabeth McCarter (831) 869-8865
August 19th.-21st.	Club Outing (Trout)	Merced River	Jay Jefferson
September 15th.-18th.	Club Outing (Trout)	NorCal lakes	Dave Gambetta
November 11th.-13th.	Club Outing (Stripers)	O'Neill Forebay	TBD
November	Salinas River Clean-up	Salinas River	Board of Directors
December 16th.-18th.	Outing (steelhead)	To be determined	TBD
January (2021)	Annual Dinner	To be determined	Elizabeth McCarter

Patience

Nature marches to the beat of it's own drum. And 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't hurry a fish, angling inevitably becomes a lesson in patience and persistence. Once a fisherman has done his best, the rest must be left to his prey. So remember: If the fish aren't biting, let them not bite. But keep fishing.C. Freeman

(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