

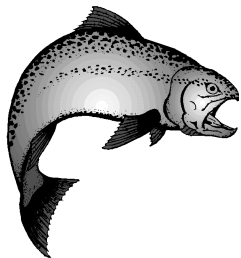
Downey Fly Fishers

"The Fishingest Club Around"

September 2008

Monthly Newsletter

Upcoming Events



September 8th
General Meeting 7pm

September
Board Meeting 7pm
Bill Shelly's Home

October 10th-12th
Mammoth Outing

October 14th
General Meeting

At This Month's Meeting

We'll be showcasing some of our talented fly tiers for an in-house fly tying demonstration. Both fresh and saltwater patterns will be demonstrated. The tiers will be able to answer all your questions regarding the construction of the pattern and how it is fished.

A big thrill in the sport of fly fishing involves catching fish on flies that you have tied yourself.

You can custom tie a pattern to match the conditions on the water that you plan to fish. If you take a tying kit with you on your trips, you can tie up patterns to match unexpected insects or baitfish that you might come across. This can really be a windfall for those that can tie up a pattern to match an unexpected hatch on unfamiliar waters.

We're very fortunate to have a nicely stocked fly bank for members that don't tie. Ron Sakoda has done a great job with the bank and the club plans to keep restocking it with flies that are popular with the members.

Ray Sugiyama will be giving a program on Alaska, BC Canada, and Andros Island at the October 14th meeting.

Deadline for the October newsletter is Sept 30th

Members who have access to E-mail can send stories, announcements or classified ads to: Liz Rasmussen or Brain Matthews

CLUB OUTINGS

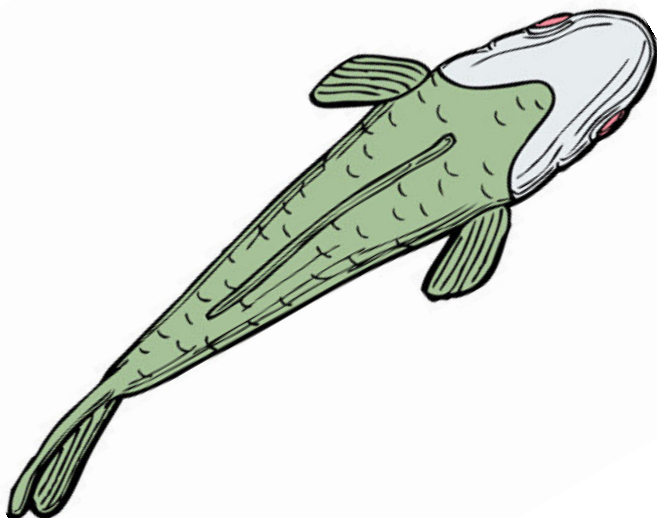
Submitted by Carl Laski

Mammoth (Crowley/Hot Creek/Upper Owens)
October 10 - 12, 2008
Colorado River (Bass n' Carp)
November 8 - 9, 2008

We are planning our usual trip to the Mammoth Lakes area in October. It's hard to beat fly fishing the Eastern Sierras in the fall!

Are you ready to try something new? Our club has never fished the Colorado River area. During the summer months, this area is too hot to fish. However, the temperatures will be very comfortable in November. Downey Fly Fishers member, Jerry Phan, has been fly fishing the Colorado River area just north of Blythe. According to Jerry and his fly fishing video on YouTube, there are abundant numbers of small-mouth bass and carp. Blythe is about a 3.5-4 hour drive from the Los Angeles area. We plan on driving out there early Saturday morning, staying the night in Blythe and fishing Sunday morning before returning home.

If you are interested in attending any of these outings, please sign-up at the general meeting or contact me at (714) 995-4219.



Club Officers

President.....Carl Laski
V.President.....None
Secretary.....Brian Matthews
Treasurer.....Bob Stuart
Past President.....Liz Rasmussen

Chairpersons

Trout in The Classroom.....Randy Teeple
Conservation & FFF Rep.....Carl Laski
Education.....John Barnett & Bob Stuart
Pot Lucks.....Brian Matthews
Membership.....Brian Matthews
Outings.....XXXXXXXXXXXX
Programs..... Zino Nakasuji & Ray Sugiyama
Refreshments....Carl Laski
Video Library.....Fred Roberts
NewsletterLiz Rasmussen & Brian Matthews
Raffles.....Brad Blancett
WebsiteCarl Laski & Jerry Phan
Publicity.....Brian Matthews & John Barnett
Fly bank.....Ron Sakoda

Board of Directors

Eric Rasmussen	Frank Russick
Bill Shelly	John Barnett
Mike Jedlick	Jim Buchanan
Terry Matsuura	"Doc" Phil Soloman

I am looking for someone to take over the duties of doing the newsletter. After doing it for 9 years I would like to turn it over to a fresh person! If you are interested I would be glad to help you get started and give you back up if needed. Talk to me if you are interested,
Liz

For Sale

1997 22ft Sandpiper travel trailer. Excellent condition. Back bedroom with full time full sized bed. Full bath, 3 burner stove w oversized oven, large refrigerator with separate freezer, microwave, double sink, am/fm/cassette stereo, front dinette makes into a twin bed with a cabinet that makes into bunk above it. Lots of storage. Equalizer hitch w sway controller. Stored in Kernville. \$7500.00.

Please call Eric Rasmussen at 562-429-4138

President's Message

I am pleased to announce, at the Board of Directors meeting in August 2008, a unanimous decision was reached for the Downey Fly Fishers to purchase a booth at the Fred Hall Fishing Tackle, Boat & Travel Show (Long Beach) in March 2009. Your board of directors is excited about this opportunity to promote our club to the public and prospective new members. We are currently brainstorming ideas on how to design the booth (Marketing 101). We will need volunteers to staff the booth for the 5-day show. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with planning or staffing this club event.

Carl

Book Review

Flycasting Systems by Bill Nash

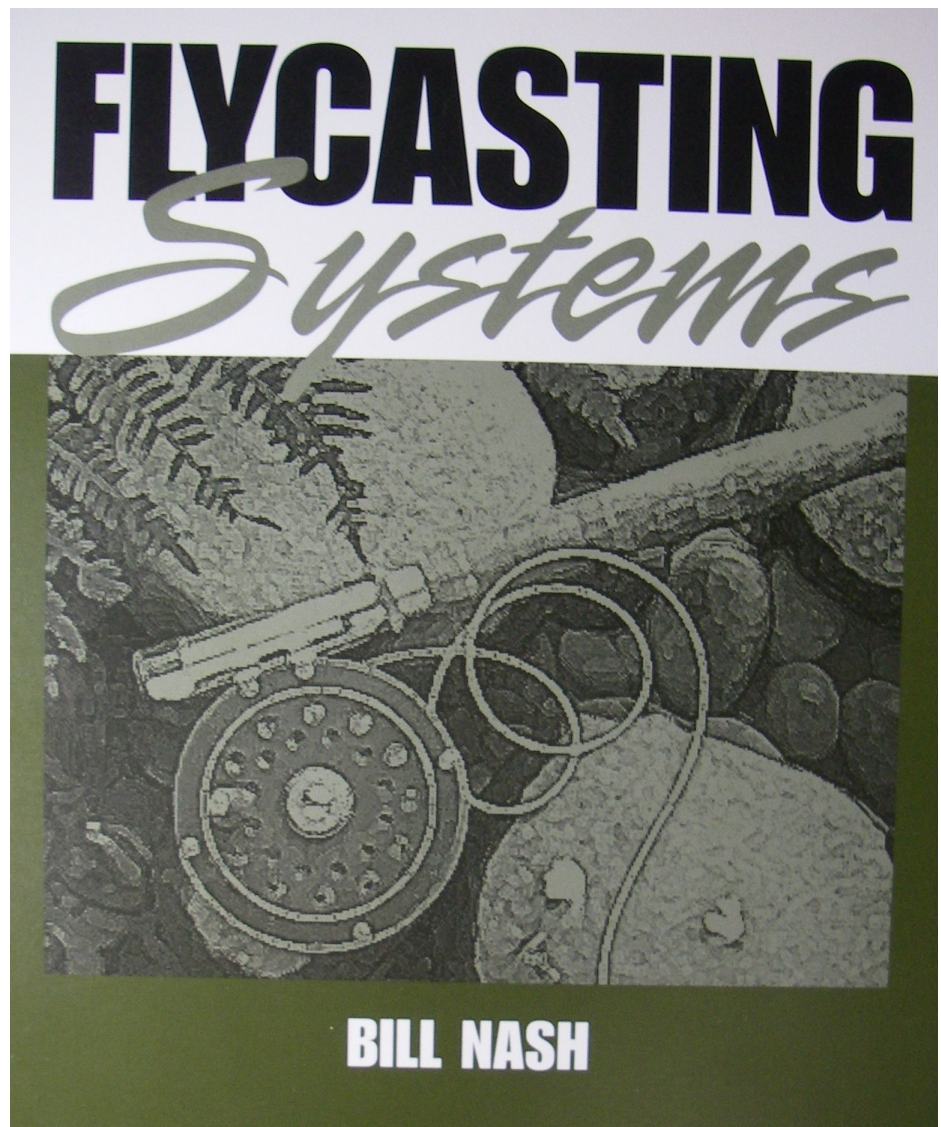
Submitted by Carl Laski

While there are many books on the market for knot tying, I have found the most comprehensive to be "Flycasting Systems" by Bill Nash (43 pgs). Bill has passed away but he was a true fly fisherman and was serious about his knots.

I believe that he had an engineering background and worked in the Silicon Valley (San Jose, CA) area. Due to his trade, he was very methodical and analytical when tying and testing knots. In his

book, Bill covers various knots for connecting a fly to a leader, connecting tippets to leaders, joining leader sections, leader connector loops, connecting tapered leaders to fly line, connecting fly lines to leaders/running lines or backing and connecting backing to a spool. However, this book is not widely available on websites or fly fishing catalogues. Bill's daughter, Nancy Nash Mialovich, is selling the books by word of mouth. Cost of the manual is \$24.95 (includes shipping in U.S.). There is a DVD (\$23.00 with purchase of manual) but is currently unavailable due to a technical difficulty.

Nancy Mialovich (make check payable to)
382 Richlee Drive
Campbell, CA 95008
Email: billsknots@aol.com



The Laski's Family Vacation

Submitted by Carl Laski

During the last week in August, the Laski family packed the camping gear, fly rods, float tubes and even the family dog for a vacation in the picturesque June Lake Loop. While driving up highway 395, I began to whistle a tune and commented that we looked like the Griswolds in National Lampoon's Vacation classic movie (1983) which starred Chevy Chase. I was able to get a round of laughter from the crowd (wife and daughter). On the evening of our arrival, a juvenile bear strolled through the campground which was pretty exciting for us city folks.

One evening, Marissa and I launched our float tubes at Silver Lake and made a long kick along a shoreline with private boat docks. I made a comment to Marissa that once the sunlight disappears from the mountain tops, it will be time to head for shore. As the skies began to grow dimmer, the fish began to rise. We had a few bumps but no hook ups. I happened to glance at the launch ramp and noticed headlights on trucks pulling boats out of the water. I looked around and we were the only ones on the lake. Yikes! We immediately began kicking our way back to shore. When we neared shore, Marissa suggested that I press the alarm button so the headlights on our pickup truck would flash. Great idea! I was going to think of that in my moment of panic...really. We found our take out point and quickly loaded up the float tubes in total darkness. Now...we were never in any real danger. However, I realized that there would be a worried Mom back at camp. As I approached the campsite, the truck headlights gradually illuminated a frowning female bear with lipstick. Wow...another bear sighting in the campground! Wait a minute, that's no bear! That's my wife who was irritated but relieved that her "cub" was safe.

On the following day, Marissa and I went to Gull Lake (this time in broad daylight...thank you). It wasn't very long before Marissa hooked and landed a nice rainbow trout. As a father and fly fisherman, I was so happy to see how excited Marissa was about catching this fish on her fly rod. She decided to keep the fish and cook it for lunch. We headed for the launch ramp and I ran to the marina store to buy a stringer. After returning to the launch ramp and tying Marissa's trout to her float tube, I told her to start fishing again but, "Don't catch my fish!" I only had one swim fin on when I heard, "Dad!" I looked up to see her fly rod doubled over. I just laughed and shook my head. I believe that on this trip Marissa was finally "hooked" on fly fishing. I was pleasantly surprised when she wanted to fish again later in the day. It was certainly a memorable family vacation with my wife and daughter.





Thanks to You

Submitted by Carl Laski

If you were unable to attend the August 2008 general meeting, you missed a great presentation by Brian Matthews and Alan Grosdidier on their fly fishing trip to Florida earlier in the year. Brian and Alan had the opportunity to visit and fish with long-time member, Edgar Yee Keow. It was amazing to see pictures of fish caught in the canals and lakes within walking distance or a short drive from Edgar's home. We enjoyed spectacular photos of peacock bass which are so colorful. Brian and Alan also snapped a picture of a bait vending machine. I had never seen or heard of such a thing as a vending machine that dispenses live bait, 24 hours a day, 7-days a week. It was quite clear that many of their "wide open bites" occurred not on the water, but at Edgar's dinner table. The boys did not go hungry! I would like to thank Brian and Alan for providing our club with such a fine presentation.

The Predator By Leslie Wrixon –

Taken from the FFF Northeastern Council Newsletter

What makes a fly appealing to a fish? What features of a fly trigger the predatory instinct in a fish? What makes a fish decide to eat something that comes across its field of vision? For purposes of this article I will mainly focus on the sense of sight. There has been a great deal written about this, but let's take a look at this issue again.

Fish are first, and foremost, predators. They live stacked up in the hierarchical predatory dance

system that is the natural world. The average fish spends most of its time either looking for prey or trying not to be detected and become prey. So, what does the piscatorial predator look for when shopping for a meal?

First, a fly should look like a prey item. After all, we eat things that look appealingly like food to us. A fish is not going to behave any differently. As a consumer, the fish wants to eat something that is familiar to its senses. Fish usually eat insects in some stage of aquatic development or other, often smaller, fish. I tip my hat to other food items, but for purposes of this discussion I will not focus specifically on these other dietary supplements such as small mammals, birds, fruit, etc., but some of what I say holds true for these items as well.

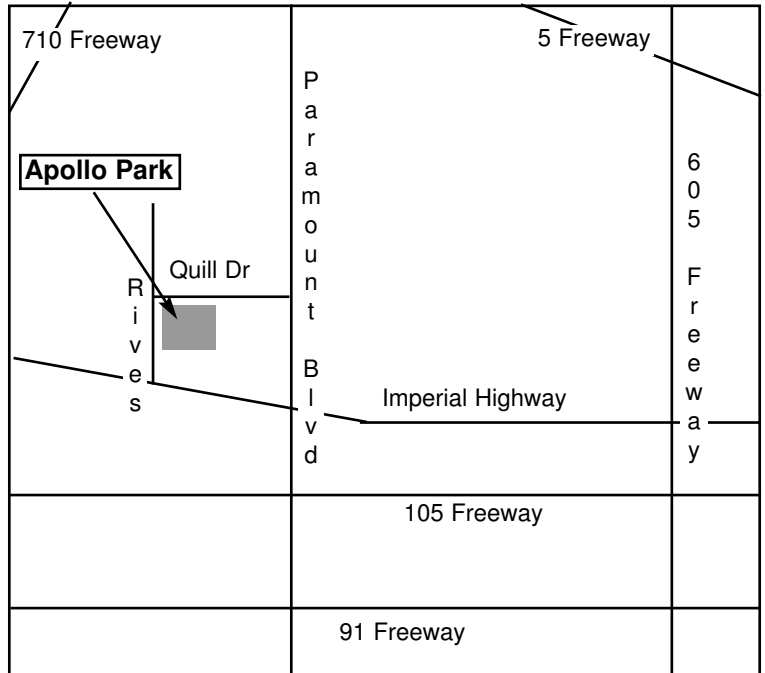
A fly should have the approximate shape, size and color of the prey. In the underwater world of shifting water currents and lighting, silhouette is part of this equation. The use of different furs, feathers and synthetics impart different outlines on the flies. Texture also comes into play here. Using materials wisely is important.

Second, a fly should behave like a prey item. This is deeply connected to the motion which we impart upon the fly. The fly should flow and wiggle in the water in ways that mimic the prey. Again, using materials wisely is important. There is not space here to go into depth about this, but in a future issue of Backcasts I will explore this in more detail.

Third, fish key in on eyes. When any animal encounters another, it is the eyes that meet for the final reality check. It should be noted that, relative to the size of a fish's body, the eyes are very large. This makes the issue of the eyes on our flies very important. Eyes are organs that interact with light. Given this, the eyes we attach to our bait fish imitation flies should also interact with light. To this end, it is good to use eyes made of a reflective or holographic material. I prefer the three-dimensional eyes that are domed in shape. Or I may add a dab of epoxy or Tuffleye over the flat-style eyes.

So, in my humble opinion, if it looks like food, acts like food and looks back at the fish like food, it must be food.

DFF Supports;



www.downeyflyfishers.org

This Month's Meeting
September 8th
Apollo Park Senior Center
12458 Rives Ave, Downey



PO Box 516
 Downey Ca 90241