

June 2020



Club Meeting

Date: June 3, 2020

Time: 6:30pm

Place: Online via Zoom

The June Club Meeting features a presentation by George Revel of Lost Coast Outfitters. The subject will "Fishing the McCloud with John Rickards." The meeting begins at 6:30, presentation will start at 7pm.



Fly Tying Class Cancelled!

Unfortunately due to Covid-19, Cecilia is canceling the class which was going to be "Vinci's Depth Charge". She plans to do it sometime in the future when conditions are different. Perhaps we will be able to do fly tying classes via Zoom sometime in the future if I can figure out the logistics. Stay tuned.

Membership Notes

Even during this unusual time the membership has maintained at 150, including 4 new online members who we able to join on the new web-site online direct payment with Visa/square to our account. Nametags have been ordered for these new members and will be mailed. Should you need a name tag, please email Bob Petersen at robert6367@aol.com and I will mail one.



Fly Tying Videos

Watch fly tying videos on our new website

<https://santacruzflyfishing.org/fly-tying-videos>

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President's Line

Go Fishing!

by your President Tom Hogue



Go Fishing!

Really – I mean, respecting all concerns, requirements, regulations. But there are lots of opportunities for all of us to get out and go fishing. Immediately, the surf is in our back yard and is abundant with Surf Perch, Striper, Halibut and other species- like Great White Shark!! Wouldn't that be a hoot! Yes, it's best to have a sinking line, running line and stripping basket, but you'll get the hang of it fast and you can often get in 3 hours of fun before the rest of the world gets up in the morning. A lot in your newsletter – thank you Sam Bishop and the rest for bringing us along.

You can get out to a number of bass lakes within a few hours and some trout fishing not too much farther. Many, if not most, of our local California guides are working and are very reasonable for a day or two of wade fishing our northern CA waters, or the Eastern side of the Sierra locations. I'm immediately thinking of a number of our guest speakers- Jon Baiocchi, Joe Contaldi, Chris King and many others who would happily help you navigate a successful, safe and fun trip. Look them up. Go fishing.

Club Meetings!

If you missed the May meeting via Zoom – it was a HUGE SUCCESS. We had 38 people attend and stay the entire meeting. Jeff Goyert pulled off an excellent door prize raffle as it was easy to capture everyone's names via Zoom. AND – I didn't have to ask anyone to be quiet – ever. I just put you on Mute!! It was so fun to see everyone's faces and everyone had some input or another. It really was fun. Jim Cox, from Western

Rivers Conservancy, was incredible. A beautiful presentation and a commanding expertise in his field, kept everyone interested. This month, June 3rd, we are doing to do it again! This time we'll have George Revel from Lost Coast Outfitters. Join the meeting by 6:30! Don't miss this fun way to meet. You'll love it.

Fly-Tying Class – Zoom?

Elaine is even thinking of doing a Zoom Fly-tying class where you can sign up, pickup the fly-tying materials at a predetermined location and then do the class via Zoom!! How 'bout that! Stay tuned.

High-School Scholarships – Aptos, Harbor, Soquel, Santa Cruz, San Lorenzo, Pajaro Valley

This year, the SCFF members contributed directly to enable us to give twelve, one hundred dollar scholarships to students finishing high-school, heading into college studies that involve Science and/or Environmental Sciences/studies. Each of the twelve students will also receive a one year membership to the club. Thank you all for your generous donations to SCFF, enabling us to continue our mission “To Promote, Educate, and Enjoy, the Sport of Fly Fishing” and to call upon the youth of the world.

The Future! – Well, at least July & August

I understand these days have been challenging for many, and downright disastrous in other ways. But there have also been many blessings. The wildlife and the planet are benefitting in ways we'd never have been successful at even with all the “world leaders” we have. Tragically, it took a deadly virus to clean up the air, water and noise pollution in one month, now two. For how much longer? And will we try to keep it that way?

We've come together in ways we'd never do normally. We've given, or stayed put, reached out in encouragement, volunteered, donated and changed to meet a need and do our best to enjoy what we can -even if it's just being together or taking the dog for a walk every day.

continued...

There is traditionally no July Club meeting. So I will wish you a truly homespun good ole-fashioned 4th of July with those you can be close to or with. Of course, you can still – Go Fishing!!

We are going ahead with our plans to meet at the Grange in Aptos, for our August meeting. It will be outdoors, mostly, and is our annual club Barbeque and Swap Meet. Yes -we will be taking every required precaution, and some maybe a bit more personal, to be as responsible as we should be. IF, something was to happen where we couldn't have the BBQ, we'll have a plan B. But I

am hoping those of you who will be excited and able to come together, in August. We'll have an All-American BBQ and swap meet.

Thanks to your board, all those who have reached out to help in so many ways. And thanks to some new members, Scott, Camille, Michael, who have offered and helped in a number of ways. That is what we are about.

Set Zoom up on your iPad, computer, and prepare for the June meeting. I look forward to seeing you. Until then? – Go -what? Go Fishing! –Tom

Conservation Concerns

Chinook Salmon Delivery to Monterey Bay

by Steve "Conservation Slim" Rudzinski

Local news: Fish and Wildlife tanker truck was in town on May 13 and under the cover of darkness, dropped its load of 160,000 Chinook salmon smolts off the Santa Cruz wharf and a drop of about 30 feet did not bother these fish at all, in fact the mortalities were low, the gulls and cormorants already roosting for the night, the same with the sea lions and harbor seals said the crew who were there to watch. Because the stocking was so easy, there was no need for volunteers like in the past where we would transport large heavy sea pens to the harbor and assemble in place, the yearly event lasted 2 weeks, fish were fed in the sea pens and released after about 5 days on the outgoing tide. Problems arose when the fish returned to the harbor and caused an influx of sea lions and fishermen along the banks trying for a 30 lb. fish, some of the kids landed the fish of a lifetime while the boat owners worried about damage to boats and lines wrapped around props and docks.

The fish were delivered to Santa Cruz first and on May 20th the same amount was released in Monterey, the mission is to enhance the fishery more than to expect these fish will spawn locally and the biologists tell us that Santa Cruz is too far south in the range for successful spawning of this species, Coho salmon are this far south but success for their returning in numbers again seems doubtful as the weather and river water gets warmer and the flows diminish in drought years.



Opening salmon season I noticed the boats returning to G-3 Dock had an equal number of wild and hatchery fish missing that little Adopal fin clipped at the hatchery. Some fish may have a tiny wire in the head that can be scanned

and reveal data for the biologists. Volunteers at the launch ramp would ask to remove heads from hatchery fish. (not the wardens).

The changes to the salmon release has removed the need for volunteers from the Fly club to meet with Salmon and Trout volunteers. This was a good way to combine energies for the greater good and health of the bay and salmon fishing in particular. also we had fun and lots of laughter. The public came to the sea pens and we would let the kids toss fish pellets to the school inside the pen. The education factor is lost but the savings of running that operation was a lot and now 2 people can put a pipe over a railing and turn the fish loose.

I included photos (see website) from previous years salmon delivery to the harbor pen and the dark drop off the wharf photo is thanks to Sam Bishop, former Club president and now treasurer for MBSTP (salmon and trout project).

Slim says: If you don't like the news, go out and make some of your own. (smiley face) I sure hope the world opens up soon and we can resume our lives to some normalcy. Be good to yourselves and the earth. Slim

2020 Board Members

President: Tom Hogue 214-7578

Vice President: Kevin Murdock 688-4518

Treasurer: Jim Tolonen 475-8859

Secretary: Angela Johnson (530) 320- 3352

Raffle Coordinator: Jeff Goyert 462-3785

Membership: Bob Peterson 251-8655

Fishouts: John Cook 688-1561

Programs: Jim Black 688-8174

Conservation: Steve Rudzinski 462-4532

Newsletter Editor: Position Vacant as of March 1st

Fly Tying Master: Elaine Cook 688-1561

Fly Casting Master: Sam Bishop 476-6451

Marketing/Publicity: Michael McGannon 688-3025

Facilities Coordinator: Stephen Rawson 588-9370

Annual Fundraiser Coordinators:

Dinner - David South 713-5866

Raffle/Silent Auction: Kevin Murdock 688-4518

Members At Large:

Kathy Powers, John Steele, Pat Steele

Fishout Schedule

Date	Location	Target Species	Fishmaster	Sign Ups
June 6 - 5:35am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
July 12-0545	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Mark Traugott-338-6056	
July - 12-16	Loreto, Baja, Mexico	Ocean Fish	Rich Hughett - 757-5709	
Aug. 8 - 6:00am	Rio Del Mar Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
Sep. 5- 6:30am	Manresa Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Sam Bishop - 476-6451	cell-274-4024
Sep. 19-26	Mammoth Lakes #1	Trout	John Cook - 688-1561	by Sept. 1st
Sep. 26-Oct. 3	Mammoth Lakes #2	Trout	John Cook - 688-1561	by Sept. 1st
Oct. 11-7:00am	Palm Beach	Surf Perch & Stripers	Mark Traugott-338-6056	
March 2021	Pyramid Lake	Cutthroat Trout	Mike White 706-5556	Call in fall to save space

For more information about the various fishouts, see specific Gearing Up articles below or call the fishmaster for that outing. If you are interested in organizing a Fishout, call John Cook at 831-688-1561 for information, guidance, and suggestions. Outings can be structured in many ways (simple to involved.)



Fishout Update

Some information regarding our fishouts that are being impacted by covid-19. Be sure to also refer to the Fishout schedule and article about each individual Fishout.

1. The Green River has been canceled.
2. For surf fishouts it is easy to maintain social distancing and wear a mask. ALSO: details about surf fishing can be found by going to the navy blue bar at the top, tap EDUCATION, then tap SURF FISHING INFORMATION.
3. The Loreto trip is still scheduled but, Rich will be making a decision around June 1st about the ability to continue with plans or cancel. Check with Rich Hewett (831)757-5709.
4. For Mammoth fishouts sign ups can still be made until accommodations are filled up until Sept. 1st. If it's necessary to cancel, money will be refunded.
5. The Forbay fishouts should be another outing where social distancing and masks could be adhered to.

Be careful, stay safe.

Gearing Up

Surf Fishing at Manresa Beach – Saturday May 9 – 5:35 am

Fishmaster: Sam Bishop - (831) 476-6451 - sambishop@totlcom.com

June 6 we will have an early start, because the sun rises so early. Let's be ready to hit the beach at 0535, ready to fish. So put your waders on at home and have your rod ready. You can rig it up completely then just break it down into two pieces for transportation. Manresa parking is right outside the beach entrance and sometimes fills quickly with surfers and other anglers, so if there is no place to park, keep driving another ¼ mile and turn right on Ocean View, then another right into a larger parking area. There are stairs down to the beach. We will fish to the NORTH side of the stairs, all the way up to the railroad bridge.

There is a minus 1.5 low tide at 0550, so we will be fishing a very low slack to flood tide. This is a great opportunity to observe the structures of the beach with the water so low. Only caution is to be careful not to get way out and realize ½ an hour later that the tide came in so far it will be tricky getting back in. This beach has a tendency to have a much more active surf and is popular for Striper fishing. Jim Hall got a great one here before the tardy club fishermen even got to the beach.



As always, I will have spare fishing baskets and extra flies, so if you don't know what to bring, take (and keep) mine. Questions? sambishop@totlcom.com, or 831-274-4024 or 831-476-6451 (home).

Take San Andreas Road all the way to just past the railroad trestle. If the parking area is full, continue to Oceanview Drive and follow it to the wide parking area, gate to the stairs is on the right side. Walk up the beach 100 yards and find us. Red circles = parking.



Gearing Up
Loreto Fly Fishing Trip - July 12-16, 2020
Fishmaster: Rich Hughett - 831-757-5709

Sign Up Now! Experience a new HIGH! Fish for Dorado, and many other salt-water fish, including Bonito, Roosters, Yellowtail and Sailfish on a fly! Join the group going to Loreto in Baja from Sunday, July 12th through Thursday, July 16th. This trip includes:



- Four nights at the beautiful Hotel La Mision, on the water-front next to Loreto Harbor.
- Three days of fishing on 24-foot Super Pangas, with fly fish-ing guides.
- Ground transfers and fishing li-censes.

It does not include meals, because there are some nice restaurants (A lot of fresh seafood!) in town or if you prefer, eat at the hotel, where they will cook your catch.

The fishing day starts around 6:00 a.m. and we usually get back to the harbor between 1:30 and 2:00 p.m. Spend the rest of the after-noon fishing from the beach, having a cool drink in the pool, exploring Loreto, or just sitting around telling some

tall fish stories. And, you will have many excit-ing moments on the Sea of Cortez to talk about.

The approximate cost for everything but meals and airfare is: \$900.00 per person (dou-ble occupancy). Interested? Please contact Rich Hughett, 831-757-5709, for all the details. You will need to book airline flights* as soon as pos-sible. No advance payment needed.

*Southwest Airlines from San Jose and Alas-ka Airlines from Los Angeles to Loreto. Rich will help with your airline reservations

Gearing Up
Mammoth Lake Fishout - Sept. 19th-26th and Sept. 26th-Oct. 3rd.
Fishmaster: John Cook - 831-688-1561

This fishout will take place over two consecutive week periods. You may sign up for either one or both.

LOCATION: Mammoth Lakes is on the eastern side of the Sierras, 6 to 7 hours drive from Santa Cruz. There are many lakes and streams in the area to fish. We will be stay-ing in condominiums in the town of Mam-moth Lakes. There are two people per bed-room. A private room is also possible , but at increase cost.

COST: The cost includes: (room — 3 meals a day — linen — hot tub) \$310/ week \$660 for 2 weeks \$590/ week for private room. Money is not refundable UN-LESS the fishout is canceled (Covid-19). If there are any funds received and not used, they will be used for prizes for our annual fund raiser.

MEAL PREPARATION: Each person will be assigned to a group kitchen day. The group will set out breakfast and lunch foods, store unused food, prepare evening meal and clean up, on the assigned day.

SIGN UP: Call to sign up. Sign ups are avail-able until all spaces filled. Your spot will be reserved when I receive your check. Mail check made out to John Cook, P.O. Box 2822, Aptos, Ca., 95001-2822. I will maintain a waiting list.



Monthly Raffle

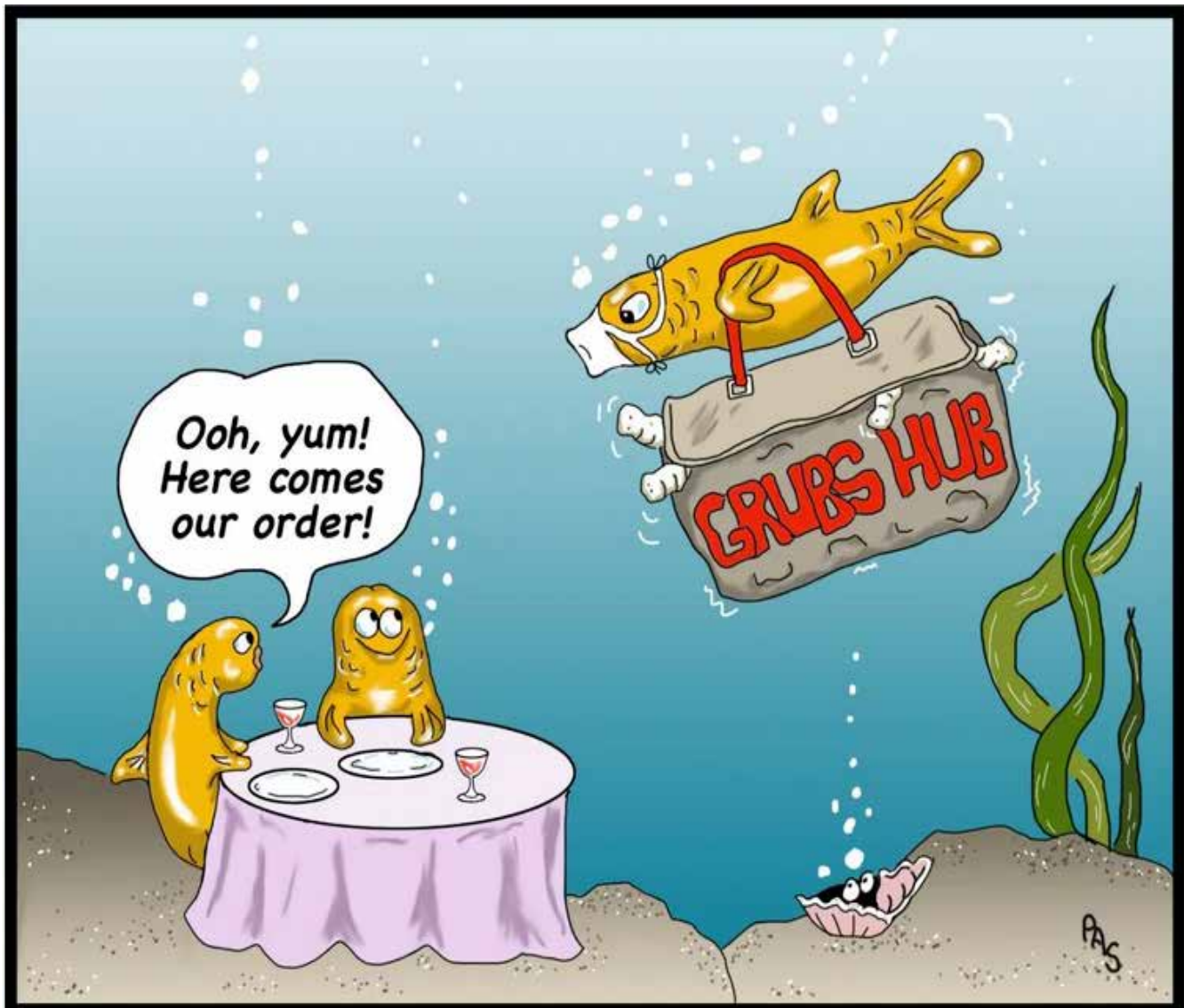
Zoomed Door Prize

by Prize Guy, Jeff Goyert

I still haven't figured out how to do an actual zoom meeting raffle collecting money and selling tickets, I can barely boot up my computer much less write binary quantum digital stuff. Having said that, during last month's zoom meeting we were able to pull off a pretty good door prize give away. So we will do it again!

What we have this month is a really handy gizmo called a Stanley Fat Max jump starter and compressor. Most of us in lock down have not been using our vehicles very often resulting in dead batteries and low tire pressure. To the rescue comes this jumper for you battery and an electric pump for your tires. This also includes USB ports to charge your phone and attached trouble light. Perfect for the garage or stashed away in the truck on your next fishing adventure.

Remember, every body gets a free ticket. Winner must be present at the June club zoom meeting.



Fly of the Month **Schroeder Hopper**

by Fly Tying Master, Elaine Cook

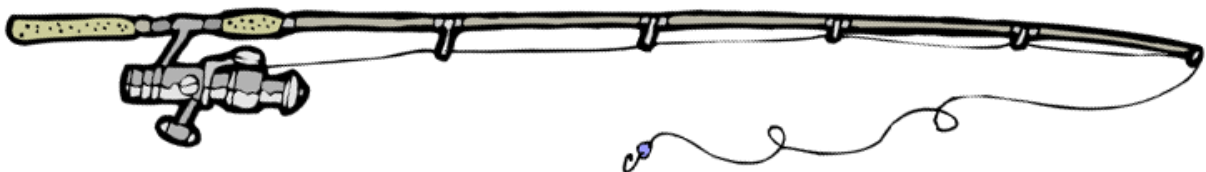
This grasshopper pattern has been around for many years and the trout sure like it. Most hopper patterns today feature foam bodies and rubber legs, which are easier to tie and are more durable. There are times when the foam flies don't work and the fish gobble the Schroeder imitation up. Since hoppers come in a variety of colors, the fly can be tied with wings in tan or cream. The body in tan, cream, yellow, brown, green or orange.

- Hook: TMC 5212 or 5262. Sizes 8/12
 - Thread: brown or tan. 8/0
 - Post: white calf body
 - Body: golden-brown Antron dubbing
 - Wing: mottled turkey quill
 - Legs: Ringneck Pheasant tail feather
 - Hackle: grizzly saddle
 - Thorax: same as body
 - Wing and Leg Coating: Flexament or clear lacquer spray
1. Coat or spray wing feather. Allow to dry.
 2. Crimp barb.
 3. Attach thread behind eye. Wrap to 1/3 back on shank.
 4. Cut small clump calf hair from hide. Remove underfur. Stack tips. Position on top of shank, tips 1/2 shank length forward. Make several wraps to secure. Cut excess butts at an angle. Wrap down butts. Hold post upright, making many thread wraps in front of it to hold position. To secure, make several wraps around base, then pull thread to rear and make several wraps around shank. Repeat a couple times.
 5. Wrap thread to rear of shank. Dub generous tapered body forward to 1/8 in. Behind post.
 6. Separate barbs on quill wing making section equal to hook gap. Cut from stem. Cut butt end



straight across. Round the other end. Length equal to hook length. Place butt against post. Tie in place.

7. I like to prepare many ahead. Cut 4 barbs from stem and tie knot in center for each leg. This is tricky to do. Look on YouTube for various techniques, or buy them already prepared. Coat to reinforce. Tie in one on each side of wing. Knee should be near bend of hook. Trim length (see sample). Dub more over wing and leg tie in section.
8. Prepare butt end of hackle with crew cut. Tie in crew cut in front of post. Holding upright, make a couple thread wraps to hold in place. Dub generous thorax from eye to post. Wrap thread clockwise around post leaving it hanging on your side of fly. Wrap hackle clockwise around base of post 3 times. Holding hackle toward you and slightly down, bring thread up in front of hackle stem, then around base of post 3 times, then forward to eye. Tie off, cut excess. Cut excess hackle. Apply small amount of glue to final thread wraps and base of post.



Cast of Thousands

Casting Practice

by Castmaster Mark Traugott

The shelter-in-place directives and changes in DFW regulations have caused many of us to postpone or cancel our plans to fish this spring. If you feel the need to re-connect with your favorite sport, consider this possibility:

Find a suitable place to cast and devote fifteen minutes to one hour of practice time a day to maintaining your skills or learning something new. At home or nearby is best, as you will be more likely to pick up that rod spontaneously and will put in more time; but, if necessary, any public space with an open, grassy area will do fine. In a pinch, your driveway or the street may suffice (though you will want to dedicate an old and disused line for the purpose, as asphalt and concrete are hard on high-tech coatings.) Once you start whipping that rod around and throwing a line, you will likely find that other people stay at least the recommended six feet away. A few simple props (hula hoops for accuracy, soccer cones for distance or for specialty techniques like curve casts) are helpful but not really necessary. The important thing is to work on upgrading your skills. If you need suggestions for what to focus on, you may want to look at the Fly Fishing International skills challenges. They offer three levels – bronze, silver, and gold – each of which involves a series of tasks that casters of increasing levels of competence should master. (The skills challenges can be downloaded here: <https://flyfishersinternational.org/Education/Learning-Center/Casting/Casting-Skills-Challenge>.) In my experience, even well-seasoned casters seldom succeed at every one of the tasks on the bronze challenge on the first try, but you'll be amazed at what a little practice can do.

If you want to up your game and are someone who learns best from books, try consulting the classics by Mel Krieger (*The Essence of Fly Casting*), Joan Wulff (*Fly Casting Techniques*), and Bill Gammel (*The Essentials of Fly-Casting*). However, many people find that a more visual approach is helpful. Our club's library of DVDs includes some relevant titles, but in this time of social distancing, a more readily available alternative is the Internet. A quick

search on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) will connect you to an overwhelming variety of instructional videos on almost any casting technique you wish to explore and at any skill level from beginner to advanced. Here are a few that I have found especially easy to understand, insightful, or entertaining:

Peter Kutzer is Orvis's resident casting instructor. You may have met him at the Pleasanton show in February (which must now seem a long time ago because it happened just as we were all becoming aware of Covid-19.) He offers an entire series of professionally produced videos on a wide variety of subjects, several of which are indexed here:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=peter+kutzer+fly+casting

Australian Casting Champion Peter Hayes has an appealing series of videos (the production values of which are, unfortunately, highly variable), all delivered with good humor and in an engaging Aussie accent:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=peter+hayes+fly+casting

And for those who want a more in-depth treatment of both the theory and practice of fly casting, you may want to work your way through the many subjects covered in Paul Arden's *Fly Casting Manual* on [sexyloops.com](http://www.sexyloops.com/flycasting/index.shtml) (**<http://www.sexyloops.com/flycasting/index.shtml>**). His explanations can be a little harder to follow, but he has thought through the physics of casting in depth.

One instructor whose explanations I find particularly clear is Carl McNeil. He has a complete instructional DVD for sale on the Echo Fly Fishing site, but a few of his videos are available free on youtube at:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=carl+mcneil+fly+casting

If you have a favorite site or instructor of your own, let me know so they can be shared in a future issue of the newsletter. Until we are able to gather again on our favorite lakes and streams, a little coronavirus-casting in the back yard is a great way to stay limber and sharp, ready to return to the water when the all-clear sounds.

Gone Fishing

Kelsey Lake (near Snelling Ca.) May 7th and 8th

by Elaine and John Cook



First heard about this large bass lake from Jim Black, thanks Jim. Being a private lake we thought it might be a place where we could effectively accomplish social distancing and indeed that was the case. Booking is easy over phone and on line while Al Smatsky provided us with lots of great information. \$100/day/fisherman, camping \$25/night. It took us 3 hours to get there but we are slow behind the wheel. Now to the nitty gritty.

Although we didn't land many fish the quality was remarkable. Fat 17-22 inches beauties that fought like heck. Too bad it was a full moon and there had been a bass tournament 4 days prior. We did land ALL on poppers and that was the only method we used. Believe it or not, John caught the big ones. The bass habitat with lily pads was impressive and then there was a rock wall. We were also impressed with the camping area that was all grassed in under large trees making it easy to tolerate the heat. We are anxious to return, and will.

