

The Barbless Hook



**February
2013**

Editor: Tom Vargas

President's Message

Ken Javorsky

Last Call!

It has been a honor and privilege to serve as your President for the last year. During that time I worked with a lot of good people and have been education to a different level on matters pertaining to the fly fishing world as well as matters of the heart and soul. Our Membership has a lot of in depth talent which includes but is not limited to management, marketing, selling, negotiating, story telling, chiseling and yes, fly fishing. The memories of the events ,outings, meetings, and adrenalin induced fish catching moments will stay with me for a long time. I am proud to be a member of this club and know first hand what a hidden jewel we have to ourselves. I know that Daniel and his team will continue providing a diversified menu of conservation, education, and social activities that our members have expected throughout the years. Before I sign off I would thank the following:

TVFF Membership- A Smithsonian of knowledge and a Disneyland of fun, if I could bottle this group we could achieve world peace.

Daniel Kitts - The eternal optimist, team leader, fixer,diplomat, coordinator of picnics , membership booths, and other things that I may have forgotten about.

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Photo:

Keith O. with a wild Rainbow
Trout from the Pit
River. Photo by Gary T.

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Presidents message, continued from page 1

Bart Hughes- Thank you for not killing any of our members on your "easy " hikes . You came close with Jim Broadbent but as it turned out that was between Jim and his horse. Thanks for your focus on the Board and your leadership in the membership survey.

Don Gardner- Great work on the 2012 Auction and your mentoring for the 2013 Auction. You may have inspired me to buy a Port-A-Boat.

Derrell Bridgman - Doctor TIC, an inspiration to young and other than young alike. I have learned the most from this person.

Hal Wilson- An apple pie with extra crust , a fireball with hot sauce and a passion for this club. Team leader for our new fly fishing class. Exceptional work on communicating our outings. If haven't been informed about our outings from Hal , then you don't have a pulse.

Richard Tarbell- Dedicated Board Member. Does what ever a fly fisher can. Quickly becoming a huge catcher and releaser of fish.

Russ George- Give me receipts or give me death. Believes in doing it right.

Jim Broadbent- Jimmy/James, a mainstay for our club. Mr. Fly Tying Expo, fly tying gathering coordinator and weren't the speakers great in 2012? Works a lot with salt.

Kyle McCammon- Took a giant step in volunteering for our Board at only 18 years of age. Contributed good ideas , one of the initiators for TVFF's Fly Fishing Class, team leader on casting outings. Became so impressed with the management of our club he decided to go to college. You're welcome Kent!

Tom Vargas- If you want to catch big fish, fish close to Tom Vargas. Multi-talented, serves on many boards and his dog has a pool.

Robert Nishio- My heart shutters as I await his next syllable. Future Hall of Fame fly tier.

Gary Phillips- Stayed for one raffle and never left. The best of the best.

Tom Fessenden- Not just a figurehead. Gets people to think.

Martin Plotkin- This guy has perspective. Keep an eye of him in 2013.

Bob McCollum- Captain Video, Club historian. (modern day) . Expanded our library of videos for the our enjoyment.

See you in the movies,

Ken J. Javorsky



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February 7, 2013 Installation and Potluck BBQ

Join us at our regular meeting on February 7th for the annual TVFF Installation Potluck Dinner. The Club will provide the BBQ'd meat and beverages as well as the paper plates, etc. Please plan to bring a food item to share. In addition to a sumptuous dinner, we will honor the out going Board members and install the new Board for 2013. Please bring your spouse and any guests that you'd like to introduce to the club. Just be sure to indicate the number of guests by letting Daniel know in advance so we have an accurate count for the BBQ.

See you there! Contact [Daniel Kitts](#)

DON'T MISS KISTLER

Hal Wilson

Looking at the calendar, we see that our trip to Kistler bass ponds is just about a month away (March 9) and the time for the club to pay for the use of the ponds is approaching soon.

To date we have 16 sign-ups for this easy, fun, day trip, but only 5 have paid the nominal \$20 fee. I'm sure it is only a matter of "I'll pay next month", but the time is NOW, so we can pay for the exclusive sunrise to sunset use of the small lakes without dipping into our club bank account. Guests are welcome on this trip, but our insurance policy requires that guests sign a Waiver of Liability form. I will have these forms at the meeting, so please see me if you are bringing a guest. Club members have signed this agreement as a condition of membership

To review, this annual TVFF trip is to a cattle ranch approximately 16 miles north of Oakdale on Hwy 108. The three very large ponds, (at what point does a pond become a lake ?) support lots of largemouth bass, crappie and bluegill available on a catch– and-release, barbless hook basis. No motors, gas or electric, are allowed. Anglers have access to any or all of the ponds. Last year, everyone caught fish, with some of our club reporting more than 50 fish for the day, many top-water!!

I enjoy float tubing these ponds, but some members have success wading and fishing from shore. Floating or Intermediate lines are usually used on rods of four to six weight , but if you want to go heavier to throw bigger bugs, go for it!!

Bring your own lunch and drinks.

Information re specific location and directions, as well as contact information of those attending will be provided (so car-pools can be made if desired) as we get a bit closer to the date.

Call or email me if you need more information at this time.

Don't miss it
Hal
(925) 846-8766

Outings – 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 consider being the fishmaster in 2013 and contact me if you're interested. Here is a link to the sign-up sheet: [http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org/TVFF Outing Signup Form.pdf](http://www.tri-valleyflyfishers.org/TVFF_Outting_Signup_Form.pdf)

TVFF OUTINGS SCHEDULE 2013

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FISHMEISTER(S)</u>
FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY 8*	HORSESHOE QUARRY POND	HAL WILSON
	TBD	HOT CREEK	BART HUGHES
	FEB 9 AND 10	LOWER SAC	DON GARDNER
MARCH	MARCH 9	KISTLER RANCH (BASS)	HAL WILSON
APRIL	TBD ,(LATE)	PINECREST AREA	DON GARDNER
APRIL/MAY	TBD	SACRAMENTO RIVER	TOM VARGAS
MAY	MAY 16 THRU 19	FULLER LAKE	HAL WILSON
JUNE	THIRD WEEK	MCCLLOUD RIVER	DANIEL KITTS
	LATE (27-30 TH ?)	LAKE DAVIS	HAL WILSON
SEPTEMBER		NORTH FORK STANISLAUS/ALPINE	TOM VARGAS RUSS GEORGE DERRELL BRIDGMAN
OCTOBER	TBD	LOWER SAC	DON GARDNER
NOVEMBER	TBD	TRINITY RIVER (STEELHEAD)	BOB MC CULLOM
	* WEEKDAY TRIP		

IT'S BASS TIME – EVEN BEFORE KISTLER !

Hal Wilson

A MID-WEEK TRIP---TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

A couple of years ago, Rich Lobrovich, former President of TVFF and co-founder of the Tracy club, showed me a little-known pond outside of Oakdale. This is a public pond, maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers, lying alongside the Stanislaus River..

Fancy it ain't, with parking alongside the road and carrying your float tube or pontoon boat and other gear around a gate and down an unimproved road about 80 (?) yards. Rich estimated the pond to be 20 acres, so it is a good size for a small group.

I didn't fish it last year, but I remember talking with a hardware-throwing angler two years ago who proudly showed me a picture of a 10 lber he had caught and released. I caught two 15 inchers, top-water.

I was fishing six weight, but after seeing that picture it will be 8 weight for me.

To get there, we go out of Oakdale on Hwy 108 /120 about six miles, turning left up Orange Blossom Road. The small side-of -the -road parking area and access road are very close to ten miles up Orange Blossom,.

I called the Oakdale office of the Corps of Engineers (209)881-3517) this morning and was told the temperature of the river flowing by the pond is about 54 degrees, so the pond will be at least that warm..

I will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

Hal
(925) 846-8766

Why our club works for its members and how you can experience a Win-Win opportunity.

Wynn Smith

Shortly after moving from Ohio seven years ago, I had the good fortune to encounter a fellow setting up a fly rod in the parking lot of Shadow Cliffs. His name was John Bjorkholm. He introduced me to Tri Valley Fly Fishers and seven years of instruction, outings, fellowship and, occasionally, a raffle prize.

My prior fly fishing experience consisted of an annual trip with a good friend to a lodge on the Rio Grande River in Colorado and a few guided forays to Lake Erie for steelhead. Very much a novice, I have been eager for any opportunities to attach myself to a more accomplished angler in order to obtain on the water education and, hopefully, fish in the net. With that in mind, I lurked around the table at last year's silent auction bidding for the chance to join a member who had volunteered his time and resources to take me fishing.

To the lurker go the victories. My first winner was two days of fishing with Don Gardner. On the appointed day we drove to Pinecrest Lake, set up Don's handy port-a-boat and headed out. Nymph fishing at the inlet to the lake, we each caught over thirty trout. Having that productive a day was something I had both heard and read about but never experienced. It was a blast. We stayed in Don's very comfortable cabin that night and set out the next morning for nearby Beardsley Reservoir. Unfortunately, wind and rain flushed us off the lake soon after we had commenced casting. But I had a great time and highly recommend bidding at the auction in April for this experience should it be offered again.

My second win gave me the opportunity to spend a day bass fishing on Discovery Bay with Ken Javorsky and Jon Walton, a renowned Delta bass fisher. Ken's powerful boat allowed expansive exploration for hot spots. Unfortunately, the bass were not impressed with my flies and presentation while Jon did well with his spinning rig. Skunked, but happily so. Ken was a fantastic host. The conversation, instruction and ever present hope about the next retrieve made for a memorable day.

When I spoke to John Bjorkholm seven years ago about fly fishing opportunities in my new home, my exact hope was to find the kind of experience that Don and Ken were so eager to share. Undoubtedly, there are other TVFF members who would enjoy and learn from similar trips.

I would encourage them to try to outbid me this April.

Jim Roberts' Fly Fishing Guide Service



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Upper Sac and
McCloud
Klamath River
Steelhead

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2013 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers*	
President	Daniel Kitts
Vice President	Martin Plotkin
Secretary	Kelly Ng
Treasurer	Russ George
Conservation Director	Derrell Bridgman
Other Board Members*	
Past President	Ken Javorsky
Member at Large (1)	Bart Hughes
Raffle Coordinator	Gary Phillips
Newsletter Publisher	Tom Vargas
Youth & Education	
Committee Chairs	
Membership	Tom Fessenden
Trout in the Classroom	Derrell Bridgman
Outings	Hal Wilson
Speakers	Richard Tarbell
Silent Auction	Don Gardner
Website	Robert Nishio
Refreshments	Keith Thomas
Video Librarian	Richard Tarbell
Member at large	John Price
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent

* Voting Members

2013 Dues are Due Now!!!

TVFF Club dues for 2013 are \$40.00 and they are payable now at the club meeting or by mail. *Enroll by the end of the February 7th meeting for \$35.00 and save \$5.00 by paying early.*

The mailing address is:

TVFF

PO Box 2358

Livermore, CA 94551

SILENT AUCTION FUND RAISER THURSDAY APRIL, 2013

Remember to mark your calendar for the TVFF silent auction fundraiser. This is our only fund raiser and it is imperative that members and guests attend. Manufactures donations are coming in and we have some great deals to bid on. Please...we need donations from club members to support the cause. Last year over 50% of the funds generated came from club member donations. Below are ways we can contribute:

1. BUDDY TRIPS- Most of us have places we know how to fish with a good probability of success. Offer yourself as a BUDDY to fish with 1 or 2 other people. BUDDY TRIPS usually start at \$100.00 for the day and all money goes to TVFF. Example, Gary Turri offers a 1 day trip to the Lower Stanislaus River for 1 or 2 fisherman every year. Put yourself out there to help the club and maybe make a friend for life. Please sign up to host a trip at the next meeting.

2. VACATION RENTALS- Some members have resort or vacation properties offered for donation. Usually these are offered at 50% retail value for 3 days 2 nights at a affordable price. Example traditionally Tom Vargas, Bob Mc Collum and Don Gardner have offered their properties. Please make a donation of property for a long weekend. Sign up at February meeting.

3. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES- If you or any friends own a business or are a service provider, offer your product or skill to TVFF. Example: Kathy Helfrich is a Avon distributor in Pleasanton, she is providing a gift assortment of Avon product. Example 2: Don Gardner DVM is owner of Town and Country Veterinary Hospital. Each year he provides examination, age appropriate lab work and/or vaccines to the winning bidder. Value to the club over \$100.00. This type of donation is good for TVFF and for your business. Once again sign up at the next meeting.

4. FLYS- Donate your tied or unused flys to the club. Donate in groups of 6 and give to Gary Turri at the February or March Meeting. Last year we had approximately 50 dozen flys donated.

5. PERSONAL DONATIONS TO TVFF-

A. Gift Cards or Gift Certificates: Some times these lay around the house for years. If you have some that have not been redeemed, donate them to the club.

B. Bottles of wine, cigars, homemade preserves, olive oil, etc. All these novelties are welcome.

C. DVD's, fly fishing books, sporting goods, camping gear, even if slightly used will usually find a home.

D. Extra fly fishing gear: Not only can we need rods and reels, we can use waders, wading shoes, vests, jackets, fly boxes and fishing art and memorabilia. Beginner fly fishermen will greatly appreciate your castoffs.

E. Your Crafts and Hobby: If you make jewelry, earrings, needlepoint, etc. These creations often attract excited bidders.

6. Bring a Relative and/or Friend: The Silent Auction is a fun event full of fun, fellowship, and opportunity for great deals. The more patrons, the more the bidding action!

In conclusion, look for items to donate, bring a friend, and plan on having a great time while lending your support to Tri-Valley Fly Fishers. Do your best to make this a great fund raiser.

Sincerely,

Donald Gardner
Silent Auction Chairman

Delta Outing Report

Martin Plotkin

“Four Anglers, squinting through the fog and bundled against Jack Frost stalked the elusive Stripers”

The first monthly, mid-week fishing escape was launched from Orwood Marina in the Delta. President Daniel Kitts, Dave Bauer, Don Gardner and January's Fish Master, Martin Plotkin warmed quickly as they casted for the elusive stripers. Unfortunately the stripers showed little interest in the undertaking. Martin, by sheer luck feels he managed to snag one in the mouth. But all agreed it was better to get a day of casting practice on the Delta to almost doing anything else.

We need Fish Masters to keep the Monthly Escape going. How about selecting one of your favorite local favorite fishing spots like the Calaveras River in the valley, Del Valle, Bay strippers and be the Fish Master for the February or later this year and inviting us to join you.

Martin say's about organizing the January trip all that was involved was:

- contacting Hal,
- filling out a signup sheet and announcing it at the meeting,
- sending an email to those who signed up about where to meet, what to bring and what flies I would be using,
- and having a great day fishing..

If interested contact Hal Wilson Hal (925) 846-8766, Halbmax@aol.com.



The Tier's Bench:

FLY TYING GET TOGETHER By JIM BROADBENT

Note: *NO fly tying get together on Wednesday, February 6th, 2013.*

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. Let Jim know if you are interested.


Meeting location: Martin Plotkin's office: 1799 Portola Avenue, Livermore, CA

Fly Tiers: *Flies needed for the April Auction!*

The largest fund raiser of the year is coming up with the Auction at the April meeting. One of the greatest attractions at the auction is always the flies that have been tied by members of the club so we need to have all you tyers out there dust off the old vice and tie up some flies that you could donate for the auction. This is a win/win/win for everyone!

- Tyers get to hone your skills and maybe try that new pattern you've been thinking of!
- Members can add some quality flies to their arsenal
- TVFF adds some operating funds to the treasury

Gary Turri is collecting the flies and putting them together for the auction. If you have any questions please feel free to contact [Gary](#)



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INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING CLASS

Hal Wilson

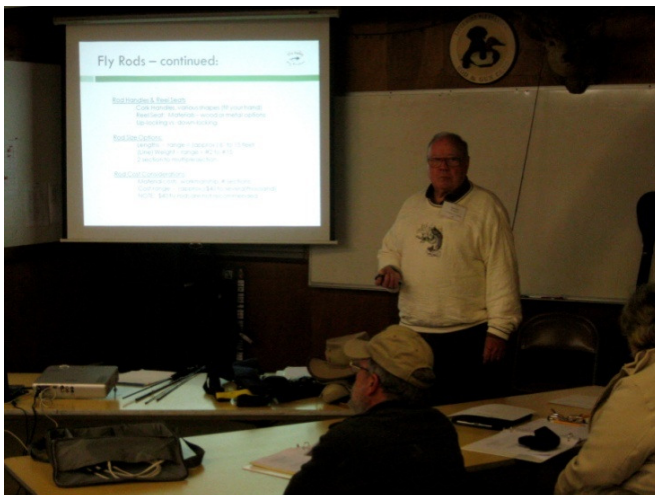
Ten students gathered at the Livermore Rod and Gun Clubhouse on January 29 for the first in a series of classes developed to instruct beginning fly fishers in this sport. This was a result of a questionnaire where members asked for more education in practical aspects of fly fishing. Six experienced TVFF fly fishers spent many hours assembling and organizing information obtained from their years of fly fishing and other trusted sources.

In addition to an Introduction wherein the differences between fly fishing and more conventional fishing methods were explained, this first class discussed the equipment necessary to enjoy the sport. Recommendations about what factors to consider were presented.

Our next class will cover Knots, Rigging A Fly Rod, Basic Entomology and Flies commonly used. The last indoor session will present information on Reading the Water, both streams and stillwater, and Safety and Angling Etiquette.

Besides the indoor classroom-style classes, we have scheduled two opportunities for students to learn basic fly-casting skills at Mc Crea park in Oakland, with members of the Oakland Casting Club teaching this skill.

The current class is full to practical capacity, however we intend to repeat the instruction as demand develops.



Hatching Stewardship

Derrell Bridgman

A new session of Tri-Valley Fly Fisher's involvement/participation in the "Trout In Classroom" (TIC) program has been launched. Last Monday (1/28) seven members of our club (TVFF-TIC Team) distributed fresh Rainbow Trout eggs to 25 school classrooms in the Tri-Valley area. The classroom students were excited and delighted to see the eggs arrive. Their excitement was accompanied with anticipation about witnessing those tiny little fish eggs hatch then develop into the early stages of their life cycle.

The level of attachment those kids develop with their finny little friends is truly amazing. Along with that attachment they display a desire to see those little fish remain healthy and are provided the opportunity to continue to grow and enjoy a long healthy life. It is very encouraging to witness an attitude of this nature among a younger generation who is constantly exposed to the violence, mayhem and murder in the news on a regular basis.

Hopefully, experiences that the TIC program helps, in perhaps only a small way, the students involved to learn that life is precious, and that it is up to them to see that they need to help protect it. Even a small step in the right direction is good. If this attitude can only be cultivated on a larger scale it can be nothing but good for those kids involved, the fish, the environment and, ultimately, all mankind. Our efforts in this program definitely are for a worthwhile cause.

The amount of dedication and effort the members of the TVFF-TIC Team contribute to the success of the program is gratifying and appreciated. Their contributions are helping make a significant expansion of the program a reality. Please don't miss an opportunity to express your appreciation to those team members, they are deserving of your thanks.



Some of the members of the TVFF-TIC Team at an early wet morning "fish release" at Shadow Cliffs Park a couple of years ago.

Continued on page 13

Hatching Stewardship (continued)

The club members who are currently active on the team are:

- **Hal Wilson**
- **Doug Witmore**
- **Richard Tarbell**
- **Steve Ruley**
- **John Price**
- **Daniel Kitts**

Our TIC program is a part of the Bay Area program, "California's Classroom Aquarium Education Program" administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW, formerly DFG). This program was evaluated, a couple of years ago, by a national organization, The American Fisheries Society, for their annual, nation-wide award, for "Excellence in Aquatic Education". We were granted that prestigious award; we must be doing something right.

American Fisheries Society Award
Granted to
The California Program that
TVFF-TIC Program is a part of



Your team is focused on making this another successful year. The trout eggs in the classrooms should be hatching by about the time this newsletter is published. The teachers are busy with classroom curriculum related to the fish, their habitat, food sources, etc. The fish will be ready for release at Shadow Cliff's lake in a few weeks. Club members are welcome to attend the releases if desired.

Tight lines.

Derrell

Items For Sale

Fishing Vests for Sale:

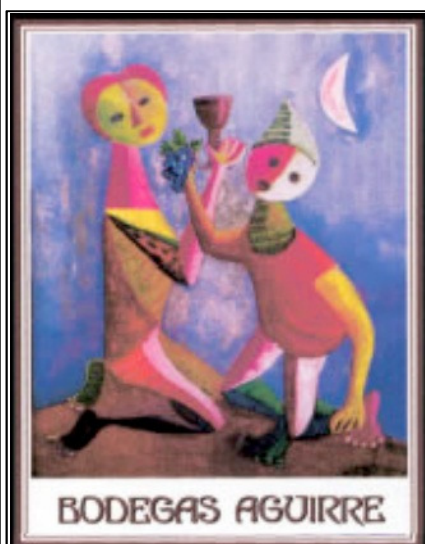
- 1.Orvis Super Wading Tac-L-Pak. Medium size, Tan color Like new condition. \$ 45.00, (\$119.00 new)
- 2.Patagonia Mesh Vest Medium size, Grey color Good condition. \$20.00

Fly lines for sale:

1. SA Mastery XPS DT4F Grey, good condition \$25.00
2. SA Mastery XPS DT4F Sunrise, fair condition \$ 20.00
3. Cortland 444SL DT7F Mist Green, very good condition \$25.00
4. SA Mastery Nymph Taper WF8F Willow,like new, great for steelhead \$30.00
5. Orvis Wonderline Striper WF10F 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



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Specializing in Estate grown premium red wines, we are proud to present the fruit of the work our family started in 1995. We spared no effort or expense for our vines to produce low yields of the highest quality grapes that our Valley can grow. They were meticulously crafted into complex wines sure to please the most discriminating wine aficionados.

Please come and enjoy our signature Petite Syrah, Bordeaux varietals and special blends.

Vacation Home For Rent:

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

Sleeps up to eight in five beds (1 queen, 1 double bed, 1 double loft bed, 2 twins).

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.

Bob McCollum (925) 989-2358

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

