

The Barbless Hook

November 2022

Edited by Mark Spruiell



tri-valleyflyfishers.org

November Meeting – Wednesday Nov. 2nd, 6pm

Dagur Gudmundsson – Double Feature!

The meeting will start at **6pm** with a live in-person talk from Dagur on fly fishing in Iceland. We'll break for pizza and refreshments then restart at 7pm for our regular meeting and a second talk from Dagur on carp fishing in California.

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. When he was 18, Dagur started guiding at the world-class salmon river West Rangá, which in addition to having some of the most prolific Atlantic salmon fishing in the world, also has huge native brown trout in its upper reaches. In between spending his summers guiding in Iceland, Dagur attended California Polytechnic State University in 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. Dagur also ties and sells flies, is a regular contributor to California Fly Fisher magazine, and teaches clinics on carp and bass through the Central Coast Fly Fishing fly shop in Carmel.



Contents

President's Corner	2
Outings and Activities	2
Member Reports	3
Trout in the Classroom	8
Alameda Creek	9
TVFF Auction	9
Items for Sale	11

President's Corner

Marty Loomis

I'm thinking that we all have our bucket lists when it comes to fishing unique and different area of the world. I've had the opportunity to fish a little bit outside of the United States: Mexico, Belize, Bahamas, and even Brazil. But Iceland, for as long as I have been fly fishing, has always been on my very short list of places I would like to go. I'm really looking forward to November's speaker, Dagur Gudmundsson, who guides part time in his home country of Iceland. When Dave Fontaine told us that he was able to secure Dagur as our monthly speaker, I got really excited especially since it will be in person which we have not done in a while. But I'm also thinking that I'd better get moving before I get any older.

That brings up another thought, all my big trips have been with the club. For a small club, we are very active when it comes to various opportunities throughout the world including the United States and not all of them may get posted to the website. There have been several times when I've overheard other club members talking about going somewhere and I've asked if I could join them, and I have never been turned down. That's the nice thing about the club and more importantly getting back to meeting in person again, people are always talking about different places that they they've been or are thinking about going. If you hear something like that and it appeals, butt in and ask if you can go also. I bet they would say yes.

2022 TVFF Board of Directors

Officers

President	Martin Loomis
Vice President	Alan Wyosnick
Secretary	Al Mansky
Treasurer	Chris McCann
Past President	Roger Perry

Directors

Auction	Denis Haire
Conservation	Gary Prince
Education	Rob Farris
Outings	Mitchie McCammon
Fly Tying	Jim Broadbent
Member at Large	Martin Plotkin
Membership	Greg Blandino
Newsletter	Mark Spruiell
Publicity	Open Position
Raffle	Open Position
Refreshments	Gary Prince
Speakers	Dave Fontaine
Trout in Classroom	Daniel Kitts
Video Library	Steve Johnson
Webmaster	Mark Spruiell

Outings and Activities

Fly Tying Get Together – November 9

This month we're going to throw a curve ball to the classic Pheasant Tail nymph. Have you been rejected time and time again (guys, I'm not talking about high school) by trout that have seen dozens of PT nymphs float by? The first thing I would do is tie on a smaller version of that fly. Another way to attack is to change up the standard pattern to get the fish curious or interested, something a little different. That is what we are going to do this month: tie a small PT and tie some that are a little different. If you have a cool pattern, interesting story, or a decent joke, bring it along and share.

Materials

Hooks	Standard nymph or 1x long for bead heads. 12-14 and 18
Thread	6/0, 8/0 brown or black
Bead	Gold, sized to the hook

Lead foil sheet or .20 wire
Feather Pheasant tail
Dubbing Peacock or any crazy color
Wire Copper wire, small or brassie

Join us on Wednesday, Nov 9th, 7-9pm at the Rod & Gun Club.

Member Reports

Dave Fontaine – Surf Fishing Outing

On October 1st, Jim Knecht hosted a great surf fishing trip to Half Moon Bay for Ken Tetzl , Gary Prince and I. The morning of the first dawned cloudy, chilly and a low marine layer / fog. We'd planned to meet at 6am and fish Venice beach but the parking doesn't open till 8am so we move to Miramar beach and geared up. The surf was pretty quiet at about 3 ft when we started, little wind and drizzle off and on. We were wearing waders and jackets with PFDs.

We spread out and it took an hour or so for anyone to catch anything. We caught barred surf perch ranging from 4-5" to maybe 12". We ended up catching several at the rate of 1-2 / hr / angler. This was Gary's and my first time to catch any surf fish.

The wind picked up during the morning and the surf increased to 5-6 ft by 10am when one by one we started packing it in. Fortunately, it stayed cloudy all morning. I think I was the last off the water about 12:30pm.

The gear used were 8 or 9 wt rods mostly with sinking S3 or S6 shooting heads. We used 4-6 ft 15-20 lb fluorocarbon leaders and mostly weighted orange crappie jig-like or shrimp style flies sizes 6-8.

Big thanks to Jim K. I'm ready to go out again soon... Who wants to come? :)



Bob McCollum

Fished the Trinity and the L. Sac. Fishing was not easy. Hot dry weather is delaying the egg bite on the Sac. Should turn on soon – maybe after the low pressure system this weekend. Got into some strong fish on the Sac that peeled off line and were a handful to land. Beautiful weather and fall colors. Nice to fish the Trinity without cold weather gear.



Fished the Sonora Pass area trifecta: Pinecrest, Beardsley Afterbay, and Kennedy Meadows. Great weather and eager trout. Had a great time.



Tom Olinger

Here's a quick report on the 5 Dot trip I made with the Tahoe Truckee FF in late September. Fishing was pretty good on day one of the trip. I landed ~8-10 rainbows to about 21". Water temps were better than I expected, about 60 degrees in the morning up to about 63 late in the day (I was afraid the water would be over 65 degrees). The fish seemed to be in the deeper water near the dam (~15-20'), not where you usually find them in shallower water. It took me a while to figure that out and I did better once I got with the program. I caught most fish on streamers, basically wooly bugger and wiggle tails, plus a fish or two on a dragonfly nymph. I used intermediate sinking lines and some fast sink tips/shooting heads. Some of the guys did really well trolling from small boats with streams/ buggers. One boat had 40+ fish for the day. The fish there seem to like a fast moving fly and they were able to do that while getting down to ~8' of depth with fast sinking lines. Day two was tough. A nasty wind kicked up about 10am (a bad sign) and we were blown off the water. I think I was the last one in at about noon. I only had two fish, the trollers did better but still less than half the Monday catch. Overall, a fun time but not the best fishing we've had there.

I also fished the Little Truckee River three time in the past few weeks. I caught eight in the three outings and lost 5-6 that I hooked. I tried dries and a dry/dropper rig, but what I caught all the fish on was an indo rig with two flies, a #16 tungsten bead mayfly nymph and a #18 purple mayfly pattern (unweighted) on a dropper. Flows were good, they apparently are releasing more water out of Stampede.

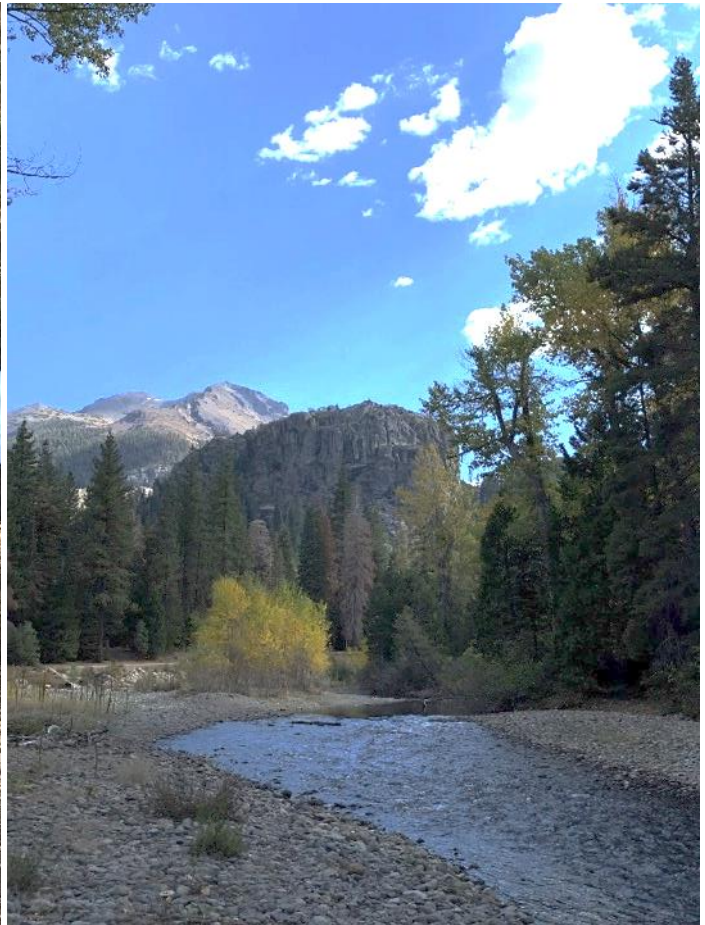
Rich Vance – Delta

The Delta was still producing largemouth (and a few sunfish) with a 40 fish, 3-hour weekly float tube session on an incoming tide in 68 degree water. Most were caught on a #14 trout Spey streamer which is basically a marabou body with a palmered mallard flank on the head. The bigger bodied fly produced some bigger fish than my usual #16 soft hackle, but also a fish slightly bigger than the fly. Most of the takes were aggressive as the bass are bulking up for a long winter. Also caught was what appears to be a Golden Shiner. If anyone is interested in learning the Delta by float tube or wants a quick morning fishing trip, give me a shout and I can show you my techniques and hot spot near Brentwood.



Denis Haire – Kennedy Meadows

After an unexpected weather delay in late September, we were able to schedule a group trip to Kennedy Meadows. With a midweek window that worked for the four of us, including Fred Lunday, Jim Felardo, John Reyes, and myself, it was off to the Stanislaus River. With an early start the trip seemed to go by quickly. After a quick stop at the Strawberry General Store (highly recommended), our arrival at the Kennedy Meadows Pack Station had clear skies and cool air temperatures. A quick check of the water temperature by John came in at 50F. Definitely felt like Fall in the air. After rigging up, it was off to the river.



Making the trek to the meadows, John and Fred split off to a lower section and Jim and myself headed up to the upper flat area. The water was flowing well at about 35cfs. John, using his Tenkara setup, had early success with an Elk Hair Caddis, landing a nice one from under some brush in a deeper pool. Parachute Adams were a common theme as well as using emergers and midges. In the morning there was limited success, with a lot of strikes and plays, and few landed fish. Up until noon there were no hatches to be seen. But what a glorious California Fall day with the color starting to change.



After a well-deserved lunch and warming temperatures, it was back to the river. We all headed upstream of the flats where we started. A quick water temperature check showed 55F, promising for a little more activity. Still no hatches to be seen.... The rest of the day continued with limited success for the group.



Being a first visit to the river for some, we all agreed it would be worth more visits to explore further up and down stream. I am looking forward to those trips...

Trout in the Classroom

Daniel Kitts – TIC Coordinator

Through a classroom experience of hatching fish eggs and coordinated activities, students experience first-hand the value of aquatic environments, the balance that must be met to maintain and preserve California's fisheries and aquatic habitats, and how their personal actions affect these valuable resources.

Instructors and their students set up an aquarium in the classroom, receive fish eggs under a special CDFW permit, and observe the fish as they hatch and develop. The experience may culminate in a field trip to a local stream or reservoir where the fish are released. This is a hands-on, interdisciplinary project for grades K-12.



TVFF has sponsored Trout in the Classroom for many decades and one of our long-time members, Derrell Bridgman, played a key role in starting this program in the very beginning of the program in CA. We don't have an exact count of how many students have participated in classrooms sponsored by TVFF, but estimates put it at over 30,000 students. We sponsor tanks in the following school districts: Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, Tracy and Oakley.

We need volunteers to coach the teachers being sponsored by TVFF. Your role would be the first contact for the teachers to help with any problems with the aquarium system we have provided them during the initial set up or while the eggs and fry are in the tank. You'd also deliver the fertilized trout eggs provided by the DF&W usually sometime late February or early March. We don't know the exact date at this time. You may even be asked to help a teacher present some of the information to the students or help with the fry release about four weeks after they've hatched.



If you know of any teachers that might be interested, the program is open to new teachers/classrooms. And we are looking for more classrooms to sponsor. If they are not in the territory we cover, there are sponsors covering the entire bay area and many regions of CA. They can find out more at the website below or have them contact me and I can get them to the right person to get set up in the program.

The TIC or Classroom Aquarium Education Project is offered statewide in partnership with regionally based community organizations. While the program has several names around the state, the essential learning elements and student experiences are similar. Completion of a training workshop by the teacher is required to receive eggs. Teacher training workshops are offered remotely several times between now and early January. As a coach you are not required to participate in the training but you would be able to participate in one if you'd like.

If you would like to learn more about this program, you can find it at:

[Classroom Aquarium Education Program](#)

If you would like to volunteer your time to be coach or if you have any questions, please contact me.

Alameda Creek Alliance News – Salmon Watch

Gary Prince – Conservation Director

The alliance has received access approval for Alameda Creek and the Arroyo de la Laguna from SFPUC. We have had twenty TVFF members sign up to visually monitor salmon activity on five reaches in 6+ miles of the Laguna. All volunteers will need to sign a waiver that you will receive soon, or you can sign it at our November 2nd live meeting at the Livermore Rod & Gun Club.

Additional information regarding each volunteer's reach location, access points, and how to report, will be communicated soon.

Return of the TVFF Auction 2023

Denis Haire – Auction Chairman

Please plan to join us for the Annual TVFF Silent Auction on April 5, 2023 as part of our monthly meeting. It's been a few years since TVFF has held such an event, and with the increased interest in educational and conservation projects the club supports, the Board of Directors agreed that the time is now!

Funds raised from this event, as they have in the past, will benefit the club's strong commitment to conservation at several levels that supports local and national conservation organizations. Besides Trout Unlimited, CalTrout, the Yellowstone National Park Volunteer organization, Alameda Creek Alliance, and fly-fishing programs for veterans with disabilities, we have a very active "Trout in the Classroom" program that has provided over 41,500 local school children with understanding of trout conservation and biology. In this program we provide local school classrooms with aquariums (at no expense to the teachers or the school) and expertise to hatch trout eggs and raise them to the "fry" stage which are later released by the students into

approved local rivers and lakes. We also provide training and program materials for the teachers. Our education efforts also include helping more than 400 Boy Scouts achieve their Fly Fishing merit badge.

This is a terrific way to get prepared for next season's fishing season, and to equip your spouse, kids, grandkids, or yourself with the right equipment for next year, so take note of that date.

So how can you help? Your contributions of time, talent and donations will make this event a success and a great deal of fun. We always need volunteers, but sponsors, auction items and buddy fishing trips will also help make this event a huge success. Volunteers thankfully help spread the load, both with planning and running the event. No special skills are required other than a desire to help!

The auction really depends on donations from our members to be successful. In the past our auctions have featured a host of available items. This year we will also be introducing buddy trips as a separate donation item.

Buddy trips are one on one fishing trips with an experienced club member to a specific stream or lake that are bid on by auction participants. They usually consist of an area where a member is particularly proficient and knowledgeable that enables a full experience on the water. If you have a favorite piece of water and fishing style that would be worthwhile, please consider hosting a buddy trip.

Member donations consist of lightly used and valuable fishing gear, such as rods, reels, fly line, waders, float tubes, nets, wading staffs, and assorted other "gotta have" equipment. Additional popular items have included: clothing, lots and lots of tied flies, custom tied leaders, and other useful items. All proceeds go directly to the Club and this has been the backbone for our auction proceeds in the past. So check your gear closet and garage for items that you would be willing to donate.

Outside donations are also very effective items for the auction. These include: guide trips, gift baskets from local merchants, local wines and other spirits, cabin or house rentals, and local and member art.

TVFF Auction Positions that need member support and volunteers:

- Overall Auction Chairman – Denis Haire
- Auction Marketing – Rob Farris
- Auction Website and Cloud Software Support – Mark Spruiell
- Club Member Donation Management – (open)
- Outside Donation Solicitation & Management – (open)
- Auction refreshments – Gary Prince
- Donation Item Photography – Steve Johnson
- Venue Set up and Tear Down – (open)
- Finance Integration and Management – Chris McCann
- Flies & Fly Box Arrangements – Mitchie McCammon
- Post Auction Item Delivery – Gary Prince

It takes an active Club with full participation to make our auctions a success and I highly encourage you to support the auction by volunteering for any of our open jobs. We cannot be successful without your help. For more information regarding volunteer opportunities, or donating items, please contact Denis Haire.

Items for Sale

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

Ron Grady

I have a magnetic rod holder for sale, used, good condition. \$50



Gary Turri

Rods and reels:

1. Redington Trace Fly Rod. 9 foot 6 weight, new condition \$200
2. Redington CPS Fly Rod. 10 foot 7 weight 4 piece. Great rod for Steelhead on the Trinity. One of the best rods Redington ever made and way underrated. Excellent condition \$175
3. Orvis Battenkill 3 Reel. Fully machined, very durable reel. Click and Pawl drag. For 4-6 weight fly lines. New in box. \$100
4. Bauer M2 Fly Reel. Fully machined, comes with backing and Scientific Anglers Mastery GPX WF-5 fly line. Very good condition \$175

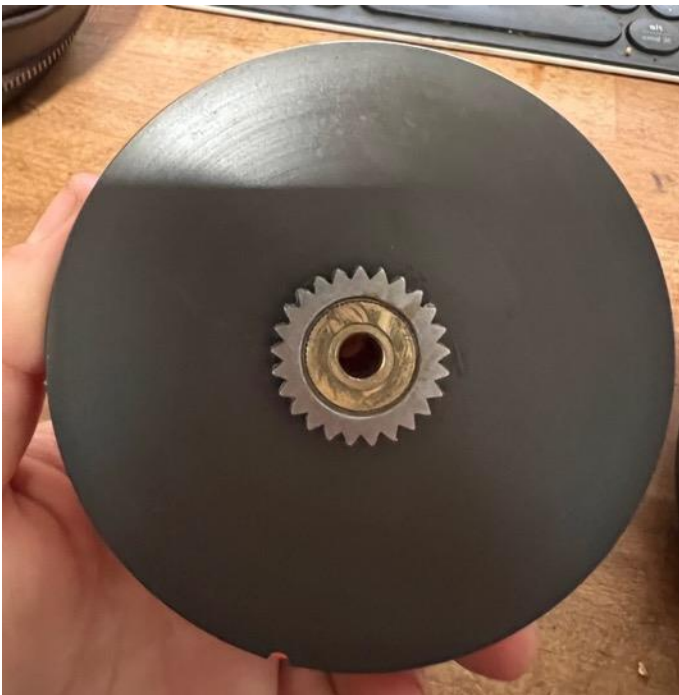
Fly Lines for sale:

Fly Lines for Casting Practice. All are bright orange color and new condition.
RIO Gold WF-7 \$60

Cortland Trout Boss
DT5 new condition \$55
DT6 new condition \$55

James Kirchner

Leland Sea Run 7-9wt reel. Great for steelhead and two-handed rods. Balanced my 12'6" and 13' rods well. Doesn't include fly line. \$200





Also have a Ross Colorado 4/5wt in excellent condition. Asking \$300 obo. Includes backing. Can also include used Rio Euro line for additional \$20.



