

# The Barbless Hook



**May  
2012**

*Editor: Tom Vargas*

## President's Message

### Ken Javorsky

Thank you to all members and their families who made this year's TVFF Silent Auction a resounding success. Don Gardner, our Auction Chairman, teamed with Bob McCollum and managed to raise almost \$6000.00 for our club. The proceeds are the primary source of revenue that funds our club activities which include conservation and education. Once again, thanks go out to Don and his team of volunteers as well as the members and sponsors who had contributed donations or purchased items at our auction. Well done!

Please do not forget about our picnic on Sunday.

Daniel Kitts has reserved Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> for a day of fun, fishing, casting lessons, and BBQ at Shadow Cliffs in Pleasanton. Please email Daniel to let him know you are coming. The picnic is free to all members and their families. All you have to pay for is the park entrance fees and fishing fees.

Regarding our TVFF logo drawing contest; please submit your design to the club by May 7<sup>th</sup>. The TVFF Board will accept any and all drawing submissions from members and their families as well as possibly some outside firms who may want to present a submission. The board will vote on the best submission. Our next club meeting will be on Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

See you there!

KJ

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*Photo above: Bart Hughes  
with a beautiful German  
Brown Trout caught on the  
Hot Creek outing*

# May Program

## Shad Fishing in Northern California

Our speaker for May is Al Smatsky, who will be giving a presentation on Shad fishing in California.

His guide and travel business, Excellent Adventures, allows him to fish in Mexico, Central America, South America and California.

He is going to give us the scoop on fly fishing for shad in Northern California. Learn the What, Where and How.



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# Pinecrest/Highway 108 Outing May 11-13

Bob McCollum

Please join me May 11-13 for a late spring outing on the Highway 108 corridor. This is typically a good time to float tube/boat or shore fish Pinecrest Lake. Typically good dry fly action near swim area and disabled pier. Also, good nymphing at the inlet creek, which is the headwaters of the South Fork of the Stanislaus River. There are many other fishing opportunities in the area: Float tube Beardsley after bay (flows permitting) . Stream fishing is available on the South Fork of the Stanislaus from Strawberry down to Sand Bar Flat. Also, the Lower Stan is approximately 30 minutes away. Accommodations: I have space for about up to six anglers at my cabin in Twain Harte. Camping is available at Pinecrest. Sign up at the April meeting or drop me an e-mail: [fishmaster@tri-valleyflyfishers.org](mailto:fishmaster@tri-valleyflyfishers.org) .



Pinecrest Lake



Above: Martin lands a nice planter on the SF of the Stan. While Steve Ruley float tubes Pinecrest lake.

# 2012 Outing Schedule – Hal Wilson

Below is the tentative/probable outing schedule based on the best information available at the time of publication. This schedule is subject to change. Please note that several outings do not have fishmasters assigned. Please consider being the fishmaster for one of these outings and contact me if you're interested. Here is a link to the sign-up sheet: [http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org/TVFF\\_Outting\\_Signup\\_Form.pdf](http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org/TVFF_Outting_Signup_Form.pdf)

## TVFF OUTINGS 2012

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FISHMEISTER(S)</u>
MAY	5/11	PINECREST LAKE	BOB MCCOLLUM DON GARDNER
JUNE	6/20 to 24	UPPER SAC	DANIEL KITTS
	6/7-6/10	DAVIS LAKE	JIM BROADBENT
JULY	6/30-7/1	SHAD (LOCN TBD)	KEN GOTELLI TOM VARGAS
	7/7-7/9	SHOWERS L. BACKPACK	GARY PHILLIPS BART HUGHES
	7/20 to 22	FULLER/RUCKER LAKES	HAL WILSON
	7/28 to 8/4	HUMPHREY BASIN	JIM BROADBENT
AUGUST		KENNEDY MEADOWS	DON GARDNER
SEPTEMBER	9/28 to 30	NORTH FORK STANISLAUS and LAKE ALPINE	DERRELL BRIDGMAN RUSS GEORGE TOM VARGAS
		TRUCKEE RIVER	DANIEL KITTS
OCTOBER	10/13 to 16	LOWER SAC	DON GARDNER
		MANZANITA LAKE AREA	TOM FESSENDEN
NOVEMBER	11/28 to 12/2	TRINITY STEELHEAD	BOB MCCOLLUM
DECEMBER	12/8	DELTA STRIPERS	RICK MIKLA TOM VARGAS



# Eagle Canyon

Bob McCollum and Rob Vellinger

Rob and I fished Eagle Canyon on April 1. It's a private pay-to-play fishery east of Red Bluff near Manton, CA. We started our trip by driving up to Redding and trying to fish the Lower Sac at the Posse Grounds on Saturday, March 31. The Sac was pretty blown out from the recent rainy weather at that time. So we had a big ole steak and a bottle of wine for dinner and retreated to Red Bluff

The next morning we drove out to Eagle Canyon. The property is part of the Mt. Lassen Trout Hatchery. It is managed by Andrew Harris of Confluence outfitter, who's father-in-law is the owner of Mt Lassen Trout. They basically have two good-sized ponds that they stock with 4-20 pound trout from the hatchery. Eagle Canyon is open from November to April/May.. The ponds are small enough to be fished from shore, but one is large enough to float tube. They limit the anglers to five per day and rest the ponds between groups of anglers. The cost is \$200 per angler per day.

We fished mostly stone fly nymphs (Jimmy Legs), San Juan Worms, and mayfly nymphs. Both of us caught two nice fish from 6 to about 18 lbs. These fish are truly comically large and we just laughed the whole time we were landing them.


Two other anglers from Lodi fished with us. One of them had fished these ponds for 15 years and he knew all the secrets. He caught over a dozen nice fish on bright orange San Juan worms.

Now that we know what we're doing, we'd like to try it again next year and catch more of these big fish.



Above: Rob with his largest fish, which took him to his backing. Below: Bob with his smallest fish.





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Mark is located in the beautiful town of Sonora, California, about 2 hours east of the San Francisco Bay Area and two hours south from Sacramento, in Tuolumne County. Anyone from beginner to expert will benefit from his experience on the local waters with walk and wade trips on the Merced, Stanislaus, or Tuolumne Rivers. Mark does float trips on the lower Merced, Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers from an Outcast Pontoon Boat. He also offers personalized instruction. Please Mark's web site for more information on the services he offers.



# Hot Creek

Bart Hughes

Five brave souls (Jim Broadbent, Robert Nishio, Doug Witmore, Ron Dueltgen, Bart Hughes) made the trek over to Hot Creek and the East Walker and were rewarded with some good fishing and camaraderie. The weather was all over the map with unseasonably warm weather on Hot Creek Friday and snow flurries Saturday evening on the East Walker with some iced guides the next morning.

Friday provided dry fly action and the chance for several to try out the tight-line nymphing technique that Gary Turri recently taught. All caught fish with many beautiful rainbows and browns brought to the net with the largest in the 17 inch range. Given the flows were low, fish could often be sight cast to. There were four hogs down deep that we all took turns casting to (three casts each). With all the background friendly heckling from each other, it is a wonder that any of those fish were caught.

Flows on the East Walker were very low (50 cfs) which made a bit like “shooting fish in a barrel”. Most of the time we were sight casting to fish with two-nymph rigs. Once again, the tight-line technique worked well. Most fish were caught on small baetis or red midge patterns. A few were caught with white streamers. Plenty of rainbows, browns and a few white fish were brought to net by all with the biggest in the 19/20 inch range. It is not often that one can fish site fish to large pods of fish all within talking distance of each other – which made this a fun, interactive, group fishing activity.



The gang of five



Ron with a nice rainbow



Robert bags one

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Outings	Hal Wilson
Speakers	Jim Broadbent
Silent Auction	Don Gardner
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Refreshments	Robert Nishio
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\* Voting Members

## 2012 Dues are PAST Due!!!

TVFF Club dues for 2012 are \$40.00 and they are currently due and payable at the club meeting or by mail. If we don't receive your dues soon you will be dropped from the club mailing list and you will not be eligible for club outings.

Please note-the new mailing address is:  
PO Box 2358, Livermore, CA 94551



# Member Fishing Reports:

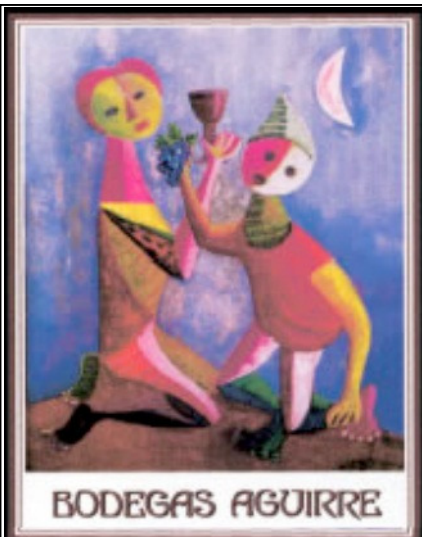
## Pyramid Lake-Ken Tetzl

I braved the waters of Pyramid Lake over the April 14<sup>th</sup> weekend. That lake kills me! I can't take but one trip per year, throwing woolly buggers all day. It started out good at Warrior Point Saturday afternoon in heavy wind and occasional rain. Caught one and lost one in my first hour of fishing. That would be it for the next two days! No more takes. Tried a few more beaches throwing both buggers and nymphs with no luck. The conditions seemed to be good, but little action my way. A few other guys I talked with caught a few fish over the weekend. I will try it again next year.....



## Lake Goodwin-Gary Phillips

Nancy and I just returned from a trip to Lake Goodwin which is below Lake Tulloch and above the Lower Stanislaus. I caught six trout with the largest being 23". (The one in the picture) The other three in our group caught 5 fish total. We rented a house for two nights and the the owner said he would donate a free night for our club raffle.



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# Conservation Corner

## Bill requiring peripheral canal cost-benefit analysis clears committee

by Dan Bacher

In a major win for Delta advocates, the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee on April 24 voted 10 to 2 to approve legislation requiring an independent cost-benefit analysis before committing the public to pay tens of billions of dollars to build a peripheral canal or tunnel to divert more Delta water.

A coalition of consumer, environmental, fishing and family farming groups strongly supported the legislation, AB 2421 (B. Berryhill), while agribusiness groups, the California Chamber of Commerce and southern California water agencies opposed the bill.

Assembly Members Jared Huffman (D), Bill Berryhill (R), Bob Blumenfield (D), Nora Campos (D), Paul Fong (D), Beth Gaines (R), Das Williams (D), Roger Hernández (D), Ben Hueso (D) and Mariko Yamada (D) voted yes, while Ricardo Lara (D) and Linda Halderman (R) voted no. Brian W. Jones (R) didn't vote. The bill "requires that an independent third party costs and benefits of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) be submitted to the Legislature prior to the BDCP's inclusion in the Delta Plan, or by June 30, 2013, whichever comes first."

The legislation also requires that the third party conducting the analysis shall be chosen by one representative each from the Legislative Analyst's Office, the Delta Protection Commission, and the State Water Contractors, Assemblyman Bill Berryhill (R-Stockton), told the Committee. "A fair and balanced analysis is all we want," said Berryhill.

"AB 2421 is a significant step towards ensuring that any project proposed to shift massive amounts of water around the Delta will be studied to understand the true impact on the Delta," Berryhill said. "As a farmer and a resident of San Joaquin County I want to know how much that water will cost Californians and what will be impact on the farmers and ecosystem in the Delta."

Before the vote, Committee Chair Jared Huffman said he believed "the public is entitled to know if it is investing in something that is on a path toward success."

The maximum analysis cost will be limited to \$1 million by the bill.

Southern California ratepayers have expressed strong support for the legislation, since they fear the construction of the canal could increase their water rates.

"Urban water users would pay billions of dollars for a massive peripheral canal or tunnel," Conner Everts, Executive Director of the Southern California Watershed Alliance, told the committee. "Those who'll pay deserve to know how much they'd pay and how much benefit would go to those ratepayers."

"There are numerous references to studies, but not one would require a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis," Everts emphasized.



*Continued on next page*

## **Conservation Corner** (Continued)

Restore the Delta, Food & Water Watch, Sierra Club California, the Planning & Conservation League, Clean Water Action, the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, the Delta Coalition and Ducks Unlimited joined in the call for an independent cost-benefit analysis.

"It's essential to have an independent analysis of who pays and who benefits before embarking on the largest public works project in the history of California," Kristin Lynch, Pacific Region Director of Food & Water Watch, told the committee. "The BDCP could create a large potential financial exposure for the people of California. The people deserve to know the true cost they are taking on."

Opponents of the legislation, including the Metropolitan Water District, testified that they view AB 2421 as "threat to achieving the co-equal goals of ecosystem restoration and reliable water supplies." They stated that this bill would "repeal the process delineated in the 2009 Delta/water management legislation that created a path towards new Delta conveyance and ecosystem improvements."

"I believe that the legislation is simply not necessary," said Roger Patterson, the General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District, claiming that a financial analysis of the BDCP will be conducted by UC Berkeley. "This extensive financial analysis will delineate all aspects of the plan, not just conveyance. It will have detailed cost and benefits of the plan available when it comes out."

However, Berryhill and bill proponents pointed out that the Natural Resources Agency has said that no comprehensive cost-benefit analysis will be done, in spite of this issue being continually raised by the stakeholders.

Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, Executive Director of Restore the Delta, responded, "It is just absolutely amazing that Metropolitan Water District opposed the independent cost-benefit analysis because they felt it would undermine the BDCP. How did they expect to build this project without transparency and full support from their ratepayers?"

"This is such a turning point for the facts that should really have been done a long time ago!" said Caleen Sisk, Chief and Spiritual Leader of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe, after the bill was approved. "It is amazing what people are not allowed to know before huge debt is put on the public. I wonder what the cost analysis for raising Shasta Dam 18.5 feet will be? Billions of dollars for a hand full of corporations' benefit, while all Californians will be paying for it and will not get anymore water!"

The committee also approved AB 2422 (B. Berryhill), legislation that requires the Department of Water Resources to conduct a feasibility study of a new in-Delta water storage concept at Sherman Island.

The Committee failed to pass another Delta-related bill, AB 2000 (Huber), that adds requirements to the BDCP process, changing Delta Stewardship Council membership and specifies that remaining bond money for flood control projects shall only be used by DWR for levee improvements. The legislation would require DWR to withdraw from its existing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the export agencies funding BDCP planning and the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation.

Delta advocates fear that the construction of the peripheral canal or tunnel will hasten the extinction of Central Valley steelhead, Sacramento River winter and spring run chinook salmon, Delta smelt, longfin smelt, green sturgeon, Sacramento splittail and other imperiled fish species. The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta is the largest and most significant estuary on the West Coast of the Americas.

***For information about Restore the Delta, go to [www.restorethedelta.org](http://www.restorethedelta.org)***



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# Rare Fly Fishing Opportunity Awaits You on May 20th

By Kent McCammon

Imagine your fly fishing the Upper Sacramento towards the end of your Sunday, a magical time when bigger aggressive fish lose their cautious ways. Hours ago you rationalized that getting to work on Monday is not so bad if your waders are off and your driving home in the dark at 9pm. You are in the zone now and anticipating a final fish for your weekend. Yet, instead of being completely immersed in the moment, you notice the sky is not quite normal. The shadows are different, the sky color different, and the wind is swirling around after being still all day. You keep the concentration on the end of your fly line. It's about 6 pm now and the sky is getting darker faster than normal, something is really peculiar. It's May 20, 2012. You are in the shadow path of a rare annular solar eclipse where the moon nearly blocks out the sun leaving a thin ring of fire of Sun. What will the fish or more importantly what the insects will do when darkness falls twice this evening.

On Sunday May 20, 2012 near 6:30 pm, the shadow from a solar eclipse moves across familiar fishing locations to the North of San Francisco. The path of the annular eclipse races over the mouth of the Klamath River, the Upper Sacramento River, Lassen National Park, Susanville, and the shores of Pyramid Lake at Sutcliffe, Nevada. This is the location of the maximum impact from darkening and a stunning visual observed with the proper eye-safe techniques. Closer to home, a dramatic eclipse is not to be missed at your favorite fishing spot.

Will the fishing get better, worse, or unchanged during the solar eclipse? Will insects react and trigger a hatch during the darkening sky? At what light level or point in the eclipse would be the trigger? Would the biggest fish be more vulnerable? Curious minds turn to the Internet, go ahead Search if you feel lucky, try 'fly fishing during an eclipse' on your keypad. Don't expect reading other's stories, solar eclipses are rare events; a solar eclipse shadow passing over great fly fishing areas near you, even more scarce. What else do you need for motivation for an adventure? One more thing, May 20 just happens to occur during legal trout fishing season in California. There is a saying that the 'stars are aligned' for rare magic to occur. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sun and Moon are aligned for fly fishing through a solar eclipse.

Go fish it and report back your discovery!

-Kent McCammon

NASA has a detailed website on eclipses including this May 20<sup>th</sup> event. Check it out.

<http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/OH/OH2012.html#SE2012May20A>

Local KRCR TV News Story on the Eclipse with a great National park Service map.

<http://www.krcrtv.com/news/30955140/detail.html>



# The Tier's Bench

## FLY TYING GET TOGETHER

By JIM BROADBENT

On the first Wednesdays of the month, from 7 – 9 pm, we will have a Fly-Tying/BS get together for the purpose of learning and expanding our knowledge of fly tying and related subjects.

The itinerary could include techniques, materials, knots, entomology, and specific and not so specific fly patterns.

The meeting will be chaired by various individuals who have knowledge of the meeting's target subject.

Vices, tools and some materials could be provided.

This is the location of the meeting:

Martin Plotkin's office.  
1799 Portola Ave.  
Livermore, CA.

Let me know if you are interested.



**Andrew Harris: 888-481-1650 / [www.confluenceoutfitters.com](http://www.confluenceoutfitters.com)**



## Items For Sale

### Vacation Home For Rent:

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

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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. Contact: Bob McCollum 925-989-2358



### **New:** Brand New Fly Rod and Reel outfits for Sale

1. 4 piece Ross FlyStik 7'11" 8 weight Tournament-length bass fly rod with Lamson Konic 3.5 reel, Rio line and case \$249.00

2. 4 piece Redington Crosswater 9' 8 weight rod with Redington Rise 9/10 reel, Rio line. ***Includes a gift certificate from Lois Kilburn, a great instructor, for a two hour clinic for two persons.***

<http://www.flyfishing4fun.com> \$225.00

**Tom Vargas (925) 586-4019**

### **Fishing Vests for Sale:**

1. Orvis Super Wading Tac-L-Pak. Medium size, Tan color Like new condition. \$ 45.00, (\$119.00 new)

2. Patagonia Mesh Vest Medium size, Grey color Good condition. \$20.00

### **New: Fly lines for sale:**

1. Rio Selective Trout WF3 chartreuse, new in box \$30.00

2. Sage Quiet Double Taper DT4 mint green, new in box \$30.00

3. Cortland 444 Lazerline DT4 orange, new in box \$30.00

4. Rio Windcutter WF5 yellow, fished 1-2 days only, spool and box included \$25.00

5. Rio Grand WF5 camo green, fished 1-2 days only, spool and box included \$25.00

6. Scientific Anglers Ultra 4 WF5 buckskin tan, light use, spool and box included \$20.00

7. Scientific Anglers Ultra 3 WF6 buckskin tan, light use, spool and box included \$20.00

8. Cortland 444 Lazerline DT6 chartreuse, light use, spool included \$20.00

9. Rio Nymph Taper WF7 camo green, light use, spool and box included \$25.00

10. Airflo Ridge Distance Taper WF7 yellow, new in box \$30.00

11. Cortland 444SL DT7 mist green, light use, spool and box included \$20.00

12. Scientific Anglers Mastery Nymph Taper WF8 willow, fished 1-2 days, spool and box included \$25.00

13. Cortland 444SL WF 9 F/S 20 foot sink tip type 3, new in box \$25.00

14. Orvis Wonderline Striper WF10 yellow, new in box \$30.00

Also have some reels available for sale for these lines if interested.

Will install these lines on your reel if requested.

**Gary Turri (925) 786-5184**

# Future Outings

## Davis Lake

Jim Broadbent

June 7<sup>th</sup> thru June 10<sup>th</sup> we will be stalking 20 inch plus Rainbow trout on Davis Lake, about one hour north of Truckee and 5 miles out of Portola.

This lake is known for its early summer damsel hatch. We will be camping on the east shore and fishing on the west shore. A general store is only about one and a half miles from camp where you may procure supplies and flies.

There are a couple of motels in Portola for those who do not care to sleep under the stars.

Friday night we will have a potluck feast with great conversation and stories.

## Humphrey Basin Pack Trip

Jim Broadbent

July 28<sup>th</sup> thru Aug 4<sup>th</sup> We will be fishing for golden trout in Humphrey Basin located west of Bishop CA, at 11,000 ft. We will leave Saturday, July 28, spending the night at Bishop Pack Station. On Sunday morning, our gear and food will be carried in by Bishop Pack Station and we will make a strenuous five mile walk to our base camp.

Five days of golden trout fishing in any of the 40 lakes and streams, the scenery is stunning.

Saturday morning, Aug 4, we pack our gear and walk out. The packer will bring our gear out early afternoon at which time we will head home.

This is one of the most memorable trips I have taken.

I need commitments to work out the logistics so sign up soon.

## Shad Trip to the Lower Sacramento River

Tom Vargas and Ken Gotelli

June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 1<sup>st</sup> This month we have a program on shad fishing in Northern California and several members have talked about doing a trip, which our club hasn't had since they closed the Road 48 access a couple of years ago. I am planning to use my jet boat to access productive riffles of the Sacramento River in those areas near Road 48 and Colusa. One idea is to hire a guide to direct the group to the best areas. We will go where the fish are.

We are looking for interested members and will need some assistance in working out the logistics.



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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

