

The Barbless Hook

January 2024

Edited by Mark Spruiell



tri-valleyflyfishers.org

January Meeting – Wednesday Jan. 3rd, 7pm

Dagur Gudmundsson on Surf Fishing

Please join us on January 3rd as the club welcomes Dagur Gudmundsson. His presentation will discuss how to fly fish in the surf zone, tide pools, and everything in between on the saltwater of the California coastline, mostly focusing on the area from the San Francisco Bay down to Point Conception. He'll go over how to read the surf and tidal zones, what gear and flies to use, and the best times of year for each species.

Dagur Gudmundsson was born and raised on the wind-swept rock of Iceland, where he grew up chasing everything from arctic char and ice age brown trout to Atlantic cod and pollock. During his teenage years he moved to the Central Coast of California, where the fishing is quite different from the cold waters of Iceland. In between spending his summers guiding in Iceland, Dagur attended California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo, where he acquainted himself with the local fisheries through lots of trial and error. He recently started a fly fishing guide service in San Luis Obispo with a focus on the area's overlooked fisheries when it comes to fly fishing, such as bass, carp, and surf perch.



New Member

TVFF welcomes Daniel S. from San Ramon to the club. We look forward to seeing you at a club meeting or outing soon!

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President's Corner

Marty Loomis

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas spent with family and friends. I got lucky this year and had Christmas at my son and daughters-in-law's house and all I had to do is wash dishes, his dishwasher broke that morning. It was quite the zoo, 24 people each going their own way, like trying to herd 24 cats, but a great time was had by all.

By the time this newsletter is read the year will be over. I hope everyone found something that was beneficial to them in the many activities the club put on this past year. Many classes, outings, great meetings, speakers and finally over COVID, what more can you ask for other than for another great year in the making. If there is something that you as a member would like to see in the way of classes or whatever, just let one of the board members know and we'll see what we can do. If you think it's interesting, that probably means others would also be interested.

2023 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers

President	Martin Loomis
Vice President	Alan Wyosnick
Secretary	Al Mansky
Treasurer	Chris McCann
Past President	Jim Broadbent

Directors

Auction	Denis Haire
Conservation	Gary Prince
Education	Rob Farris
Outings	Mitchie McCammon
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Membership	Greg Blandino
Newsletter	Mark Spruiell
Raffle	Steve Johnson
Refreshments	Gary Prince
Speakers	Dave Fontaine
Trout in Classroom	Daniel Kitts
Webmaster	Mark Spruiell

Outings and Activities

Mitchie McCammon – Outings Director

Happy New Year! 2024 is already starting out with a few Club Outings and Education opportunities on the calendar.

January: There are six opportunities for you to experience fishing for steelhead on the Feather River with an experienced guide. These trips are Walk and Wade and are \$150 per person for 4-5 hours on the river. Rods and flies provided by the guide if needed. Carpooling to be arranged with those attending. Fishmeister: Alan Wyosnick

May: University of California private property on the Yuba River - The dates of May 4 and 5 put us on the front end of the traditional Spring hatches of Pale Morning Duns, Baetis/Blue Wing Olives, Pink Alberts, Little Yellow Sallies, Pale Evening Duns, Golden Stones, and four varieties of Caddis. This event includes a BBQ lunch each day with fishing in the morning and the afternoon. Each day is \$45 per TVFF member. Additional family members (spouses and children up to age 23) are charged \$15 to cover the cost of the BBQ. Should you choose to spend the night, individual arrangements for camping or hotels are up to the participant. Fishmeister: Denis Haire

Be on the lookout for club trips to Hat Creek, Truckee, Kennedy Meadows and more. For more information on each of these Outings, click [here](#) to get to the Events page on the website.

Education

Entomology – This ever-popular class is starting in January. There are three in-class sessions and an on-stream practical. Enroll now and be ready for those spring hatches! This will give you an opportunity to impress your buddies when you start talking about which fly to use to match the hatch. The cost is \$50 per person.

Fundamentals of Fly Fishing dates are set for March and April. This class is great for those who are looking to improve their skills and for those just starting out. The class includes four in-class sessions, a casting lesson, and an on-stream practical. Feel free to share this with your friends and family who are interested in learning the basics of fly fishing. The cost is \$70 per person for members. Non-members will be required to join TVFF prior to signing up for the class. For more information contact Mitchie McCammon, your next Director of Education.

Finally, if you haven't already done so, **please take a moment to complete our [Education Poll](#)** and help us prioritize the club's education offerings for 2024. Your feedback is very much appreciated.

New Liability Waiver

Marty Loomis

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, TVFF is now a member club of Fly Fishers International. FFI provides TVFF many benefits including the reduction of our annual club insurance premiums. We are adopting FFI's liability waiver to maintain coverage under our new liability insurance policy. It is necessary that all club members sign the new waiver (electronically) in order to participate in any club events, including any outings as well as our monthly meetings. The text of the waiver is copied below for your review.

With respect to family members, the club's bylaws state that a spouse, as well as children living with you or away at school up to the age of 23, are included in your membership. If you have minor children under 18 that may participate in club activities, please include them when completing the waiver. Any other qualifying adult family members that may participate in club activities must also complete the waiver, such as a child between the ages of 18 and 23.

Please [click here](#) when you are ready to complete the waiver. Next, click the TVFF Liability Waiver button to begin the waiver. You'll be presented with three choices: click Adult to complete the waiver for yourself, Minors to complete the waiver for your minor children, or Adult + Minors to complete the waiver for yourself and your minor children. There is no need to upload a profile picture, and you can uncheck the consent boxes. You will be given the option to download the completed waiver for your records.

**Release, Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, Hold Harmless Agreement and Indemnity
Read Carefully – This Document Affects Your Legal Rights**

I, the undersigned, in acknowledgment that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility do hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, agree to remise, fully release,

hold harmless, and forever discharge Tri-Valley Fly Fishers all their officers and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury or illness, including, but not limited to Covid-19, that I may suffer, or damage to my property which may occur arising from or as a result of any cause whatsoever while participating in the above named program. I fully understand the risks and dangers involved in fly fishing particularly when wading or boating in rivers and lakes. I acknowledge by my signature below that I will comply with any and all directions and instructions from any staff or volunteers associated the above-described event regarding masking, sanitizing and social distancing as may be prescribed or required by Federal, State or Local Guidelines, Laws, Regulations or Ordinances in connection with Covid-19. I further acknowledge that participating in the above-described event may increase my risk of exposure to Covid-19 or persons exposed to or infected by Covid-19 and I expressly assume that risk.

Please complete the following if you are the parent, guardian or legal custodian of anyone under the age of 18 years that will accompany you and/or participate in the TVFF fly fishing, outings and activities, including, but not limited to those set forth in paragraph above.

[Provide Names and Ages of Minors]

The undersigned parent, guardian or legal custodian of the minor(s) listed above, for himself/herself and on behalf of said minor(s), hereby joins in the foregoing Release, Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, Hold Harmless Agreement and Indemnity and agrees on behalf of such minor to be bound by it.

I HAVE READ, FULLY UNDERSTAND AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS AGREEMENT, AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF IT. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE THIS AGREEMENT REVIEWED BY AN ATTORNEY BEFORE I SIGN IT. I AGREE THAT NO ORAL REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OR INDUCEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO ME, WHICH ARE NOT SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT.

Steelhead Reporting

If you bought a California Steelhead card in 2023, don't forget to report your activity. The state still wants your report even if you didn't fish for steelhead last year. Rather than mailing the card, you can easily submit the information online [using this site](#).

FFI Update for January

The Nor Calif. Council, FFI, wishes all of you a very happy and prosperous New Year for 2024! It is our mission to work with and provide benefit to all the member clubs of Fly Fishers International, and that includes all club members who enjoy club activities and fishing the waters of Northern California. Our Council Board is working on your behalf, and it is our goal to create and make available great learning programs on fly fishing, fly tying, and casting to all of you in our member clubs. We'll once again be working to bring the new Fly Casting Skills program to you, and hoping that it makes your casting skills and fishing more productive this year.

Additionally, we will be working on groundbreaking conservation projects like dam removal on the Klamath River. For twenty years we have been the fly fishing voice in the negotiations to remove four dams on the

river, and we have finally reached success with the first dam - Copco 2 - removed in 2023, and the remaining three dams – Iron Gate, Copco 1, & J.C. Boyle – slated to be removed by October, 2024.



This is the beginning of the largest dam removal and river restoration project in U.S. history. As you can see with the removal of Copco 2, a free-flowing river is beautiful. By October, 2024, the remaining three dams will be out of the river, providing access to more than 400 miles of the upper Klamath watershed to spawning and rearing salmon and steelhead.

[Here's a recent T.V. news video](#) on the impacts of this restoration given by our partners in this project, the Yurok and Klamath Tribes.



In addition to this effort, we are now working with other partners on the Eel River, and removal of two dams on the middle fork. PG&E has released its plan to terminate use and a removal schedule for the dams, and we are working with local partners and our conservation partners – Cal Trout and Trout Unlimited – on completing this effort soon. The Eel River was once the third largest salmon and steelhead producing river in California. We hope that will return once the dams are out.

Fly Fishing Show - February 23, 24, & 25 - Pleasanton, California

This show has been a longtime event where we all can come together and get a look at new equipment, do some casting, and visit with lodges and guides and perhaps book a trip for the year. It's vital that we in fly fishing come to the show and support it with our presence. As we know, the show has been lightly attended in the past years due to COVID and last year's poor weather. **We need to show our support for the show. Please attend to tell the show owners and managers that Northern California is a good location to come to every year.** We owe it to them and we need to show our support by our attendance. If we want the show in 2025, show attendance in 2024 is critical.

Items for Sale

If you need contact information for a member, use the club's online [roster](#).

Gary Prince

Fishpond fishing vest in excellent like-new condition. \$80. Retail approximately \$160.

Mesh back, many pockets. Size is very adjustable with four adjustment straps. Best for average to large size angler. Too big for my 5'5", 150 lbs unless worn over heavy jacket.



Gary Turri

Rods for Sale (New Condition in Tubes):

- Redington Classic Trout 8.5 foot 4 weight \$100
- Redington RS3 9 foot 10 weight 2 piece \$100
- TFO Blitz 9 foot 8 weight \$250

Two Hand Spey Rods:

- TFO Deer Creek 12'6" 5/6 \$230
- TFO Deer Creek 13 foot 6/7 weight \$230
- Echo Dec Hogan 2 13' 7 weight \$230

Fly Lines for sale (New in Box and 50% off):

- Mastery Expert Distance WF-5 orange color \$50
- Mastery Expert Distance WF-6 orange color \$50
- Cortland Trout Boss Double Taper DT-6 \$50
- RIO Single Hand Spey WF6-F \$50
- SA Spey Lite Scandi Integrated 240 grain \$50

Martin Plotkin

FREE – Several 5- and 3-gallon buckets. Call Martin to arrange pickup.

