

# Fly Lines & Fish Tales



NOVEMBER 2014

## Prez sez:

Just finished up the four week beginner Fly Tying class put on by Ben, Steve, and Mike. This was a great class taught by some of the best. Even though I have been tying for a few years I learned quite a bit in this class and no longer struggle with some of the basic concepts. It was also great just getting to meet and talk with a couple members I've never gotten to know. I'm really surprised that more of you don't take advantage of such an opportunity.

The installation dinner/crab feed is coming up quickly. Several things I want to mention here....

Get your tickets early. They are now available from Mike Carlson for \$40 each. If you look around at other crab feeds, this is a great bargain. After our December 17th general meeting the ticket price goes up to \$45 each. If you're going with a group, the \$5 discount can add up. The crab feed takes place on January 3, 2015.

We still need items for our auction. If you have any items sitting around that maybe you won in the past or were given to you as a gift and they never got used, please consider donating them for the auction. If you work someplace where your employer may be able to donate an item, or service, such as a free oil change, etc., please speak up on the clubs behalf. Dave or Gary will be glad to hear from you with anything you're able to get.

If you're a tyer and you haven't picked up your TFF fly box to donate to the auction, please see a board member at our



November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Don't wait to get your box to start tying. Start tying now so you allow plenty of time and enjoy the experience.

Start getting your presentations/pictures ready for the December meeting. As you know the December meeting is all about us. This is the perfect opportunity to share some of your 2014 fishing experiences with the rest of the club. It's a great opportunity for our new members to see the wide range of activities our members undertake. Let Jeff Fadden know a week or so before the meeting if you have something to present and how much time you anticipate needing. Even if it's just a single picture we'd love to see it.

See you on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mark

## BOARD MEMBERS

President

Mark McLean

Vice President/Secretary

Chuck Sterni

Treasurer & Membership

Mike Carlson

Webmaster

Mike Carlson

Library & Casting

Chuck Robbins (209)835-7812

Programs

Jeff Fadden

Raffle

Gary Phillips/Dave Hiromoto

Education

Steve Potter

Outings

Bruce Germolus (209)836-9089

Meetings & Refreshments

Pat Ferguson (209)835-2981

Logistics

Bob Kiffin/Pat Ferguson

Trout in the Classroom/  
Conservation

Steve Holtzclaw/Ben Byng

Newsletter

Craig Gittings

## TFF Activity Calendar

Casting instruction with Chuck Robbins, but you have to call him

November 19 General club meeting at the Tracy Transit Station- Bob Laskodi will be our guest speaker. Topic will be on California's Heritage Trout

December 3 Board meeting- all are invited

## Hidden Talent Sought

Would you want to see your talents added to the newsletter? Do you recall an incident that you could put to pen or just have incriminating photos of nekkid fish out of water or fishout report? Budding writers & photographers can send their submissions to: [craigittings@sbcglobal.net](mailto:craigittings@sbcglobal.net)

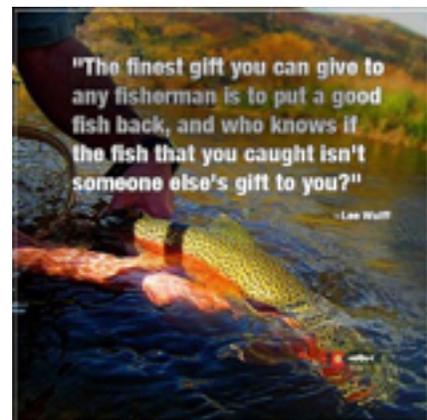
**Bob Laskodi** will be presenting “**California’s Heritage Trout**”, a discussion on the wild and native trout found within the state. The program will focus on the history and genetic importance of these native trout and discuss the locations, methods, and techniques used to catch them. Be advised in advance that this program contains some serious “fish porn” and beautiful scenery, that will leave you drooling and ready to go to fishing! Bob is a California “native”, fishing the various waters of the expansive state since the 1970’s. He has fished everything from small delicate creeks, to large rivers, to wilderness backcountry lakes and streams, to the ocean and Delta waters, and loves every minute he can spend in the beautiful state. Bob has been fly fishing since the 1970’s. After retiring from a “real job”, perhaps some of you can recall Bob owned and operated Fly Anglers Unlimited, a retail fly fishing store in Pleasanton. Currently, Bob is active in his local fly club, San Jose Flycasters.



The [Tracy Fly Fishers](#) meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Tracy Transit Station located at 50 Sixth St. Club Meetings normally begin at 7 p.m.

The Tracy Fly Fishers' Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Safeway grocery store's Community Room (behind the Floral Dept.) at 1801 W. 11th Street. The Board meetings are open to all TFF members. Board Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Stop by and see what goes on “behind the scenes” of your club! Make your concerns known.

Wish to make a difference locally? The Delta is our backyard. Check out the CSPA website and sign up for their action alerts at: [California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, CSPA](#) This is a clickable link for folks reading this at their computer.



## Attention TFF Members!

As you know, our annual Tracy Fly Fishers Installation Dinner / Auction is coming up fast right after the holidays on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are in need of some of your awesome flies, fly fishing gear, and non-fishing items donated for the Silent Auction, Live Auction or Bucket Raffles. We are requesting that they be donated no later than the December TFF meeting on December 17 so that we can email out a list of auction items to our members prior to the event. We're looking forward to our only fundraiser of the year and Thank You in advance for your generous donations that keep our club operating.

Dave Hiromoto, the Raffle Chair

And while on the topic of donations, Contact Chuck Sterni if you can donate a delicious dessert to be auctioned off at our annual Installation Dinner. We are also still need a Master of Ceremony for the Crab Feed. Don't let it fall back on the few to carry us forward into the next year. This is our primary fund raiser for the organization. Get more involved with your club than just showing up to meetings of your choice. You will be rewarded for it. Chuck can be reached [here](#).

## A call for HELP!

Increase your involvement in the club by filling one the board positions below. Don't let the club be carried by the few. It is often said that the more hands, the easier the load. The club could use your help in the areas listed.

WEB Master, Education, Membership positions are now open.



You do not cease to fish because you get old.  
You get old because you cease to fish!

"Angling is extremely time consuming. That's sort of the whole point." - Thomas McGuane

TFF Educational Opportunities

Casting instruction is available at Dr. Powers Park with Chuck Robbins next spring. The club's only Certified Casting Instructor, provides instruction, from basic introduction to improving your loops and double haul, for any and all that seek him out. If you are interested in improving your casting, Chuck will be more than happy to assist. Contact him at 209 835-7812 or his cell # at 209 471-5931. Want to become a better caster? You never know when it might come in handy. Contact Chuck Robbins after seeing this [piece of marketing genius](#). He can get you there, minus the airfare, with your casting skills. If you did not take advantage of his offer, you will have to wait until Day light Savings time returns.



TFF Outings

Bruce Germolus

Feather River Steelhead Outing?? Ask Bruce

# Tracy Fly Fishers

## Seventeenth Annual

### INSTALLATION DINNER

*Featuring our ever popular*

# Crab Feed

Saturday, January 3, 2015

at the

Tracy Community Center, 950 East Street, Tracy, CA

Festivities begin when the doors open at 4 p.m.

Raffles - Silent Auctions - Live Auctions



## COME EARLY AND BID OFTEN !!

**PLEASE take advantage of your Member's Only Ticket Pricell**

Member's ONLY ticket price of \$40 expires after the December 17<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting.

Tickets will be available to ALL beginning December 18<sup>th</sup> at \$45 per ticket.

## Where did all the water go???

"Conservation is fair and honest dealing with the future, usually at some cost to the immediate present."

(Roderick Haig-Brown, taken from *Measure of the Year*, 1950)

The Tracy citizenry does its part in [water conservation](#) with big water cuts.

Some Central Valley communities are down to [their last 60 days](#) of water.

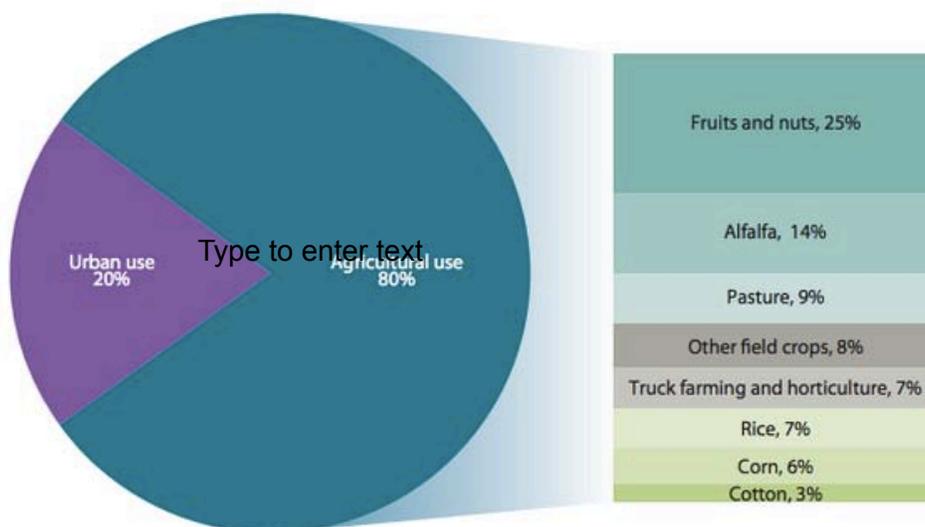
While on a trip to Belize and Guatemala, the blue barrels stood out in contrast to our standard of living. All one needs to do today is travel south of Modesto to see a similar situation. Two photos below- guess the country. Find the answer within the following NPR [article](#) or [video](#) that covers the drought story and shallow wells running dry.



FIGURE 5.

### Freshwater Use in California by Sector and Crop, 2006–10

Almost 40 percent of California's freshwater withdrawals are used for the production of fruits, nuts, and alfalfa.



Sources: Hanak, Mount, and Chappelle 2014; authors' calculations.

Note: The figure shows the average applied water use for 2006–10. Water use in this figure excludes saline water and water dedicated to environmental flows. "Urban use" refers to use by households and nonfarm businesses. "Agricultural use" refers to water used for crop production. Estimates may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. For more details, see the technical appendix.



Photo on the left, courtesy of USGS, documents land subsidence due to groundwater depletion in the Central Valley between 1925 to 1977. The site is in the San Joaquin Valley southwest of Mendota, CA. Curious how the last 35 years have fared to change the landscape. Farmers have resorted primarily to groundwater to continue bringing crops to market during the present drought. Deep well drilling to 2000' keeps the water flowing for irrigation.

Los Angeles Times article, "Amid California's drought, a bruising battle for [cheap water.](#)"

# STEELHEAD

# TOURNAMENT

**BENEFITTING:**



**CAST HOPE**  
SHARE THE OUTDOORS

**FEBRUARY 5 - 8**

**INCLUDES**

- 3 DAYS LODGING AT INDIAN CREEK LODGE
- 2 DAYS GUIDED FISHING ON TRINITY RIVER
- MEALS BY FRENCH LAUNDRY CHEF WINE/BEER

**\$4,000 per team of 2 anglers or \$2,500 per individual**

**DOOR PACKAGE**

- SIMMS BACKPACK
- SIMMS WINDSTOPPER JACKET
- FLY LINE
- AND OTHER GREAT ITEMS

Sponsored by:






FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT: 619-540-9259 [INFO@CASTHOPE.ORG](mailto:INFO@CASTHOPE.ORG)

[www.casthope.org](http://www.casthope.org)

Photos of blue barrels on Conservation page- left is in Tulare County, right is in Guatemala.

## Nekkid Fish Page

"Some men would rather be photographed with their fish than with their wives."

Gwen Cooper and Evelyn Haas

Nothing makes a fish bigger than almost being caught.



I can attest to the above statement. I am truly haunted by the ones that got away. We can blame it on operator error. While in New Orleans for Halloween festivities with family, had the opportunity to sneak off and go after Redfish, adjacent to the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet with Capt. Greg Moon for a couple of days. The fish were cooperative along the edges of marshes in less than 18 inches of water, but first you had to see them contrasted against the muddy bottom of the oyster flats. If they were deep, you could only see them when they "smoked" or kicked up the mud with their tails in a fast departure. This was all sight fishing and casting to these brutes, which was the highlight of the trip for me. Just to see trophy sized Redfish to 35 lbs., tailing black drum to 70 lbs., Sheepfish, and Alligator gar in shallow water was amazing. Some of the largest fish on record have come out of the Hopedale area, southeast of New Orleans. It was certainly a great introduction for a redfish neophyte. I was reminded that one must first learn how to walk before they can run. Maybe next time a trophy fish will come to hand. Fly of choice was a guide tied ABC (already been chewed) fly attached to thirty lb. test leader on a 9 or 10 wt rod. The redfish, the apex predator of the marsh, were definitely not leader shy. Imagine stalking large fish in skinny water, while your guide poled you into position to make your cast. Have to admit I lacked the skill set to catch the bigguns. You had to cast to a moving fish with target the size of a pie tin, followed with an immediate strip to get these solo fish to eat. Yes, I am haunted by the fish that got away only because you could see the fish and had them easily within my sights. Buck fever? Maybe next time.

Upper left photo was the competition, shrimp boats. And yet, not another angler in sight all day. Left is the casting platform. Hey, where is that knee brace? I could have certainly used one. Balance was definitely the key. Just remember that you are on the raised platform when these fish grabs your fly. Below is one of the dinks.

Craig



Do you want to live vicariously through others? Or do you have a photo and story that might key interest in others? You do not even have to be a good story teller. We can make it up for you. As Samuel Clemons is quoted, "Why let the facts get in the way of a good story." And he made a livelihood out of his stories. You can send them anonymously or we can give you credit. Send your fish pics and details to [craigittings@sbcglobal.net](mailto:craigittings@sbcglobal.net) and you can see your

# OUR SPONSORS

## CALL THEM, USE THEM, SUPPORT THEM

CLICKABLE LINKS BELOW

### **The Fly Shop**

Mike Michalak  
Redding 800-699-3474  
[www.flyshop.com](http://www.flyshop.com)

### **Sierra Stream & Mountain**

Chico 503-345-4261  
[www.sierrastreamflyshop.com](http://www.sierrastreamflyshop.com)

### **Delta Stripers**

Jerry Neuberger  
Lodi 209-369-5752  
[www.deltastripers.com](http://www.deltastripers.com)

### **Meadow Cliff Lodge and RV Resort**

Coleville, CA 503-495-2255  
[www.meadowcliff.com](http://www.meadowcliff.com)

### **Sea Level Fly Fishing**

Ray Hutcherson  
Sacramento 510-908-1809  
[www.sealevelflyfish.com](http://www.sealevelflyfish.com)

### **American Fly Fishing**

Gary Eban/Peter Blackman  
Sacramento 800-410-1222  
[www.americanflyfishing.com](http://www.americanflyfishing.com)

### **Thy Rod & Staff**

Frank Pisciotta  
Truckee 530-587-7333  
[www.cyberfly.com](http://www.cyberfly.com)

### **Excellent Adventures**

Al Smatsky  
Lodi 209-368-9261  
[www.excellentadventures.org](http://www.excellentadventures.org)

### **Kiene's Fly Shop**

Sacramento 800-400-0359  
[www.kiene.com](http://www.kiene.com)

### **Creative Sports**

Jamie Berman  
Pleasant Hill 925-938-2255  
[www.creativeflyshop.com](http://www.creativeflyshop.com)

### **Mountain Hardware & Sports**

Truckee 503-587-4844

### **Albright Fishing Products**

800-781-7703  
[www.albrightflyfish.com](http://www.albrightflyfish.com)

### **The Trout Spot**

Rick Derosiers  
Santa Clara 800-822-7129  
[www.thetroutspot.com](http://www.thetroutspot.com)

### **ICON Products**

John Ryzanych  
Castro Valley 510-881-8210  
[www.iconproducts.net](http://www.iconproducts.net)  
[www.catchrelease.com](http://www.catchrelease.com)

### **Surf Inn**

Ed Gogdill  
Gualala 888-451-787  
[www.surfinngualala.com](http://www.surfinngualala.com)

### **Eagle Canyon Trophy Trout Lake**

Confluence Outfitters  
Red Bluff 888-481-1650  
[www.eaglecanyontrout.com](http://www.eaglecanyontrout.com)

### **Goodwin Lake Vacation Rental**

Roy Gunter  
831-809-0316  
[www.homeaway.com](http://www.homeaway.com)

### **Baja Fly Fishing**

Jay Murakoshi  
Fresno 559-449-0679  
[www.bajaflyfishngadventures.com](http://www.bajaflyfishngadventures.com)

### **Geo Poly Fly Fishing**

Rich Lobrovich  
Salt Lake 801-910-6600  
[www.geopolyflyfishing.com](http://www.geopolyflyfishing.com)

### **Indian Creek Lodge**

Douglas City 530-623-6294  
[www.iclodge.net](http://www.iclodge.net)

### **Tiger T's Guide Service**

Todd LeBoef  
Redding 530-222-2728  
[www.riverfishingnorcal.com](http://www.riverfishingnorcal.com)

### **Bass Pro Shops**

Cliff Sullivan  
Manteca  
209-825-8400  
[www.basspro.com](http://www.basspro.com)