

The Barbless Hook

September 2019

Edited by Mark Spruiell



tri-valleyflyfishers.org

President's Message

by Albert Mansky

Well guys, summer is almost over and Labor Day is almost here. Hopefully the worst of the hot weather is behind us, but it still gets pretty hot in September. The fall Salmon and Steelhead runs are just around the corner. I'm looking forward to another trip this year in November on the Trinity River for Steelies. If you haven't done this trip, you should give it a try. The last couple of years have been hit or miss. More misses than hits. It all depends on when we get some rain to move the Steelhead upriver. You can't predict Mother Nature months in advance.

The TVFF BBQ was a big success again this year at Martin Plotkin's house. I would like to thank Martin and Sue for allowing us to have our BBQ at their house again this year. There was plenty of food to go around and well as drinks. I also like to thank those members who brought a side dish for all to share in. The desert was great. I think for those who were able to attend the BBQ, a great time was had by all.

I'm looking forward to the report on the Montana fishing trips with Jim Roberts from those guys who are making the trip in August and September. I hope to make this trip next year. Should be some interesting fish stories for our September club meeting on Thursday, September 5th at 7pm. I hope to see a lot of you there, with your own fish story.

Fall is coming up and it's time to think about maybe joining the Board of Directors for the coming year. Most our current directors have been on the board for a number of years and I thank them for their dedication and support. So, if you would like to get more involved in what the club is doing or plans to do



Alan Wyosnick teaching a Euro Nymphing class on the Stanislaus River.

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next year, talk to me or one of our directors. We are always looking for some fresh ideas. Think about it.

For those you who are also hunters, I got out opening weekend for B-4 zone. I saw one deer, big and dark for only a few seconds. I couldn't tell if it was a buck or doe. I also got within ten feet of a hen turkey. The ranch was on the Mendocino coast. It was overgrown and STEEP as hell. 103 degree weather is not my ideal weather for deer hunting.

Anyway, I didn't get anything, although there were plenty of droppings from deer and elk in my camp area. I hope to get back out there in September, once the temperature goes down.

That's it for now. Get some fishing in and play it safe on the water.

Al

Jim Roberts' Fly Fishing Guide Service



Lower Sac Floats, Upper Sac and McCloud, Klamath River, Steelhead

Tri-Valley FF Special Offer
2nd day is ½ off!

Jim Roberts
916-765-8668
flyfisherjim@charter.net

2019 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers

President	Albert Mansky
Vice President	Martin Loomis
Secretary	John Price
Treasurer	Chris McCann
Past President	Roger Perry

Directors

Auction	Open Position
Conservation	Mitchie McCammon
Education	Kent McCammon
Outings	Rob Farris
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Member at Large	Ron Duetgen
Member at Large	Tom Vargas
Membership	Steve Johnson
Newsletter	Mark Spruiell
Publicity	Martin Plotkin
Raffle	Gary Phillips
Refreshments	Gary Prince
Speakers	Patrick Donovan
Trout in Classroom	Daniel Kitts
Video Library	Steve Johnson
Webmaster	Tom Fessenden

Next meeting on Sept. 5th!

Please join us at our next monthly meeting on Thursday, September 5th at 7pm. Our guest speaker will be Patrick Samuel, Conservation Program Coordinator for CalTrout.

TVFF meets at the Livermore Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club. See the last page of this newsletter for directions.

Fall Fishing Opportunities

Rob Farris

I hope that all of you have been enjoying the fishing this summer. It's been awesome with the waters in absolutely great shape after the heavy winter, and the fish seem to have grown substantially in some of the rivers and lakes we normally fish. The Club has had lots of activities and trips this summer to participate in and you can see all the details of those on the website under [Reports](#) and the pictures that are in the galleries in the [Events](#) section. If you have any reports or pictures that you would like to add to the website on your individual trips this summer, please let me know and I'll be happy to get them added to the website.

So where do we go this fall?... everywhere! With the great water conditions almost all of the lakes, rivers, and streams will be in terrific shape right through the end of the season, and it may be the best late season fishing we've had in years. We have a few trips remaining on the website including Don's Mexico trip, Gary's annual Trinity river Steelhead trip, and a few more for September and October that I have up my sleeve after I return from Montana, the Owyhee, and the SF of the Boise (finishing up the summer with a storm of fishing). Perhaps another pontoon trip to Milton Lake, which has been awesome this year, a float trip down the Lower Sac in October, an exploratory trip to the wild trout section of the King's River, or anything else that piques my interest. And we can't forget the big Brown migration up the Stan at Camp Nine Mile. Got any suggestions? Let me know and let's see if we can set up a formal trip or perhaps just a "Tag-Along" for you and the other Club members.

Fish Hard and often...

Outings and Activities

Some of our outings are described below. Please visit the [Event Calendar](#) on the TVFF website for a complete list of all upcoming meetings, outings and activities.

Lady FlyFishers Meet & Greet with Mary Ann Dozer – October 3

All ladies are welcome to attend an open forum about women and fly fishing on Thursday, October 3rd from 5-6:30pm. If you are new to fly fishing or just want to meet other women fly fishers, we invite you to join us. Light dinner and refreshments will be provided. Cost is free.

Please feel free to bring your friends (not required to be a TVFF member), and to [RSVP on the website](#) so that we can plan accordingly for all attendees!

Mary Ann Dozer

Mary Ann is a Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor and a licensed Oregon Fly Fishing Guide. Mary Ann has taught and lead at many Women's Fly Fishing Events for 15 years, and often teaches at the annual Pleasanton Fly Fishing show in February.



Join Mary Ann in a women's only round table conversation regarding women's presence and involvement in fly fishing. The goal is a candid conversation on the benefits and challenges for a woman hobbyist or professional.

She'll be happy to share her perspectives, answer any questions, and lead a conversation for all to engage.

Creek Clean Up – October 19

On Saturday, October 19th, from 9am - noon, we will be cleaning up our spot on the Arroyo Mocho by the rodeo grounds in Livermore. Our spot is along the arroyo on Robertson Park Rd between Concannon Blvd and Arroyo Rd. Meet at the dirt parking lot on the west side of the soccer fields (closest to the covered arena). All supplies will be provided, plus water and snacks. [Sign up online](#) and help us to do our part for our community.



For more information contact Mitchie McCammon.

Mexico Madness Ocean Fishing – October 30-November 6

This is a broad-based guided fishing excursion across two resorts in Baja Mexico with fishing for snook, mangrove snapper, bonefish, grouper, jacks, marlin, tuna, Dorado, rooster, wahoo, and cabrilla pargo.

Cost including all food and accommodations is \$1,980 per person, not including airfare, drinks, airport shuttle, licenses, and guide tips. All lodging and food is provided as is daily guide services.

Contact Don Jower: djowerclay1@gmail.com, 510-735-5167



Trinity River Steelhead – November 17-19

This is the annual TVFF outing to the Trinity River for steelhead. The club will stay in Weaverville and fish each day with professional guides on the Trinity depending on the location of steelhead at that time of year.

To sign up or find more information, [visit the event](#) on our website.



Trip Reports

Euro Nymphing Class – Alan Wyosnick

We had wonderful weather along with the beautiful backdrop of the North Fork of the Stanislaus for trying out some new ideas and techniques. Seven TVFF members (Chris McCann, Marty Loomis, Bob McCollum, Rob Farris, Bob Watson, Gary Prince and Chris Anderson) joined the one-day session.



In the morning we talked about theory:

- Euro nymphing equipment (rods, reels, leaders, etc.)
- How it differs from standard and indicator nymphing techniques
- Critical items of importance for success
- Setting up a Euro nymphing rig and the differences to others
- Types and use of indicators (i.e. inline, multi-color, etc.)
- Fly selection and Euro specialty flies
- How to get your flies down quickly in the hunting zone
- Proper weight management to achieve the right presentation

For the afternoon we hit the water to put the morning's session to work in a live environment. After a short demo, we then spread out on the river where everyone had some 1 on 1 coaching/observation sessions focused on the following:

- Wading and approach differences
- Selecting key sections of the water for increased success

- How to “cast” a Euro nymphing rig
- Presentation and proper drift
- How to detect the "take"
- Proper hookset for fish
- When to lead and when to follow your flies

While the water was clear, it was still high and a bit challenging to fish due to the continuing snow melt. We were able to entice some trout to take our flies, but we all agreed the highlight was the fantastic sights and sounds of the river. The day ended with a gathering at the Lube Room in Dorrington for some nutrition and good conversation.



Montana Outing #1 – Bob McCollum

TVFF members had a great outing in Montana. These shots are from the first of two groups that participated. Many thanks to fishmaster Marty Loomis for organizing the trip.





Greg Murawski

Greg, a member of Tri-Valley Fly Fishers and a long time Resident of Pleasanton, passed away peacefully on July 8, 2019.

An early baby boomer, Greg was born February 23, 1946 in St. Paul, Minnesota. One of Greg's favorite decisions by his parents, Russell and Lorraine, was that they came West. The family of five, growing to eight, settled in San Leandro. Greg was the oldest of his fun-loving family; sister Sharyl and brothers Doug, David, Russ and Kevin.

Greg attended Assumption School, San Lorenzo High School, Chabot College and graduated from San Jose State University. It was there he met Kathy, whom he married in 1971. Their children, Matt and Maureen (Mo) were born in Fresno and in 1978 they moved back to the Bay Area. Raising Matt and Mo in Pleasanton brought great joy to Greg as he supported, coached and celebrated them.

In 2002, Greg started one of his favorite chapters of life by becoming a Grandpa for the first time. He was blessed with six total grandkids.

Grandpa Greg loved to be around his grandchildren and supported them in any and all of their many activities, this brought him a tremendous amount of joy and happiness. They loved him with all of their hearts and have many fond memories; whether it was shopping, fishing, going to a ball game, out to ice cream or just hanging out.

Greg had a long-standing career in the Oil and Gas industry representing manufacturers of pipes, valves and fittings. Greg was an independent businessman and ran GMR Systems for over 30 years. Greg never wanted to retire formerly, but he did work to integrate a fun lifestyle around his work schedule making many folks jealous of his PTO and holiday schedule.

Greg's pursuit of outdoor hobbies and interests were a constant through his life. Growing up, Greg was introduced to the love of the outdoors through hunting and the Boy Scouts. That drive to experience the outdoors never stopped. He was always eager to learn things. From learning to ski in his 40s, traveling the Western US for hunting trips and his most recent obsession with fly fishing. The outdoors was where he felt most alive and what he cherished the most was to share those times with his closest friends and family.

There are many family and friends who are saddened by the loss of Greg. His friendship with so many who touched his life will never end. He was connected to so many people in the Pleasanton community and beyond; through business, hunting, fishing, coaching or having coffee, Greg was a great friend.



The Tier's Bench

Monthly Club Get Together

Monday, October 7th, 2019 from 7-9pm at the Rod and Gun Club; small room next to the BBQ area.

This is a monthly get together where members can drop in and participate in discussions, learn skills, or tie flies. During each meeting we decide what subject will be discussed the following month.

Fly Tiers Library and Trading Post (LTP)

Most fly tiers, like me, have materials which would probably last several life-times. Often, to tie a new fly, we need a small amount of material which means buying some from the net, which may arrive next week, or jumping in the car for an hour+ drive to a fly shop in the area.

To remedy this, we are creating the LTP. The LTP has 2 resources: the Library for getting small amounts of material (a couple of feathers, small swatch of hair, etc.) and the Trading Post for exchanging your excess with others. Here are the details of how it will work. Both the library and Trading Post are only available to members.



Library: The library will be supported by donations of fly tying material from members. The material will be packaged in gallon sized zip locks with colored labels about the contents. Any member may take a small amount of material for a project and make a modest donation (\$1 min). The donations will be used to buy supplies and, if any is left over, other material for the library.

Trading Post: The trading post allows members to exchange excess tying material for other material. Any member may submit a gallon sized zip-lock bag with the material along with a very brief description to Jim Broadbent. Jim will assess a point value to the material based on his experience (Jim's decision is final). The material will be labeled with a different colored label than the library. Members may exchange their points for material in the trading post. Martin Plotkin will arrange for the LTP to show up at all general, board and fly tying meetings. It can also be accessed by special arrangement made with Martin.

LTP kicks off, at the meeting, on Thursdays so bring your Trades and Donations.

San Clemente Dam Removal – Mitchie McCammon

How effective is dam removal in bringing back a natural habitat and threatened fish species? So far the removal of the San Clemente Dam on the Carmel River, between the Big Sur hills and the beachfront town of Carmel, shows signs of rebounding and brings hope for other dam removal projects.

The former dam, which was completed in 1921, trapped water into a reservoir to supply a growing local population, and regulated the river's flow downstream. But it also trapped so much sediment that by the time it was torn down, it no longer stored any water – it was just a useless wall in the river, and an [impediment to migrating steelhead](#).

In 1992 the dam was declared seismically unsafe, and a decade later the removal of the dam was started. The removal included rerouting the Carmel River, stabilizing the accumulated sediment, and restoration of the creek. All of this was done with the hope of bringing back the threatened South-Central California Coast steelhead trout.

In the four years since the dam was removed, [the steelhead population has gone from zero to 123](#). While the numbers are small, it is progress. The success of the San Clemente Dam removal is being closely watched by many around the country as other dams are slated for removal.



“The river is recovering to its natural state,” said Tim Frahm, Central Coast Steelhead coordinator with Trout Unlimited, an environmental group. “We hope it will be as healthy in a few years as it was 100 years ago.”

For more information on the fascinating history of the dam and the process by which it was removed, visit sanclementedamremoval.org.

Education

TVFF Classes

TVFF periodically offers the classes described below. Click the link for each class to see more information and to register your interest.

Fly Fishing Fundamentals

Our popular Fundamentals class is perfect for new members, and especially for those beginners just starting their fly fishing journey. The three-part course consists of two evenings of classroom instruction and one Saturday outdoor session with certified FFI casting instructors.

The class agenda is a comprehensive one that incorporates all of the necessary essentials to become a proficient fly fisher, and to enjoy participating in club outings. At the conclusion of the class a beginner will be well-prepared for advancing to the fishing activity of their choice.



Pictures from our recent Fundamentals class.

Entomology

The Entomology class gives beginners and intermediates a detailed understanding of aquatic “bug” types and characteristics to help improve their fly fishing success. The four-part course consists of three evening classroom sessions and a morning of on-stream practical experience on a nearby stream.

Casting

TVFF offers extensive instruction in fly rod casting for all levels as introductory, refresher, and advanced classes. Each course is taught by a certified instructor for about a three-hour period. Rods and reels can be provided by the club, or students can use their own rods as well. Multiple courses are available including back to basics, improved accuracy and loop control, single and double haul, shooting heads and sinking lines.

Items for Sale

Fly Lines for Sale (lines are new in box or like new condition)

1. Scientific Anglers Amplitude Smooth Trout WF-5-F. \$50
2. Scientific Anglers Sonar Stillwater Clear Intermediate Sink WF-6-S. \$35
3. RIO In-Touch Salmon/Steelhead WF-7-F. \$50
4. RIO Bonefish WF-7. \$50

Contact Gary – gjturri@comcast.net or (925) 786-5184 cell

Gear Collection – Todd McDaniel

New	2018 Simms G3 Stocking foot Waders, Size LL 9-11 Foot, Cinder Color	\$420.00
New	Fishpond Summit Sling Bag, Gravel Color	\$65.00
New	Lamson Speedster 2 Reel, Silver, Includes Neoprene Case	\$175.00
New	Galvan Torque 8 Reel, Bronze	\$330.00
Used	Galvan Torque 6 Reel, Green. Some rash and nicks but fully functional	\$200.00

Contact Todd – 925-588-6388 cell

Dr. Slick Spring Creek 5-inch curved clamp

Gold color, asking \$12. Contact Ron Grady – 925-336-0803 – rongradyrph@gmail.com

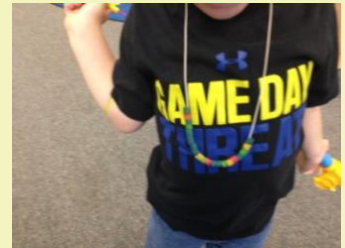
Don't Throw Away Your Old Fly Lines, Recycle Them

I am a preschool Special Ed teacher and the floating fly line comes in handy for many projects that preschool children make: necklaces, lacing, hanging art, fishing poles... I would be happy to collect it and give it away to other preschool teachers.

Dave or I attend the meetings pretty regularly; we could have the members bring it to the meetings?

Thanks for the consideration.

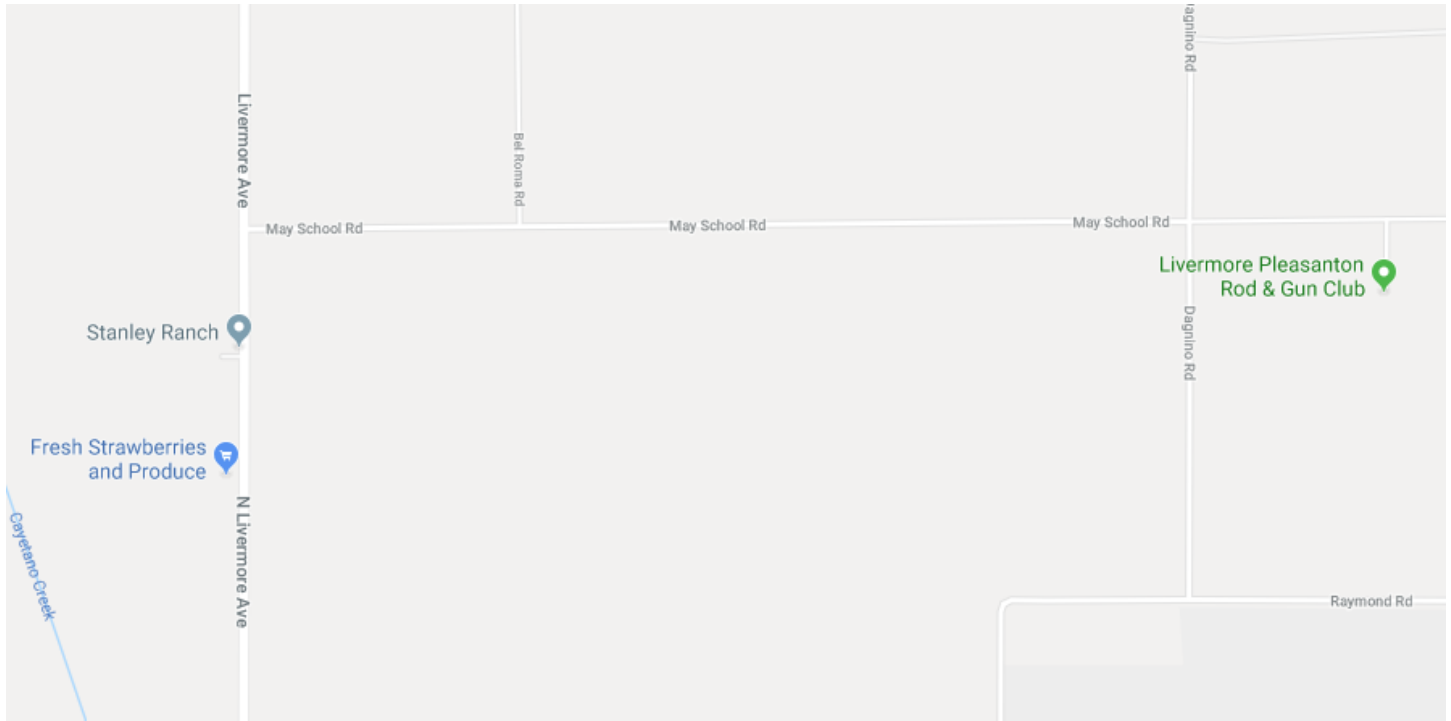
Cathy Hiromoto



Directions

We meet at the Livermore Pleasanton Rod and Gun Club at 7pm, typically on the first Thursday of every month. Check the club's [event calendar](#) for upcoming meeting dates.

Click the map for Google Map directions to 4000 Dagnino Road:



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

