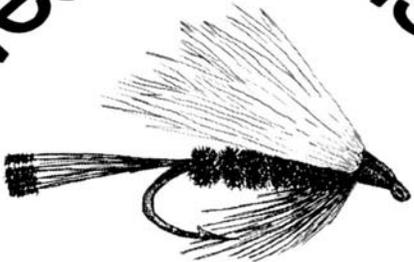


Kaweah Flyfishers



Visalia, Ca

July 2010

Newsletter

Monthly Meeting: Mark your calendar, there will be no meeting on July 2nd due to the July 4th holiday.

Date: **July 9th**
Day: Friday
Place: Life Style Center,
Address : 5105 W. Cypress, Visalia
Time: 7:30pm—9:30pm

FLY of the MONTH TYING SESSION with Don Lieb, from 6:30pm to 7:30 pm before the meeting. Bring your own vise, tools and materials. If you do not have materials the club will supply them. There will be a donation cup to help pay for the materials provided and for future fly tying materials.

The Fly of the Month is "Muddler Minnow"
See Page 9 for tying instructions

Monthly Board Meeting:

Date: July 12th
Day: Monday
Location: Life Style Center,
5105 W. Cypress, Visalia
Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm
All members are welcome to attend.

July 9th Meeting Program: Hank Urbach and the Lower Kings River

All you wanted to know about the lower Kings River.

Hank Urbach, who is now chairing the Kings River Fisheries Management Program's Public Advisory Group, looks back at more than two decades and is generally pleased with what he sees in terms of the river's fishery enhancement progress. Hank is also a member of the Flyfishing for Conservation Club in Fresno.

Hank will give a presentation on the Lower Kings River and the Kings River Fisheries Management Program's Public Advisory Group and how the river below Pine Flat Dam is progressing; good and bad.

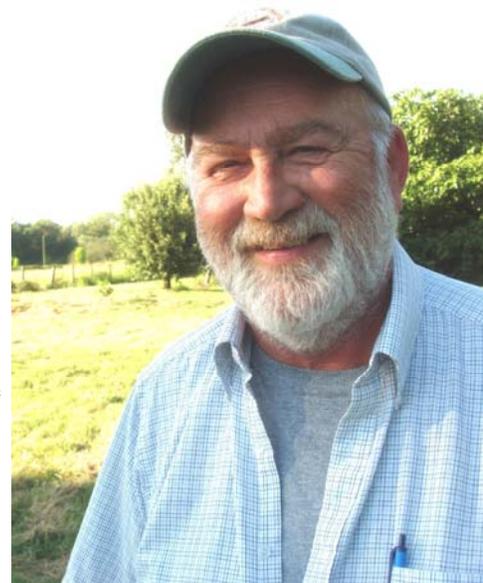
"Some of us are reasonably happy with the way things have developed," says Urbach, a Centerville area resident who is retired as a computer expert. "We think there is an opportunity to turn things around in the river fishery."

"I was on the original Lower Kings River Committee in the 1980s that filed a public trust complaint on the Kings River," he says. "We were pretty upset with what had happened to the fishery." There was little or no trust between the anglers and the river's primary oversight agencies—the Kings River Water Association, Kings River Conservation District and California Department of Fish and Game.

Some anglers wanted a Public Advisory Group to have a major and direct role in managing the fisheries program, Urbach said he was among those who "took the approach, 'Let's see what happens.' We've been in it ever since."

Urbach, a Minnesota native who has lived in Fresno County since 1979, has been a regular at Public Advisory Committee meetings, first under the chairmanship of Mickey Powell of Visalia and more recently under the leadership of Kevin Wren of Fresno. He sees the Kings River Fisheries Management Program as "an example of how cooperation can work." He also appreciates the amount of studies, data collection, program design and habitat improvement construction that the Fisheries Management Program has been able to achieve on a modest spending plan.

"I think if we did it in the typical way, we'd be looking at millions and millions of dollars," Urbach said. Instead, he said, the three partnering agencies have been generous with their personnel resources and the environmental and engineering staffs of KRCD have been particularly well positioned to lend credible professional expertise to the Fisheries Management Program.



THE LOWER KINGS RIVER IS THE CLOSEST RIVER FOR US TO FISH, SO COME TO THE MEETING AND LEARN WHAT IS THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT THE RIVER.



As most of you have seen, the July monthly meeting will be on the 9th. This change will let everyone prepare for their Forth of July fishing adventures. This July meeting is sure to be one not to miss. Hank Urbach will be on the agenda to talk about the Lower Kings River. This will be a great chance for you to learn more about all of the great efforts being put forward to restore this great fishery. Make sure to bring all of your questions as Hank is the guy to answer them.

The Kaweah Fly Fishers are also lucky to be able to learn from another expert at the club meetings. Don Lieb teaches how to tie the fly of the month before most meetings. This is a great way to learn the basics or touch up on skills that you are having trouble mastering. For those of you that have not spent any time tying with Don, you need to do it. Don has a great way of teaching you how to tie great flies that catch fish.

By now, I am sure that everyone has their Fourth of July fishing trips planned. We are so lucky to live in this area. Any direction that we head we can be into fish pretty quickly. So what will it be? The mountains for trout, some warm water fishing, maybe to the ocean for some surf perch or halibut? Whatever you decide, make sure to tell us all about it. There is a great place on the club website to post you trip reports. Just go the forum section and write all about your trip. Go out and have fun and give us a report on how you did!

Jim

Kaweah Flyfishers Aims and Purposes

To improve and promote the sport of fly fishing as one means of enhancing and conserving high quality fisheries.

To educate the public as to conservation practices needed and used in fishing.

To promote and provide instruction in fly tying, fly rod building, fly casting and general stream-manship.

To promote and work for the betterment of all fisheries in the Central Sierra with particular interest in the Kaweah, Kings, Tule and Kern River watersheds.

My brother and I have been to the Hell Hole Reservoir a couple of times and always had a good time but it had been a few years since we had been there so this year we decided to make another trip.



Hell Hole Reservoir is located at 5000 ft and about 40 miles as-the-crow-flies west of South Lake Tahoe and is about a 6 hour drive from Dinuba; Hwy 99 to hwy 80 to Forrest Hill Road and to Mosquito Ridge Road past French Meadow Reservoir to Hell Hole Reservoir; it's a loooong drive from my house. So I took the long drive, picked up my brother on the way and headed off to the reservoir. Originally we had planned to get there in the early afternoon and do so toweling on the lake, you know... dark-side fishing. But that didn't work out, we got there in the late afternoon setup camp and relaxed, we'd fish the lake in the morning. So, that's just what we did.



Trawling the lake is OK if you were catching fish, which we weren't. A fisherman in the camp site told us that he has been fishing the reservoir for 2 days and only caught three fish; not encouraging news at all. But we had a plan, actually our main goal was to trawl to the back of the reservoir and fly-fish two great creeks that feed the lake, Five Lakes Creek and the Rubicon River. The last time we fished those two creeks we had a great time and caught plenty of rainbows in the 8" to 12" sizes, so if the lake was not fishing good we knew the creeks would be. The only negative thoughts that kept nagging at us was that the snow pack was a big one this year and the creeks would be unfishable. But there had been plenty of warm weather before we got there and the high-melt has reached the peak a couple of weeks ago so we were fairly confident, sort of, that the creeks would be OK; hopefully. Hell Hole is fed by a half a dozen seasonal small creeks that dry up after the snow melts, this year with all the snow melt those creeks were in full flow; not good to see when the thoughts of fishing the creeks were in our brains.



We trolled and trawled and trawled in circles, straight runs in shore further out from shore and while trawling to the back of the lake my brother caught 2-10" Konkani, and me; nada- zip-poo. But the weather was nice and we drank two thermoses of coffee, told lie- uhh stories and saw a couple of eagles which are always nice to see. But that was about it.



This pond by our campsite was so still that the reflection was like looking in a mirror.



Five Lakes Creek flowing high, the last time we fished here the creek was maybe knee high and 6'-8' wide. Now there was about 4' of water.

So after four hours of dragging hardware behind the boat we were ready for flyfishing a creek. BUT, as we got closer to where the Five Lakes Creek enters the reservoir we could see that there was a lot of water from the creek coming in. In fact we took the boat over the area we fished in the creek a few years ago and it looked to be 4' deep. Our fears were brought to reality, this creek would be just to hazardous to fish.

We tied up the boat to a tree stump on a steep bank and hiked up to the bank and about 600' up creek and the creek conditions seemed worse, no fishing the Five Lakes Creek this time. After we saw this we knew that the Rubicon would be a bust too. So after we got back in the boat we cruised over to the Rubicon, these two creeks are about a half a mile apart, and the water flow was just as high and fast as the other

creek. And yup we were just a tad bummed. Back up to the boat ramp we trawled, which was a 5 miles away, and while we were checking the creek the daily like clockwork wind came up making trawling a real chore. After an hour of fighting with the wind and white capped waves we head in.

We got back to camp and wondered what next? We had fished a creek called Long's Creek the last time we were here so why not give it a try? We got our flyfishing equipment out, got rigged up and off we went to Long's Creek, we figure we would go to the same location we fished before. However, on the way we decided to fish a different area of the creek and go to the other spot the next day, so we drive on the road going up stream and found a turn off by a culvert and stopped there.

Took a look at the creek and said "Now this in the way to fish".



The rainbows were small but feisty and liked dry flies.

We got the fly-rods ready, I tied a dry #16 Caddis and Bruce tied on a #16 Royal Wulff. As soon as we started casting the flies the trout were smacking the flies, we had a few landing but but what we should have with the number of strikes. So, we down sized. The smallest caddis I had was a #18 and Bruce has a #18 R.W., we tied them on and started landing some nice, solid and feisty rainbows. We walked not more than a 1/2 mile down stream and must have caught 20 fish each, it was starting to get to be dusk so we headed back to camp. We were two happy fishermen, we both enjoy fishing the creeks and streams where catching small fish is to be expected, catching trophy fish is not a priority for us, the smaller water has a lot to offer in a lot of ways. And with smiles on our faces we went back to camp.



Fishing a pool on Long's Creek

The next day we headed for Long's Creek, starting at the same spot we started a few years ago. The creek looked great and the water flows were just right, so we got our things together and again I tied on a #16 Caddis and Bruce the Royal Wulff. The walk to the creek was short and we started casting right away. The fish we started catching looked smaller than the ones we were catching yesterday and we had a lot of hits, misses and pull-downs. For the first half hour or so the hookups were few and when we did catch a fish they were about 4". We tied on the same fly but smaller hook and started to have more hook-ups but still had more hit and misses, Bruce found a #20 RW and was catching trout fairly regular. By this time we had been fishing for about an hour and the fish we were catching were in the 6" - 7" size and stayed that way for the rest of the day; This creek is not stocked. I traded the #16 for a #18 caddis and also started to have more hook-ups but I knew that I should be getting more and although the trout were liking the caddis it just didn't seem to be doing as well as I thought. The caddis was a good choice because I was catching fish and there were caddis cases everywhere you looked and I had to be careful where I walked not to crush

them. These cases has caddis larva in them.



Caddis case

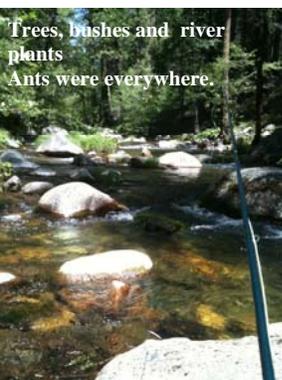
I got to looking around to see if I missed something, trees over the creek, bushes at the banks and planted in the water- yup they were all there. Then it hit me, literally, ants. I put a #16 ant pattern that I tie and the first cast I landed a fish, the good ol ant pattern. From that point on I kept that ant on the line and didn't need to use anything else. The fish were really on the ant pattern and my fish catching went increased 2 fold. Most times three castes was all it took if a fish was in the vicinity you were casting, I watched them come up from the deeper areas to whack that ant and of course there were times that I didn't catch any fish, but mostly I did.



7" rainbow

We fished the creek for the rest of the day and covered about a mile of creek and just had a great time and for the rest of the day the fishing was great too. So with dusk approaching we headed back to camp, dinner and dominos.

The next day was Sunday and time to head home, we broke camp loaded and headed home; 2 hours to Bruce's house then a 6 hour drive from there.



Trees, bushes and river plants
Ants were everywhere.

We did try to fish the Middle Fork of the American River above the French Meadow Reservoir but it was blown-out.

Although we didn't get to fish the Rubicon or Five Lakes Creek the 3 day fishing trip turned out to be a good one.

The June 12th **KAWEAH KRAWL** included fishing Crescent Meadow Creek, Wolverton Creek and Halstead Meadow Creek; what a great way to start the fishing year!!



Chuck and Sharon Tryon have written several articles for *THE FLYFISHER*. Chuck sent some of them to Dave Harris who sent them to me for the newsletter. So the news letter will be featuring these articles at different times. The articles are really good, I have read several of them.

Wet Wader Problems

by Chuck and Sharon Tryon

Red Ball. Ranger. Sims. Orvis. Hodgman. James-Scott. Converse. Marathon. Imperial. Seal Dri. LaCrosse.

Boot-foot. Stocking-foot. Hippers. Chest-high. Latex. Neoprene. Nylon. Rubber-soled. Felt-soled. Cleated.

Confused about waders? Don't feel like the Lone Ranger.

Unless you're content to rubber-band two Hefty Bags to your legs, a new pair of waders probably represents a major investment. To get full value for your dollar, you'll want to separate all the advertising hoopla from reality before signing over your paycheck to a profit-hungry stranger behind a sporting-goods counter.

The plain, down-to-earth truth about waders is childishly simple. Regardless of who makes them, how they're made, or what they're made of, there are only two kinds — ones that leak a little and ones that leak a lot.

The most obvious place where waders leak is at the top, where the rubber stops and your body begins. Fish have the uncanny ability to size up the height of a flyfisher's waders and the range of his best cast. If you're standing in water exactly to your wader tops and your best cast is 60 feet, the fish will promptly move 61 feet out and go into a surface feeding frenzy. It's well known there are more fools among flyfishers than among fish, and the result is predictable every time.

Leaks occur elsewhere, too. There's an immutable Law of the Universe which says, "The abundance of wader leaks is inversely proportional to the height above the soles." Most leaks occur around the ankles or low on the legs where they can let water in most often, rather than higher up where they're only an occasional bother.

Given that leaks can't be avoided, it's important to know how to deal with them.

The first problem is discovering where they are. Only one thing's for sure. They're *never* where you first feel that clammy, icy bite against your skin. Water trickles in seemingly impossible directions once inside, then seeps in others through your pants and socks before finally encountering nerves. If you can just

identify which leg is involved, you're doing pretty well.

There are several leak-finding methods, and everybody has their favorite. Some folks sequester themselves in a darkened room, then run a flashlight around the inside of their waders till they see light on the outside. This technique is highly effective on leaks large enough to see with the naked eye in broad daylight, but often useless on anything smaller. It may be popular, but you have to wonder why.

Another favorite is to hang your waders by the suspenders, fill them with water, and see where the water leaks out. This method works pretty well until the water inside gets so heavy the suspenders pop off whatever they're hanging on and the whole load spills on the floor.

Hanging your waders in the bathtub will save the carpet, but their outside gets soaked in the spill and it's impossible to see where water is leaking out after you refill them. Adding purple food coloring inside can overcome that problem, but it's impossible to rinse out completely when you're done. For months afterward you'll crawl out of your waders with a purplish cast to your lower extremities, sparking fears among your fishing companions that you're afflicted with a terminal circulation problem or ghastly bladder condition.

Another method is to gather your wader top tightly in one fist, light up a cigar with the other, and blow the waders full of smoke till you can see it puffing out the leak. It works on both wet and dry waders, and has the bonus of keeping biting bugs and other vermin at bay for months afterward. Unfortunately, your family and friends will avoid you like the plague for months afterward, too.

Once the leak is discovered, drying the waders promptly is imperative. Ecologists say our environment is an assemblage of habitats, or niches, and that every niche between the freezing and boiling points of water ultimately will be filled with a life community. Damp waders crumpled in a warm, dark corner provide a very special kind of ecological niche, and can develop a fascinating life community.

History records that penicillin mold was discovered accidentally in a petri dish on Alexander Fleming's London-laboratory window sill. Recent research, however, suggests Fleming actually found the green, furry stuff proliferating inside his musty waders after tripping over a dead carp in the sewage-fouled Thames. Realizing his life-saving discovery never would be accepted for internal human consumption if its ignominious origin were known, he sneaked a lunch bucket-full of the crud into his lab before announcing his find. It won him the Nobel Prize.

Our own introduction to musty-wader ecology was even more dramatic. Upending a pair to shake out the usual accumulation of mice, roaches, and spiders, we were startled by a gelatinous, fist-sized lump of pulsating warts and boils slithering across the floor like something out of an old, grade-B, Steve McQueen movie. Immediately sensing his loathesome creature had no therapeutic value to man nor beast, we broad-sided it with a broom and never looked back. We're still haunted by it on fitful nights.

If you're curious about what's happening in your own musty waders, investigate with caution. Above all, don't stick your eyes and nose in there after a big meal of West-Texas black-powder chili or back-swamp Cajun gumbo. It'll only make things worse than they already are.

Wader-drying techniques are just as varied as leak-locating methods. The oldest and easiest way is to hang them upside-down and wait. Most folks are too impatient for that, though, and look for faster ways.

Stuffing your waders with old newspapers is one. It's only partially effective, however, and there's no use for soggy newspapers when you're done. Toilet paper is more absorbent than newspaper, but there's even less use for soggy TP than news. It has the added disadvantage of drying into rigid blocks of paper mache which have to be chiseled out if you leave it in too long.

Hair blowers are the latest high-tech rage in wader-drying circles. Just turn them on, lay 'em inside,

and wait. They turn off automatically — not when your waders are dry, but when the heat buildup melts the motor. Blowing air inside by reversing a tank-type vacuum cleaner is a better bet for the budget-minded

Discount-store, clearance-sale, latex waders can be repaired quickly, cheaply, and perfectly with tire patches. Fixing expensive, custom-fitted, space-age, nylon and neoprene waders, on the other hand, is more of an exercise in ritual than substance.

Products like Shoe Patch and Shoe Goo are pretty good, but still only temporary. Electrical or duct tape

works almost as well, but lends a cheap, tacky ambience to your otherwise impeccable fly-fishing wardrobe. If you paid more than \$12.99 for your waders, you might as well resign yourself to periodic soggy surprises.

Lest we seem unfairly negative about leaky waders, consider these few advantages.

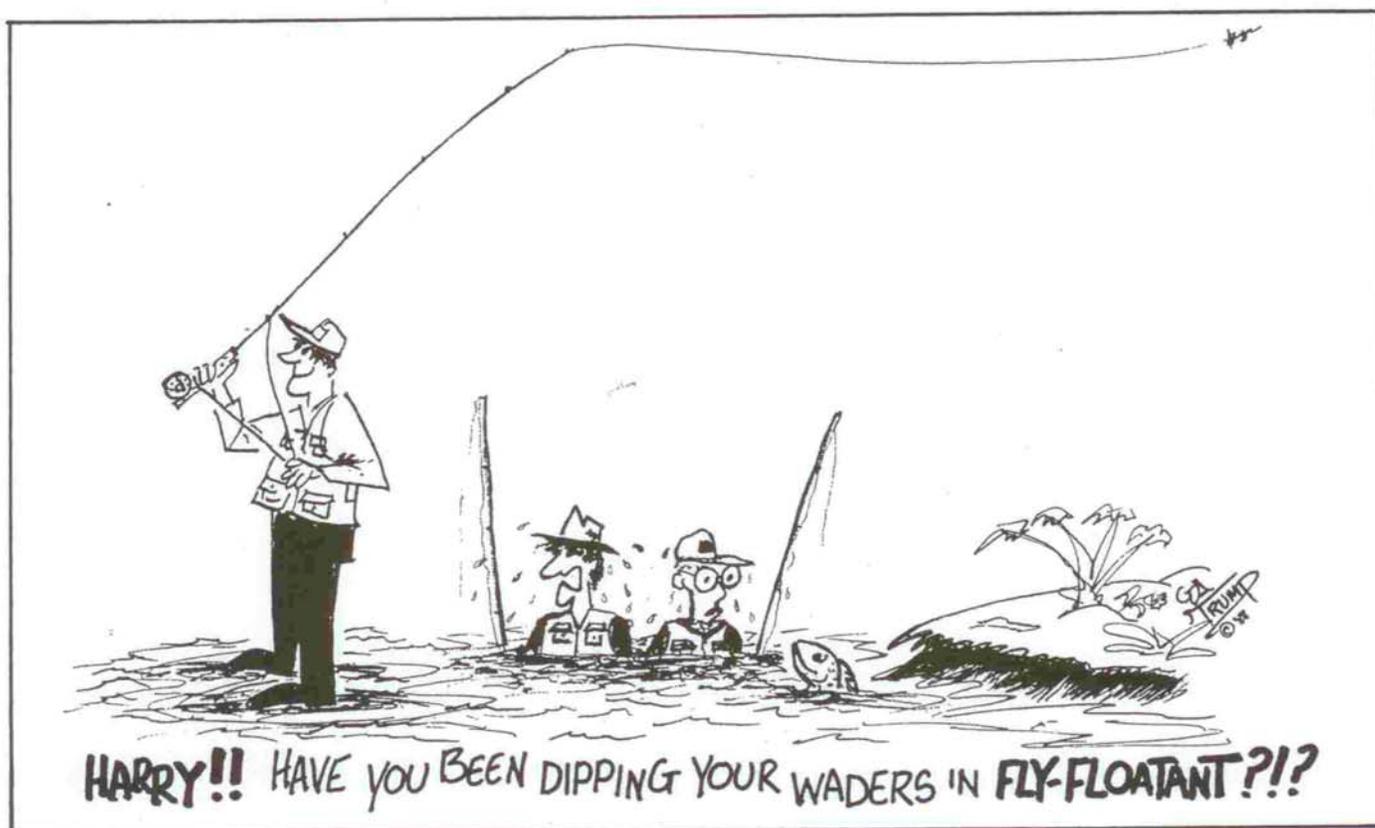
If the leaks are too small to show, they still look classier than patched ones. There's no need to worry about tripping or wading too deep and getting soaked — you already are, so what the heck? And, they beat a creel or stringer all hollow for keeping your catch. Just slip the

fish inside below the waterline, and they'll stay fresh for hours.

Well, now you know the real truth about waders. All else you hear or read is advertising snake oil.

Pleasant wading.

CHUCK AND SHARON TRYON are an institution in the FFF. They chaired the Youth Conclave at International Conclave last summer. They edit the Southern Council's newsletter, "Longcast." Sharon is an International Director and Chuck recently retired from the USFS after working years as a hydrologist. They live in Rolla, Missouri.



The Muddler Minnow was developed in 1937 by Dan Gapen Sr. of Ontario Canada. The fly has seen many adaptations and improvements over the years.

Jack Dennis claims it is the best fly ever tied. Without a doubt it is a great fly, used world wide to represent a sculpin minnow and a wide variety of other fish foods.

Materials

Hook:	1x to 4x Long, size 1/0 to 12
Thread:	Black 3/0
Tail:	2 slips of brown turkey feather
Body:	Medium flat gold tinsel
Under-wing:	Red Squirrel tail hair
Over wing:	Two sections of brown turkey tail
Hackle:	Spun brown deer hair
Head:	Spun brown deer hair clipped and shaped

Tying Sequence

1. Attach and wrap the thread from the eye to the bend of the hook. Prepare a matched set of slips from turkey feathers with about ½ hook gap width. Attach them at the bend and bind down the butts to a point 1/3 of the shank behind the eye.
2. Tie in the foil and make closely spaced wraps back to the tail and forward and tie down. Measure a small amount of red squirrel tail to extend just past the tail, and secure as the under-wing.
3. Select two matched sections of turkey tail whose width matches the hook gap. Holding them back to back, mounting them over the base of the under-wing and extending just past the under-wing.
4. Spin a clump of deer hair around the hook in front of the wing base. Trim so that the tips of the hair will remain as hackle and the butts form the head. Whip finish and apply cement to finish.



K AWEAH FLYFISHER'S ANNUAL PICNIC



CALANDER OF EVENTS

DAY	DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION
Tue	July 6	FLY TYING CLASSES 7pm - 9pm	Where: 4520 W Cypress Ave, Visalia. (corner Linwood St) Quail Park Retirement Village Description Tying instructor Don Lieb has material and tools or better yet bring your own. We usually give Don a couple of bucks each as he pays for the hooks and material himself.
Friday night	July 9th	7:30pm Club Meeting, Lifestyle Center, 5105 W. Cypress, Visalia,	Hank Urbach ;is giving a presentation on the Kings River and the P.A. L. 6:30pm—7:30pm, Fly tying with Don Lieb. Learn how to tie the Muddler Minnow /KLINKHAMMER EMERGER FLY PATTERNS before the meeting.
Monday	July 12th	Kaweah Flyfisher's Monthly Board Meeting. Lifestyle Center, 5105 W. Cypress, Visalia,	All members are welcome to attend
Tuesday—Friday	July 6th—9th.	DFG Golden Trout Project Mulkey Meadow fence maintenance	This is a backpacking trip and it is into one of the more spectacular areas of the Golden Trout Wilderness. We can only take six volunteers and will be taking registrations on a first come first served basis for this trip. You can register on-line for all of the trips at: www.californiagoldentrout.org contact John Crane crane-j@att.net Dear Golden Trout Friend/Volunteer . Contact John Crane crane-j@att.net for further information
Saturday & Sunday	July 17-18	East Side fishout?	TO BE ANNOUNCED, be on the look out for an e-mail announcement.
Tuesday	July 20th	Fly Tying with Don Lieb Humpty Yellow or Red	7pm - 9pm 4520 W Cypress Ave, Visalia. (corner Linwood St) Quail Park Retirement Village Tying instructor Don Lieb has material and tools or better yet bring your own. We usually give Don a couple of bucks each as he pays for the hooks and material himself.
Friday night	August 9th	7:30pm Club Meeting, Lifestyle Center, 5105 W. Cypress, Visalia,	Marianne M. Emmendorfer, District Planner for the Sequoia NF/Giant Sequoia NM, will be giving an update on the improvement and condition of Big Meadow after the restoration project. 6:30pm—7:30pm, Fly tying with Don Lieb before the meeting.
Monday	July 12th	Kaweah Flyfisher's Monthly Board Meeting. Lifestyle Center, 5105 W. Cypress, Visalia,	All members are welcome to attend



Kaweah Flyfishers

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We are proud to be affiliated with these organizations:

CALIFORNIA SPORTFISHING PROTECTION ALLIANCE

FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS, Southwest Council

CALIFORNIA TROUT

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

TROUT UNLIMITED

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NEWSLETTER: Rick Hartley.....	559- 5859-1435	rhartley@dinuba.ca.gov

Submitting Newsletter Articles

Articles must be received by third Friday of the month for the following month's edition. A heads-up even before then is greatly appreciated. Send to the Kaweah Flyfishers at PO Box 3704, Visalia, CA 93278, or e-mail to: rhartley@dinuba.ca.gov

WEB SITE

<http://www.kaweahflyfishers.org>

Subscription Price is included in all classes of membership.

Parts of this newsletter may be reproduced so long as credit is given the author, artist, and the Kaweah Flyfishers.

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