

# FLY LINES & FISH TALES



February 2011

## Current Activities (Tracy Fly Fishers) Calendar

Our next Meeting is February 16. Guest speaker will be Mike Reiser of Baja Fly Fishing  
Mike will be presenting fishing opportunities around Baja's famed East Cape... reputed as the  
Roosterfish Capital of the World!... and the Marlin, Tuna and Dorado fishing isn't to be overlooked  
either !!

Meeting location is the Transit Station at 50 E. Sixth St

**Mike Rieser, Partner and Guide:** Mike founded the Baja Flyfishing Co in 1998 out of a deep love for the Baja and the Sea of Cortez. His first fishing experience in the Sea of Cortez dates back to 1974 in the days of fiber glass rods and Pflueger Medalist reels. He has kayaked and camped extensively along the Baja's remote coast line, always with an eye for new fishing adventures. Mike has guided hunters and fishermen since 1974, starting as a Mule Packer/Guide in the Eastern Sierra Nevada near Bishop California. Mike is an innovative fly tier and fly designer and has demonstrated his patterns at Sport Shows including the International Sportsman's Expo. Mike has appeared in numerous television shows and is currently writing a book on fly fishing the Sea of Cortez. Mike is a teacher at heart and greatly enjoys sharing his experience with all visitors to the Sea of Cortez.

### **IT IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME.**

It is not too late to renew your dues! Yearly dues (January 1-December 31) are \$30.00 per family. Dues are used to support TFF, local conservation organizations with donations, maintain our program schedule including Trout in the Classroom as well as fund administrative needs of the club. You can renew your membership with Bonnie or go to the website [www.tracyflyfishers.org](http://www.tracyflyfishers.org)

Speaking of members: please welcome our newest club members. Be sure to introduce yourselves to our newest members at the next meeting. At least show them that you don't bite and that you are willing to work on your people skills. And if you do bite, please wear a muzzle to the next meeting.

Also, if you know any former members or members who have not been to a meeting in awhile, invite them back! The members are the life blood of our club!

### **The Fly Fishing Show**

Coming to the Pleasanton at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, February 25, 26 and 27. This is the largest fly fishing show on the West Coast

Check out the latest in rods and reels!

The FFF will be offering fly fishing instruction everyday.

Fly Tyers will be showing off their skills.

Attend seminars about exciting destinations or enhance your skills.

The Prez sez...

Hello TFF members

2011 has arrived and here we are in February already. It looks like another banner year for the Tracy Fly Fishers and I encourage all of you to take ownership in your Club.

Many thanks to all of you who helped make the Installation dinner a success! I truly appreciate those who have opened their wallets for the raffle and Auctions; this assists in maintaining the quality programs we sponsor as a club. As for the team that helped put the Installation Dinner together, we couldn't have done it without you! I also want to extend my thanks to the students of Millennium High for their assistance in setting up, serving and clean up. They too have become an asset we are grateful for.

For those of you who are still filling out your calendars for the year, check out George Strickland's list of club organized Fish Outs. The first one coming up is at Eagle Canyon for GIANT trout. If you can't make it, perhaps another can be set up if there is enough interest. Right now there are 6 events on the calendar so that should give everyone a chance to get out with the Club.

Chuck Sterni (our favorite Musher!) has put together a good set of speakers this year and I am looking forward to hearing more about Baja in the February meeting. There is also going to be quite a bit of "local" talent showcased this year so we can stay closer to home and enjoy the benefits that California affords.



I encourage all of you to get involved in **YOUR Club** this year. As you know, the Board meetings on the first Wednesday are open to the general membership and we would enjoy hearing your concerns and ideas. You are what makes the club go and we will continue to strive to bring you quality events and speakers.

The Fly Fishing Show is in Pleasanton at the end of the month and I would encourage those that can go to take a friend along. It is always a boost to see some of the best tiers and casters in the world and learn some new techniques.

Visit our sponsors as much as you can this year to thank them for their support of our club. Make sure you check out the Website and also the Facebook page for club info.

See you on the water,

Stan

Join fellow TFF Members for breakfast at the Banta Inn  
Saturday, February 26 at 9:00am.

A great way to meet your fellow club members and maybe even hook-up for a fishing trip.

#### BOARD MEMBERS

President  
Stan Elijah (209)815-4657  
Vice President/Secretary  
Ben Byng  
Treasurer & Membership  
Bonnie Small (209)239-5415  
Webmaster  
Michael Carlson (925)634-6274  
[Tracy Fly Fishers website](#)  
Library & Casting  
Chuck Robbins (209)835-7812  
Programs  
Chuck Sterni  
Raffle  
Bob Kiffin  
Outings  
George Strickland  
(925)858-7017  
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Pat Ferguson (209)835-2981  
Trout in The Classroom  
Rod Buchanan  
(209)815-0062  
Conservation  
Corey Cate (925)245-1359  
Education  
Rick Clemmons  
Newsletter  
Stephen Holtzclaw  
(408)674-4065



[One Pebble Can Make A Lot of Waves Video](#)

On February 16, the [Tracy Fly Fishers](#) Meet at 7:00 PM  
at the Transit Station located at 50 E. Sixth St.

## Fish Outs-George Strickland

The 2011 calendar is looking good. Do you think it is too early to be planning trips for next year? George certainly doesn't.

Eagle Canyon Trophy Trout Lakes- February 19, 2011. This was announced at our last club meeting to see if there was any interest. They are located 20 miles east of Red Bluff. There are now limited spaces available. See George ASAP if you are interested.

The Northern California Council of the Fly Fishing Federation announces that the Hall of Fame Dinner will be on April 9th, 2011 at the Silenus Vitners (in their wine cellar?) located at 5225 Solano Avenue in Napa, CA. Come join in the celebration as the 2011 Hall of Fame Inductee will be James Adams.

Openings on the TFF board: Looking for a growth in your participation with the club? The club is in need of a few brave individuals to share the raffle chair responsibilities- hand holding is not required for these positions. This is a great opportunity to get to know your local fly fishing shops and their proprietors. Consider giving back to the club by increasing your direct participation. No one will be turned away. If you are remotely interested, please see Stan.

## Your 2011 TFF Board

The Installation Dinner and crab feed was a great success! Several brave souls have stepped up to keep the club well greased and moving along. They include: President- Stan Elijah, VP/Secretary- Ben Byng, Treasurer- Bonnie Small, Education-Rick Clemmons, Outings- George Strickland, Speaker- Charles Sterni, Conservation- Cory Cates, Newsletter- Steve Holtzclaw, Logistics-Pat Ferguson, Web Master- Mike Carlson, **Raffle**- open and waiting for someone to step forward.

In addition, Michael Tidwell has agreed to work with President Stan Elijah as a club historian/photographer to enhance club presence on the web and provide greater documentation of the events held by the club.

The nekkid fish page- only the bravest submit photos of their  
fishing prowess

Living vicariously through the fruit of others' adventures



Pyramid Lake puts out some nice cutts in the spring!

## TFF Educational Opportunities

Casting instruction at Dr. Powers Park with certified casting instructor Chuck Robbins returns again next spring after daylight savings kicks in.

Volunteers are needed for Trout in the Classroom- talk to Rod Buchanan about helping out and getting involved with this rewarding program by calling (209)815-0062

*Hidden Talent Sought!*

*Would you like to contribute to the monthly newsletter?*

*Do you have pictures of your latest outing or a good story to share?*

*Send our submissions to*  
[stephenholtzclaw@comcast.net](mailto:stephenholtzclaw@comcast.net)



January 31, 2011. CSPA and a five other conservation and fishing groups have commented on the Initial Study Report in the relicensing of the Merced River Project, and submitted seven requests for new studies.

In 2009 and 2010, Merced Irrigation District, the operator of New Exchequer and McSwain dams on the Merced River, used process arguments to shut out study of Merced River salmon and steelhead from the relicensing. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission accepted the argument that fish downstream of Merced ID's agricultural diversion aren't directly affected by the District's hydroelectric operations, so no study was warranted.

The January 31 [comments](#) by CSPA and allies attacks this deception, and proposes seven appropriate studies.

Three state and federal fisheries agencies commented and filed in support of the same studies. And in a related but separate action, the State Water Resources Control Board sent a [letter](#) to Merced Irrigation District ordering studies over the next two years. The State Board needs data to evaluate a water quality certification that is required to relicense the hydroelectric project.

### Latest DFG survey shows Delta Fisheries continue to court extinction: historical lows for striped bass and splittail

Posted on [December 29, 2010](#) by [Bill Jennings](#) of CSPA

The California Department of Fish and Game has released the results of their annual Fall Midwater Trawl of pelagic (open water) species in the Delta. The results continue to demonstrate an estuary in collapse. The study, which produces indices of "relative abundance," has been conducted since 1967. The collapse of Delta species mirrors the decline of salmonids. Sacramento River fall-run Chinook salmon, numbering some 750,000 in 2002, dropped to 90,000 in 2007 to 66,264 in 2008 and to a dismal new low of 39,530 in 2009, before rebounding slightly this year.

Results of the 2010 Fall Midwater Trawl reveal that:

- Striped bass populations continue to collapse. The 2010 index of 43 showed a 40% decline from last year's historical low of 70. The index was 12,473, as recently as 1983.
- Splittail populations also matched their historical low. The 2010 index was 0, compared to last year's index of 1. The splittail index was 281 in 1998.
- Delta smelt continued to be found at near record low numbers. The index of 29 was only slightly higher than last year's 17. In 1993, the index was 1,078.
- Longfin smelt rebounded slightly to 191 from last years abysmal index of 65. Of course, in 1982 the index reached 62,905.
- Threadfin shad numbers also increased slightly to 120 from last years record low of 13. In contrast the index was 15,267 in 1997 and 14,401 in 2001.
- The American shad index increased from last years 624 to 683; still the fourth lowest since records have been kept. As recently as 2003, the index was 9,360

The [Tracy Fly Fishers'](#) Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Safeway grocery store's Community Room 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!

Wish to make a difference locally? The Delta is our backyard. Check out the CSPA website and sign up for their action alerts at: [CSPA, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance](#) or [www.calsport.org/](#)



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ICON Products

John Ryzanych

Castro Valley (510) 881-8210

[iconproducts.net](http://iconproducts.net)

[catchrelease.com](http://catchrelease.com)

Tracy Fly  
Fishers

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**Next meeting is February 16, 2011 7 pm at the  
Transit Station in the conference room**