

The Barbless Hook



March 2016

Editor: Tom Vargas

President's Message

Martin Plotkin

Reflections in the Pond

IMPORTANT MAY MEETING NOTICE

**Our May meeting will be delayed
one week to the 2nd Thursday in
May, which is May 12th.**

Thank you, thank you and thank you.

Everyone knows the President is getting a fly plaque including the President, so it shouldn't have been a big surprise. I can't really describe how unprepared I was for the emotion I felt when Jim Broadbent presented it.

Thanks to all of you for the plaque, Jim for the skill and effort that went in to making it and all of you who tied the flies that were used.

continued on page 2

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Photo:

2016 Installation Dinner. Darrell receives award from the DFW for Trout in the Classroom.

<http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org>

Remember to send your fishing pictures to the editor!

Presidents message, continued from page 1

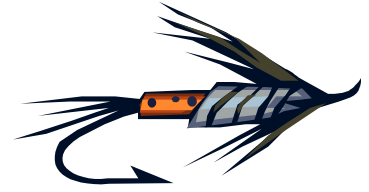
Thanks also to the board for your efforts in making 2015 another great TVFF year.

I'll leave you with this final thought from Patrick McManus: There is no greater fan of fly fishing than the worm.....☺

-m



Martin's presidential fly plate.



***2016 TVFF
Speakers Program
"At A Glance"***

March 3rd :

Al Smatsky
Central Valley Shad

April 7th :

To be Announced

May 12th :

**Note May Meeting
Date Change!**

Jim Roberts' Fly Fishing Guide Service



Lower Sac Floats,
Upper Sac and
McCloud
Klamath River
Steelhead

Tri-Valley FF
Special Offer
2nd day is 1/2
off!

(530) 245-0906

2016 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers	
President	Martin Plotkin
Vice President	Roger Perry
Secretary	John Price
Treasurer	Tom Fessenden
Past President	Daniel Kitts
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Auction	Marty Loomis
Conservation	Doug Witmore
Education	Steve Johnson
Outings	Steve Ruley
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Member at Large	Greg Murawski
Membership	Frank Gordet
Raffle	Gary Phillips
Refreshments	Gary Prince
Speakers	Don Gardner
Trout in Cl. Rm.	Darrell Bridgman
Video Library	Kent McCammon
Publicity	Rob Vellinger
News Letter	Tom Vargas
Web Content	Hal Wilson
Web Master	Dan Vargas

2016 Dues Notice

It is time to pay Membership Dues! The cost is \$45. See page 6 for more information.

Frank

The club's mailing address is:
TVFF
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

OUTINGS AND EVENTS

Steve Ruley

March 2016

<u>DATES</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FISHMEISTER</u>
MARCH 19-20	LOWER SACRAMENTO RIVER	DOUG WITMORE
MARCH 31-APRIL 2	PYRAMID LAKE	BART HUGHES
APRIL 15-17	NYMPHING CLASS, UPPER SAC	STEVE RULEY
JULY16-23	MONTANA RIVERS	MARTY LOOMIS
APRIL 30-MAY 7	YUCATAN PENINSULA	JIM BROADBENT
SEPTEMBER 17-24	LA PAZ	JIM BROADBENT
SEPTEMBER 23- 25	ALPINE LAKE, NF STANISLAUAS	TOM VARGAS D. BRIDGMAN
DECEMBER 10	DELTA STRIPERS	TOM VARGAS

CHOICE OUTINGS IN SEARCH OF A FISHMEISTER

LAKES-

SHADOW CLIFFS LAKE/BASS PONDS
LOS BANOS RESERVOIR
PINECREST LAKE
BAUM LAKE
JACKSON MEADOWS/MILTON RESERVOIRS

STREAMS-

LOWER TUOLUMNE
YUBA RIVER
N. FORK FEATHER RIVER
WALKER RIVER
LOWER BURNEY CREEK

NOTE:

I will continue to add prospective locations in upcoming newsletters, but I welcome your suggestions and ideas anytime.



Program
Marty Loomis

March 3rd Meeting Featured Speaker:

Al Smatsky

" Central Valley Shad "

Club Members,

Our March speaker will be Al Smatsky of Excellent Adventures . It seems like every time you go shad fishing, there is always one angler in the line that has the hot rod! Maybe it's the color of his flies, maybe his leader length, tippet size or the type of fly line he is using.

Al Smatsky has been shad fishing for over 45 years. Al's Central Valley Shad presentation will explore these topics along with optimum water flows for our valley rivers and timing the shad runs.

Link to a great Ken Hanley Shad fishing article on Al's website:

<http://www.excellentadventures.org/excellent%20adventures/index3.htm>

Marty
925-426-1863



Link to Al's Website:

<http://www.excellentadventures.org>

Bug Collecting Reminder

Kent McCammon

Ding dong. Bring out your Dead
(insects that is)!

We have loaned out many vials to have members collect insects for the club insect collection used for club classes. Please collect and return using the directions on the handouts. If you have empty vials please return at the meeting if you do not plan to collect this year, we are running out!

Call Kent if you have questions.



It's time for 2016 Dues!

TVFF club dues for this coming year are \$45. A membership covers you and all family members living at home. All are encouraged to participate in club outings however, liability release signatures are required of those 18 or over. If you have any questions, email Frank at frankgordet@yahoo.com or call 925-846-3069.

Checks or cash can be given to our treasurer, Tom Fessenden, or our membership coordinator, Frank Gordet at any regular club meeting.

Checks made out to TVFF can also be mailed to :

Tri-Valley Fly Fishers
PO Box 2358
Livermore, CA 94551

Lower Sacramento River Outing

March 19-20, 2016

Doug Witmore

I'm going to be Fish Meister for 2 days of fishing the Lower Sac on 3/19 and 3/20. Jim Roberts is the guide. He told me that March is one of the better times to fish this part of the River.

We are planning on guides for 3 boats (2 fisherman each boat). The charge per boat per day is \$450. For those planning to go on this trip, I will need \$225 deposit before February 1st, 2016.

Sign up sheets will be out at our next TVFF meeting, January 7th.



“Lower Sac” Rainbow Trout

Mexico 2016

This is the official announcement of the club salt water trips to Mexico. There are two trips planned for 2016.

Xcalak -Tentatively Full

Grab your suntan lotion and big boy rods for a week of flats or inshore saltwater fly fishing in old Mexico.

The first trip is April 30 thru May 7 in the small-town of Xcalak on the Yucatan Peninsula. Using 8wt rods, we will hook up with lots of bone fish and have shots at permit, tarpon, barracuda and snook. I am always surprised at how strong a 18" bone fish is, taking you well into your backing, two or three times before you get him to the boat. Fish from a boat or stalk them walking barefoot on sugar white sand.

There are two more spots left for this all inclusive trip, plus air and transport. Time is of the essence as I need to secure the lodge room and guides. \$2350.00

La Ventana , Punta Arena

The second trip is inshore fishing at La Ventana , Punta Arena near La Paz, Baja Calif. Sept. 17 - 24th. Fishing out of pangas there are a wide variety of species to choose from. Dorado, roosters, skipjack, jacks, tuna, pargo, snapper, pompano, trigger, sailfish, etc.....

This all inclusive trip is hosted by Gary Bulla who has years of experience.

Check out his website for all the trip information at www.garybulla.com

There are two spots left for this adventure so call your buddy and get on board. Don't say "maybe next year".

I have fished Baja for the past 15 years so give me a call or email for more info.

\$2480.00

Jim Broadbent
(925)899-0817

**Bart Hughes with a 2015
Punta Arena Dorado**



Member Reports

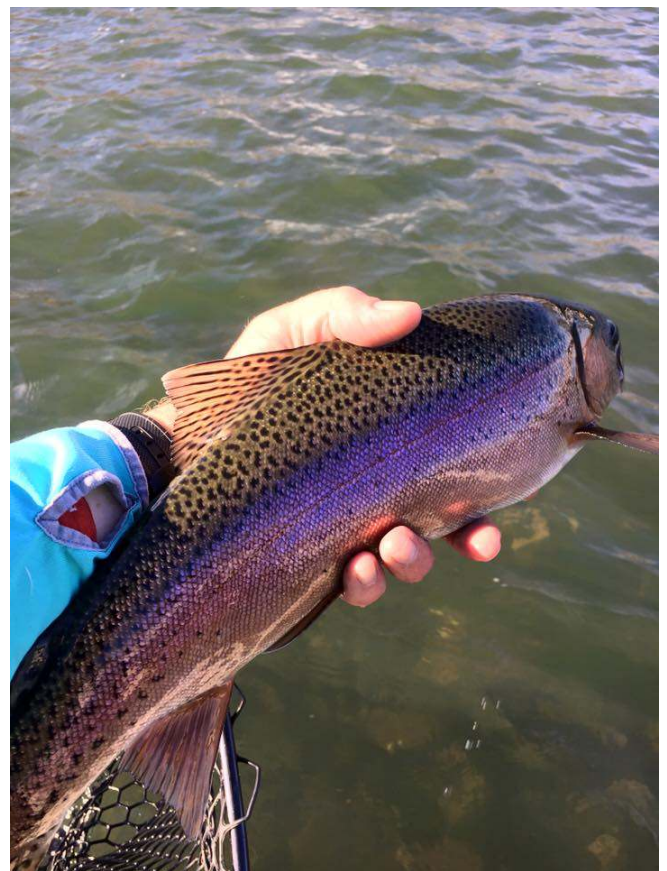
Bob McCollum and Don Gardner

Donald Gardner and I hit Oneill Forebay on February 15th. We finally found a few!



Bob McCollum

A few pic's from fishing the Lower Sac the first week of February



Conservation

Doug Witmore

Delta Tunnels

I would like to encourage Tri-Valley Fly Fisher members to attend Zone 7 Water Agency's board meeting on 3/16. This is the time to speak up if you oppose the construction of the Delta Tunnels.

The Tri-Valley water wholesaler, Zone 7 Water Agency, is now reconsidering whether to continue their financial support for the California Water Fix, also known as Delta Tunnels. Zone 7 sells treated water primarily to four retail water agencies - the California Water Service Company, the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, and the Dublin San Ramon Services District.

What: Zone 7 Water Agency Board Meeting, Citizens Forum (*will occur at the beginning of the meeting*)

Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Location: 100 N. Canyons Parkway, Livermore

Time: 7:00 pm

Basis for Opposition:

Zone 7's obligation is to provide a secure, reliable and affordable water supply for rate payers. So, delivering the best value for public dollars should be the primary concern as you when evaluating this project. So far, more than \$250 million has been spent on a revised proposal that the EPA recently gave the failing grade of "inadequate." The state needs another \$1.2 billion soon to fund engineering and design studies, and it needs assurance that enough water districts will participate to pay the \$17 billion tab.

But there is a better solution for securing water supply reliability for Zone 7 customers and protecting the SF Bay-Delta estuary: <http://restorethedelta.org/blog/real-water-solutions-for-a-sustainable-california/>.

Let's focus investments on conservation and reuse, improving Delta levees, and investing in water recycling and storm water capture projects that would help promote regional self sufficiency and create long-term, local jobs.

Instead of spending more money on planning and supporting the Delta tunnels, which will not meet standards under the Clean Water Act or the Endangered Species Act for protection of the Delta, it would be much more cost-effective for Zone 7 Water Agency to continue to pursue the good conservation measures that are currently at work, and to draw available water from the Delta during wet periods.

As part of the Bay-Delta region, it makes more sense for Zone 7 Water Agency to align itself with other Bay-Delta communities to protect the long term health of the SF Bay-Delta estuary. The Department of Water Resources' own modeling and climate change modeling by independent scientists shows us that there is going to be less and less water available from the Delta watershed.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) - 2016

This was a busy year for the TIC program! Let me start by thanking the TIC Team for all the work they have put in. Team Members are **Derrell Bridgman, Marty Loomis, Roger Perry, John Price, Steve Ruley, Janet Sears, Hal Wilson, Doug Whitmore and me.**

In past years there has been some concern about the temperature of the water in the aquariums being too high. It was felt this had led to an increased mortality of the eggs and fish fry. After evaluating the various options to decrease and maintain a lower tank temperature we applied for a grant from Alameda County Fish and Wildlife to retrofit the tanks and received a grant of \$4200. The grant money was used to:

- Add additional water chillers
- Add a heat exchange reservoir
- Improve the tank insulation package for new and existing tanks
- Clean the heat transfer fins on the chillers
- Reduce warm air being introduced into the tank through the water oxygenation process

The heat exchange reservoir we needed did not exist so **Derrell Bridgman** designed one. We had the pieces cut and the TIC team assembled the reservoirs and put together the retrofit package. After that we had the task of retrofitting the tanks which the team successfully accomplished.

The initial performance information we have is that the retrofit program was successful in reducing the tank temperature and in some cases too much. We are looking at the effect of the various systems and expect to “tweak” the aquarium system to achieve the optimum performance for both existing tanks and any new systems we set up in the future.

Wednesday May 24th was delivery day for the eggs. TVFF is sponsoring 41 classrooms this year and Derrell is working with Alameda Creek Alliance supporting another 4 classrooms. The 45 “bundles” of eggs we picked up and delivered amount to about 1600 fish to be and there will be more than 2500 students exposed to the TIC program.

Another great Trout in the Classroom year has started.

Daniel Kitts

Conservation

Trout in the Classroom

The annual Tri-Valley Fly Fishers Trout in the Classroom egg delivery took place on February 24, 2016. As part of this, Marty Loomis and Roger Perry delivered TIC eggs to 12 Oakley middle school teachers. These posters were displayed at the Buena Vista middle school. The kids love this program.

Don't miss the photo on page 1 of our TIC leader and legend Darrell Bridgman receiving his award from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.



The Tier's Bench:

Jim Broadbent-



The Club Get Together

For March's Get Together we are going to tie shad darts and flies. (As a side light we can adapt to bonefish patterns) These are easy to tie using gaudy colored materials that probably are gathering dust in your fly material containers. Think dressing up a circus clown.

Hooks Nymph 1xl and 1xs, size 4 to 8

Streamer 2-3xl

Body Small chenille, cactus chenille, gold-silver tinsel, diamond braid, d-rib, flashabou, crystal flash, egg yarn, ice dubbing, buck tail, marabou, sili legs, etc.

Head Gold or silver beads, glass beads, bead chain eyes, dumbbell eyes.

Colors Bright and shinny. Red, orange, yellow, white, chartreuse, silver, gold, purple

For bonefish bring rabbit zonker and mono eyes. Members must have your own tools and a basic knowledge of fly tying. If you have not tied before come and watch and see what it is all about.

Monday, March 7th, 7 to 9pm

Rod and Gun Club ; small room next to the BBQ area



"Singing Reel" Award

Jim receives the annual award for his ongoing efforts to teach our club members about fly tying and an his overall education of our members in our sport. Thanks and way to go Jim!

DeltaStripers.Com
Catch and release fly fishing for stripers and large mouth bass on the San Joaquin Delta

Captain Jerry Neuburger
jneuburger@yahoo.com
www.deltastripers.com
209-327-5993 *usa*

Member Spotlight on Chris Calabrese



Q. How long have you been a club member?

A. This will be my 5th year in the club

Q. Do you currently or have you ever held an office in the club?

A. Not yet

Q. What occupies your time other than fishing?

A. Farming, Family, Work

Q. Classify yourself as a fly fisherman:

A. Beats the heck out of working.

B. I can't wait to wet a line.

C. I dream about fish & flies.

D. I need some serious help for my addiction.

A. C and I don't want help for my addiction.

Q. What is the fly rod set up you use for the majority of your fly fishing?

A. Helios 8 wt & mirage reel. Sinking line, 9 foot furled leader, 20lb test, no taper Stripers don't care.

Q. What is your favorite species to fish for and why?

A. I like to fish anything that swims. I love chasing stripers, only one p. The tug they put on the line, the challenge in finding them, the fight. The water fowl where they live. They are close by.

Q. What body of water do you fish most often?

A. California Delta

Q. Do you consider yourself a dry fly or nymph fisherman?

A. Are poppers dry flies? What about Clousers, are they wet? Seriously i fish a nymph much more.

Q. Do you prefer fishing stillwater or streams?

A. Streams

Q. If you could only fish with one fly what would it be?

A. Clouser Minnow

Q. Do you have a fishing license for any states other than California?

A. No

BIG BASS Fishing... All To Yourself!

Ever wanted to be able to spend a few days fly fishing for 5-8 lb. largemouth bass on a lake that doesn't see any fishing pressure and being the only person fishing on the lake getting access to the nooks and crannies where the large bass are lurking?

And, on top of that having a comfortable place to stay, three meals a day and a boat provided... All without having to pay a small fortune!



You just have to help teach the Boy Scout (BSA) Fly Fishing Merit Badge during a few hours each day. For the last couple of years I have helped the BSA put on a Fly Fishing Merit Badge program during their summer camp at the Wente Scout Reservation located in Willets, CA. We have had volunteers from TVFF, other clubs in the area and Fly fishermen not affiliated with any club that came from as far away as San Diego. Some of the TVFF members who have volunteered their time in the past are **Jim Broadbent, Dave Fontaine, Marty Loomis, Roger Perry, Martin Plotkin, Hal Wilson and Doug Whitmore.**

The details are simple. There are 8 one week sessions beginning each Sunday starting June 18th going through August 13th. The Merit Badge is taught Monday through Thursday of each week with one class in the morning and another in the afternoon with different parts of the merit badge covered each day. Many people go to the camp for one of the weeks, some volunteer a few days and others have gone up several different weeks.

Where does the Big Bass Fishing come in? The Wente Camp has their own little lake with lots of fish and as a volunteer you have the opportunity to fish it anytime you're not teaching the class. In one evening last year I caught 15 Bass in the 3-8 lb. range. Just ask Jim Broadbent about it!

In addition to the fishing you get the personal satisfaction of teaching some young people the art of Fly Fishing, seeing them tie their first fly or catching their first fish.

I am starting to develop a list of people who are interested in learning more about this summer opportunity. No commitments required at this time, which will come later if you want.

If this intrigues you please ask any of your fellow club members who have been there about their experience.

If you want more details or to be included in future communications on this fun adventure please talk to me at a meeting or let me know by calling me at 510-816-2846 or e-mail me at flifish2@gmail.com.

Daniel Kitts





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The Northern California Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers Presents:

Festival of Fly Fishing

Sunday, March 20, 2016

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

admission:

\$10.00

12 or under \$5.00

Family \$20.00 (up to 4 individuals)



- Casting and Fly Tying Demonstrations by some of the best casters and tyers in the Bay Area
- Fly Casting and Fly Tying Instruction provided by the NCC Learning Center - free for all attendees
- Displays of the latest equipment and tackle
- Bucket Raffles and Silent Auctions
- Food Services provided

Speakers include: Greg Vinci, Stephanie Hogan (CDFW), Carlo Bongio and Lance Gray.
Subjects include fishing locations and tactics.

Location: Marin Rod & Gun Club

• north end of Richmond/San Rafael Bridge • exit 2B off I-580



Items For Sale

▪Lowrance X91 fish finder for \$50.00.

Complete. Everything works. Just replacing it with a new unit.
Anyone interested can call me.

•**10' 7 wt. Reddington CPX model 1074**, 4 piece fly rod
Great steelhead rod! Only used twice. Like new condition.
Available on line for \$329- I am selling for \$150

•Fly vest for sale XL size.

Includes 6 interior pockets, one large and one medium pocket on back. Like new condition. \$30

Ken Gotelli: 415-286-1194



Spey Rod. Brand new never used

SAGE TCX SPEY 8119-4 (4pc-8wt- 11'-9") retails \$850.00

Asking \$400.00 send me a offer

Joe Cerniglia email sawmilllake@sbcglobal.net

Rods and Gear for Sale:

1. **Reduced** Orvis Super Wading Tac-L-Pak. Medium size, Tan color Like new condition. \$30.00, (\$119.00 new)
2. Echo Glass Fly rod 369-3 6 foot 9 inch 3 weight 3 piece, new in case. \$125.00- great small stream trout rod
3. TFO BVK 9 foot 6 weight 4 piece, new condition, \$180.00-great all around trout rod
4. TFO BVK 9 foot 6 inch 7 weight 4 piece, new condition, \$210.00-great steelhead rod
5. Redington RS3 9 foot 10 weight 2 piece, new condition, \$125.00- great rod for stripers, salmon.

Great Prices on Fly lines:

1. Orvis Wonderline Advantage Striper WF-10-F new in box \$35.00
2. 444 SL DT-7-F, like new condition \$25.00
3. Add Echo Sphere Presentation Wf-3-F, new in box, \$35.00
4. Rio Grand WF-7-F new in box \$45.00

All lines come on plastic spools with boxes as from the factory. Will Install lines on your reel as requested.

Gary (925) 786-5184 cell

Vacation Home For Rent:

Three-bedroom/2 bath modern home in Twain Harte/Crystal Falls area.

Sleeps up to eight in five beds (1 queen, 1 double bed, 1 double loft bed, 2 twins).

Close to winter and summer sports: skiing at Dodge Ridge, sledding, hiking; fishing at Pinecrest Lake, Beardsley Reservoir, Kennedy Meadows and the Stanislaus River. Close to historic Sonora and Columbia. Access to homeowners association swim lake.



Modern kitchen opens onto large great room with propane pot-bellied stove. Master suite with queen bed and large bathroom. Garage with parking for one car. Ample outdoor parking. Elevation: 3400 feet. NO PETS. NO SMOKING.

Bob McCollum (925) 989-2358



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Al Smatsky

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www.3steveswinery.com

DVD of the Month- Fly Fishing with Ron VanderHeiden

Kent McCammon

In 2016, we will showcase a DVD in the Club's Library each month. The March Barbless Hook covers Bass Fishing and this DVD has two Chapters containing fly tying a bass bug and fishing for Bass at Kelsey Bass Ranch a few hours drive away from the Tri-Valley. Club Members are invited to check out DVD's and are invited to submit a DVD review for a future feature in the Barbless Hook Newsletter or on our club website.

The first Chapter is on Tying the ShuttleCock Fly, a weedless bass popper for top water action that crawls over lilly pads usually avoided by flyfishers. The fly is for intermediate tyers that requires deer hair spinning and cinching down with authority and finishing Softex to reduce hangups. The instructions are very clear.

The next Chapter of the DVD is on fishing at Kelsey Bass Ranch. The Chapter starts on directions to Kelsey near Snelling, south of Modesto and followed by a safety primer. Ron takes you around the lake in detail on the structure and suggested methods and flies to use at Kelsey. I appreciated the detailed still photography to allow the flytyer to emulate the patterns recommended for Kelsey. Kelsey is a pay to play location at \$100/day. For those who want to go, you can do yourself a favor and make your dollar go further by pre-gaming with this DVD. Download the Map from the Kelsey website and make notes during the Chapter.

The DVD video and audio is high quality. Several short product placements appear as part of the DVD. The Kelsey Bass Ranch website is http://www.kelseybassranch.net/About_Us.html.

We meet at the Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club (directions below) on the first Thursday of every month except July and August at 7:00 PM.

Directions to

Livermore/Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club: 4000 Dagnino Road, Livermore, California.

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

