

Fly Times

2022 Board Member:

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Vacant

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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

Editor's note:

Late last month Wilson Taguinod informed the Board that he needed to step down as President of the club. We want to wish Wilson all the best and thank him for the energy and contributions that he has made during his time in SVFF and as a member of the Board.

Vice President Elizabeth McCarter has graciously agreed to take the club reins and lead us forward. I hope that you'll all give Elizabeth your full support.....ed.

A Message for Elizabeth

March is already here. Spring is right around the corner and it's starting to warm up. I hear that some of the members have been hitting the bass ponds looking for the bass to start moving into the shallows. Rick says he and a couple of the Sutter Creek boys have been scouting out Rancho Seco for the May outing.

The Board has been working diligently to put together a calendar with ideas for outings for the year. Be sure to let us know if you have favorite fishing spots that you'd like to have included. We've got two outings coming up soon: the San Luis

By: Elizabeth McCarter

Reservoir forebay (aka: O'Neill Forebay) and Pyramid Lake. Greg Smith will be hosting a pop up clinics focused on Pyramid Lake, so please be sure we have your email address. Greg and Richard will also be featured at this Wednesday's evening meeting, so you can get all the information about the outings.

I hear that a few of our members went to the Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton. Early reports made it sound like it was pretty small compared to years past and quite a few of the regular vendors weren't there.

At this months Fly Tying session, Bill's going to be tying up Chironomid patterns . He says that these are pretty easy patterns to tie, I hope you'll join us at the airport on Wednesday the 16th. at 6:00. There's always people to help out the beginners so don't worry about having all the equipment and materials. As a newer member, I went to my first class in February and everyone was very helpful. I look forward to serving all of you and having a great 2022 fishing year.

Tight lines and happy times, 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)

March Fly of the Month
Chironomid

Simple recipe:

Hook: Scud style hook, Size 12-16

Body: Black thread, Size 6/0

Rib: Fine copper or colored wire

Head: White, Copper or Black bead



About Chironomids

Chironomid patterns vary widely in color and size. Sizes of the natural insects range from too small to tie to nearly an inch long. They make up the predominant food source for trout in many lakes. Chironomids have a complete life cycle going from egg to larva to pupae to adult. Most chironomid patterns imitate the pupa stage and tend to be fished within a foot of the bottom. The pupa form can be imitated with both a curved hook and a straight hook, because of the natural pupas wiggle and may present as straight or curved at any point in time. The larva are often red in color because of their ability to retain hemoglobin. The larva look like a little red worm and can be appropriately imitated with a small worm pattern. When they emerge out of the larval shuck they may retain some of the red color, so patterns like the one shown above with a hint of red can be very effective (cont. 4)

Monthly meeting Salinas Airport

March 9th.

Salinas Airport Restaurant

Fly Tying

Wednesday, March 16th.

@ 6:00 @ airport

SVFF Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 23rd.

@ 6:00 P.M. @ Jefferson Ranch

Outing

O'Neill Forebay

March 13-14

Salinas Valley Fly Fishers Fly Tying

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

Next meeting: at the Salinas Airport Conference Room

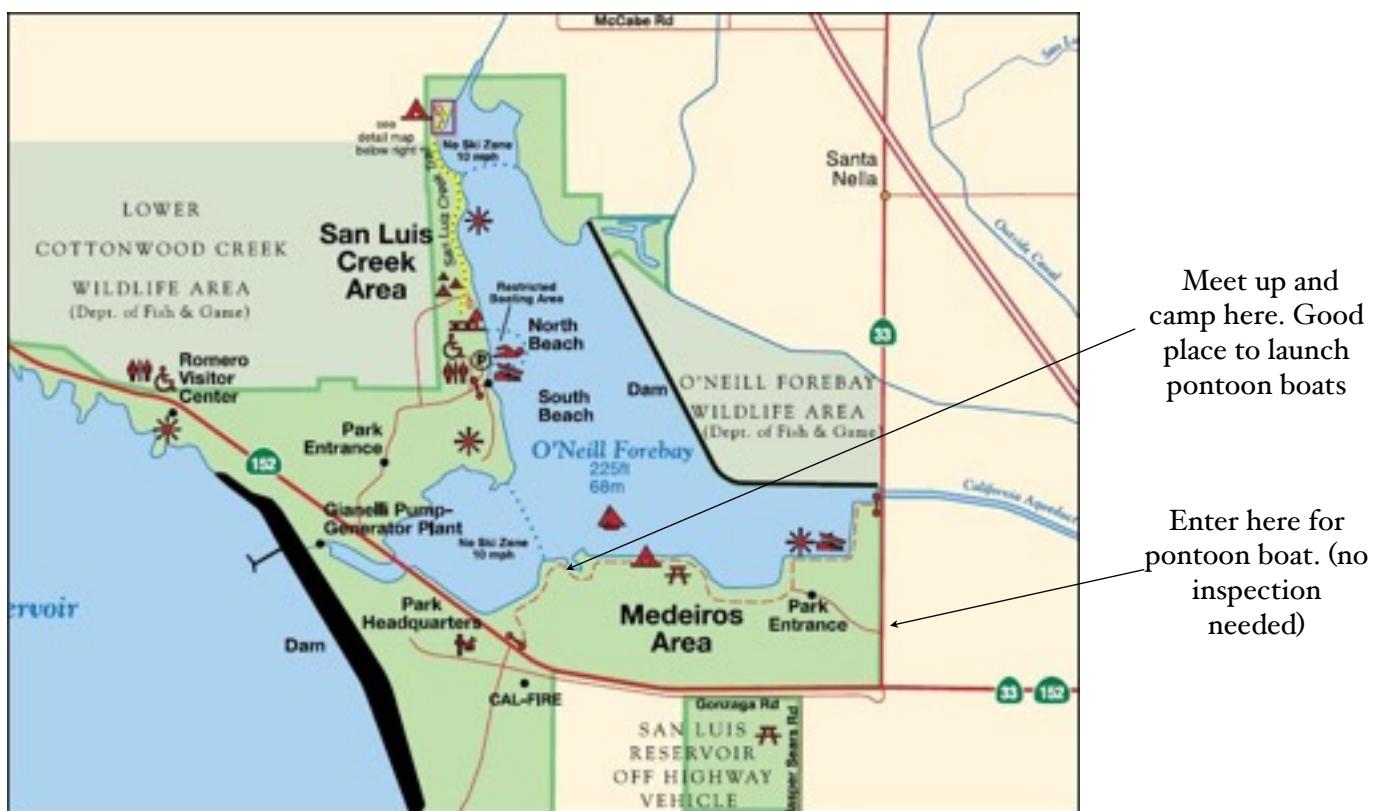
(Chironomid cont.) The other prominent feature of the pupa stage are the white gills. In the pattern above the gills are represented by the white bead. In other patterns, white floss, yarn and ostrich herl may be employed effectively to this purpose. While the pupa spends most of its life near the bottom of the water column, it does eventually emerge at the lake surface into the adult form. At the surface the pupa pushes through the surface film where wings emerge, and dry until the adult flies off the surface to mate, lay eggs and eventually die. Trout will often come to the surface and feed on the emerging adult and still-borns caught in the surface film. The "emergers" can be imitated as simply as replacing the pattern's white bead with a small piece of white foam that floats the head of the fly onto the surface.

Chironomid patterns are most commonly fished under strike indicators, but can also be effectively fished with clear intermediate sink lines or dry lines with long leaders. When tying Chironomid pupa patterns, probably the most important characteristic to keep in mind is that they are very slim. Beyond that, the size can easily range from 24's to 8, but practically speaking size 12-18 is probably the sweet spot. Colors: olive, brown, black, red, maroon and anything in between will suffice. Patterns should be segmented with somewhere around 7 turns of wire or similar material and when using wire it is effective to use a contrasting color to help define the segments.

Lastly, two points to consider. This is a fly pattern that invites you to be creative and when it comes to fishing it, you can rest assured that regardless of the time of year, there's a good chance that there are chironomids down there that the trout are feeding on. Granted, these flies are often not much to look at and they probably won't instill a whole bunch of confidence at first glance. But, give them a try and you'll likely find out that in the fly fishing world the little unassuming chironomid May well be "The Little Engine That Could"...

... (ed.)

San Luis Reservoir (O'Neill Forebay) Club Outing March 13-14th

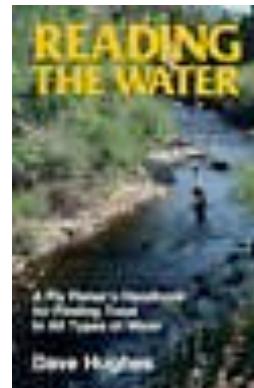


Book Review***Reading the Water* by Dave Hughes**

Dave Hughes' standing as an icon in the sport of Fly Fishing is amply exhibited in his thorough examination of how to read water. He doesn't just inform us of how to read a typical trout stream consisting of riffles, runs, and pools to determine where fish may be located. He delves into why we can find them throughout the system by dissecting their lies (holding, feeding, sheltering, and prime) how to fish each lie, and how to recognize empty water.

Each chapter details where to find fish (top, middle, and bottom), how to fish each level, what insects we can expect to find, what flies to use for each section, and what size said flies should be. He is repetitive with some of his material, but doing so helps clarify the specific needs of the section of a stream one is fishing. If you want to catch more trout in rivers and stream, *Reading the Water* will help you get there.

by: Wiley Z. Trout

**California Fly Fisher Features Pyramid and O'Neill Forebay**

The February addition of the California Fly Fisher did a nice job of representing the club's next two outing. This month we'll be heading to the Forebay and the venerable old man of San Luis Reservoir, Dan Blanton, parcels out a nice overview of what to expect and on the Forebay. Noting that wind can be a factor to consider, he shares the windfinder site: (https://www.windfinder.com/forecast/san_luis_reservoir) He also shares his bulletin board address: (www.danblanton.com/bulletin/php) and Meng Syn's blog: (www.mengsyn.com) the later of which I highly recommend. The gist of the article makes suggestions for rods, lines and leaders. Anything between a 6wt and 8wt. will probably do you just fine. As for lines, the integrated float / fast sink lines tend to be most popular these days. The Teeny 300 has been a standby for years along with newer T-11 and T-14. (T stands for tungsten) Both Rio and Scientific angler make excellent lines for this purpose. When it comes to leaders. Dan's suggestion for leaders is simply 8 feet of 20# mono. attached to your fly with a non-slip knot. He also covers watercraft, and then delves into HPS "high percentage spots" to fish. Dan puts emphasis on fishing the edges of the weed lines, the drop offs near the flats, along with working the rock wall of the dam face. When fishing the weed lines, consider casting and retrieving parallel to the weed line. Jig hooks have proved themselves in recent years and popular minnow patterns include: Flash Tail, the Clouser and Haskins San Luis Smelt. Size 1/0 is suggested and the color palette includes white, brown, yellow, chartreuse and any combination thereof. For further recommendations, be sure to come to this week's club meeting at the airport.

The same issue also had a handy article about Pyramid written by Bob Gains. Gains does a stellar job of recounting the long and eventful history of Pyramid lake. It's probably something that will prove fascinating to any first timers who make the outing. Perhaps, most notable, is the discovery and reintroduction of the Pilot Peak strain of Cutthroat into the lake. Now, if you fish the Forebay this month, then the same rod and line will probably service you well for Pyramid. You may want to include a second rod, perhaps a 6 wt. with a floating line for indicator fishing. You'll also want to up-scale your wardrobe and be prepared for a cold breeze. A water proof wading jacket with a hood should be consider a necessary requirement. beyond that, we'll save the balance of this article for our April edition..

SALINAS VALLEY FLY FISHERS

MARCH 2022

2022 SVFF Club Event Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Contact
March 9th.	Monthly Meeting	The Flying Artichoke	Elizabeth McCarter (831) 869-8865
March 12th-14th.	Club Outing (Stripers)	O'Neill Forebay	TBD
March 16th.	Fly Tying	Airport Board Room	Bill Pshide (831) 424-3063
March 23rd.	Board Meeting	To be determined	Elizabeth McCarter (831) 869-8865
April 4th.-8th.	Club Outing (Cutthroat)	Pyramid Lake, Nevada	Greg Smith
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

The time must come to all of us, who live long, when memory is more than prospect.

An angler who reaches this stage and reviews the pleasure of life will be grateful and glad he has been an angler.

.... Lord Grey of Fallondon

(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.



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