

September 2017

The Tight Line

Merced Fly Fishing Club

www.mercedffc.org

Next Meeting:

"TROUT BONANZA IN MONTANA"

With Doug Autrand and Jim Correa

Monday, September 25 @ 7:00 p.m. at MERCED ELKS CLUB on the corner of 19th and M St in Merced



Call Doug Autrand For Further Information On A Bonefishing Adventure!

(209) 722-9127



President's Message

Greetings MFFC:

Fall is rapidly approaching as is our next meeting, the summer heat looks like it is behind us however a wet winter appears to be on the horizon. The past two years have been a transitional period for weather in our state. The change from a cycle of adverse drought to an abundance of rain has not equated to automatic relief for a state that has been ravaged by Mother Nature.

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BASS POND KEYS

MERCED

DOUG AUTRAND 722-9127
AL DELCO 723-0213
KEN JENSEN 722-4411
ROB. MCGINNIS 388-1811

SONORA

JERRY WHALEY 532-1699

GROVELAND

KEN NAPIER 962-0738

ATWATER / WINTON

GARY NUNES 358-0111/
233-1978

MARIPOSA / EL PORTAL

TIM HUTCHINS 379-2746

SAN FRANCISCO

GEORGE SPITERI 650-508- 0288

LE GRAND

AL GEDRIMAS 389-4484

(key holders are subject to change, check with Ken Jensen before you travel)



Short Casts

Ken Jensen

SUMMER ADVENTURES

MONTANA, ALASKA, AND THE EASTERN SIERRAS WERE JUST A FEW OF THE DESTINATIONS OF CLUB MEMBERS FOR 2017. HOPEFULLY THEIR FLYFISHING EXPERIENCES WILL BE SHARED IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WITH CLUB MEMBERS.

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Short Casts (CONT)

DOUG AUTRAND AND JIM CORREA SPENT A MONTH IN MONTANA ALONG WITH VISITORS WHO TOOK UP DOUG'S INVITE TO FISH WITH HIM. THE FISHING WAS OUTSTANDING. MANY RIVERS AND MANY FISH.

OUT TRIO OF FIREFIGHTERS, MARK, BRUCE, AND TOM, THEIR PROGRAM PRODUCTION MANAGER (HE PUT TOGETHER THEIR 2016 ALASKA ADVENTURE) ARE, AS I WRITE, FISHING THE WALKER RIVER AND VARIOUS OTHER STREAMS IN THE EASTERN SIERRAS. WITH WATER LEVELS JUST COMING DOWN FROM THIS YEAR'S HUGE SNOWPACK, THE FISHING SHOULD BE EXCEPTIONAL.

A NUMBER PF CLUB MEMBERS, INCLUDING ROGER HOUCK, MIKE MIKE BIRMINGHAM, JIM CORREA, AND BOB MEYER, WERE PART OF THE CLUB'S ANNUAL TRIP TO THE NAKNEK RIVER. THEY EXPERIENCED THE LARGEST SOCKEYE RUN IN YEARS, A GOOD SILVER SALMON RETURN, AND SOME FABULOUS RAINBOW FISHING. REKPORTS HAVE ONE OF OUR MEMBERS LANDING A 30"+ RAINBOW AND LOSING A LARGER ONE AT THE BOAT.

JIM CORREA EXTENDED HIS STAY WITH 4 OR 5 EXTRA DAYS ON THE BROOKS RIVER LIVING IN A TENT. AS HE WAS SURROUNDED BY THE WORLD'S GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF GRIZZLY BEARS I'M SURE HE'LL HAVE SOME TALES TO TELL....IF HE LIVED THROUGH IT.

ALL MEMBES SKHOULD RECORD THEIR ADVENTURES AND FOLLOW THEIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPLE....SHARING IS CARING.....

WE ALWAYS NEED PROGRAMS. SEE YOU MONDAY 25TH.

President's Message (CONT)

We are being taught the age old lesson "All that glitters is not gold". While the past two years of rain have broken the cycle of drought, adversity has been a constant byproduct of this change. Swollen rivers, flooded communities, crumbling levees, dilapidated dams, wildfires, and an ever-changing marine ecosystem are a testament to the state of flux California is currently in. With all of that being said I am still optimistic that our sport of Fly Fishing is on the rise, if we stay together and do our part good things can happen.

I would like to encourage all of you to join us at the upcoming meeting, we have a busy agenda and a great program in store for you entitled "Trout Bonanza in Montana." The program will feature two of our finest long time club members; Doug Autrand and Jim Corriea as they set the Firehole ablaze this past summer in Wyoming and Montana. On the topic of setting things ablaze this summer, the Detwiler fire scorched our Portion of the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains during the month of July. By the grace of God and the courage of so many Firefighting Crews from multiple states, Mariposa proper was spared from total destruction. The final chapters of this unfortunate disaster are still being written, because once the rains return to the land all that scorched earth will no doubt end up in our waterways which will further exasperate an already devastating situation.

A couple of reminders: The Annual Knights Ferry Salmon Festival is scheduled for November 11th and Our Club is welcomed to the Crocker Huffman Fish Hatchery on November 16th for the return of the run. We are forecast to have a very poor return of Salmon this year due to the gross incompetence of state and federal water managers during the worst part of the drought back in 2013. The 2017 ocean Salmon, Crab and Abalone seasons have all been a bust this year and with so much water locally in the Merced River in addition to the newly enhanced spawning grounds, it's a shame there won't be more fish returning. In closing I shall leave you with some words from Robert Traver; "I fish because I love to...because I love the environments where trout are found... because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste a trip... and finally, not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant-and not nearly as fun."

"Tight line and safe Passage" - MB

MAIN STREET MARKET

Live Bait & Tackle




Food Beverages & Cold Beer

Dan & Sonia
209-827-1522

13301 Hwy 33, Santa Nella

Fishermans Bend

Mobile Homes, RV's full hookups, Store & More
www.facebook.com/fishermansbendNewman



26836 River Rd
Newman, CA 95360
209-862-3731
fishermansbendmail@gmail.com

Tom Coleman
Julie Coleman



Blue Heron Sport



Tess MacLeod - Proprietor
209-742-2300
5081 Hwy 140
Mariposa, CA 95338

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The Tight Line Newsletter

The Tight Line is the Official Newsletter of the Merced Fly Fishing Club. No claim is made by the organization as to the accuracy of any information contained in this publication. After all this is a fishing newsletter and no other type of Sportsman is known for **BROADER EXAGGERATION** of what was once the truth. Sorry for all the errors in advance. Please do not take offence to anything written. No conflict is intended.

****SUBMISSION FOR THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE NO LATER THAN THE FRIDAY AFTER THE BOARD MEETING****

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE LEADERS

President	Mike Briggs	631-1878	Photographer	TBA	
V.P.	Ken Knicklebein	722-1899	Raffle	Al Gedrimas	389-4484
Secretary	Rob McGinnis	756-1811	Library	Roger Houck	
Treasurer	Richard Carlson	384-2093	Instruction	TBA	
Conservation	Michael Martin	966-6406	Newsletter /		
Membership	Howard Crider	357-8307	Website	Jeff Scott	631-5070

Promoting Conservation of the Habitat and the Joy of Fishing.