



fishstories.....

Reminder – HSFC Annual Fundraising Dinner!

As we mentioned last month, our annual fundraising dinner will be held this year on **Saturday, April 21** at the CVIC Hall in beautiful downtown Minden. A no-host bar begins at 5:30 p.m., and dinner is served at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. They're available at The Angler's Edge or from any board member. They'll also be available at this month's General Meeting on April 18. Call Jim Norton at 265-3121 with any questions. But wait... there's more...

WANTED: DEAD FLIES

If you're a tier, you may have some of these. That new pattern, the first few ties that weren't up to par. A tie that you experimented with that looks okay, but you haven't fished with it. We need dead flies!

At our annual dinner, all of these flies will be on display in a jar and, just like the age-old "guess how many jelly beans," chances will be sold to guess how many flies are in the jar. The closest one (as Bob Barker says) without going over, receives ALL of the flies! All of the proceeds for this endeavor go to support your Club's ongoing goal of supporting **Reel Recovery**. Please either drop your flies off during our regular meeting on April 18, give them to a board member when you see them, or drop them off at The Angler's Edge.

We promise we won't make fun of, ridicule, berate or steal these patterns!

April General Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held Wednesday April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Carson Valley Methodist Church in Gardnerville. This month's meeting will feature a special (and we do mean special) presentation by Peter Bauer about fly fishing in Idaho. Peter will expound on his and Ron Myers' adventures fishing several amazing Idaho waters. And rumor has it that the presentation will be accompanied by an Oscar[®]-worthy slide presentation produced by Gerry Myers!

As usual, we'll have a couple tiers showing off their skills at 6:30 p.m. and a raffle at the end of the meeting. We hope to see all of you there. For further information call Mike Kingston at 775-267-5250.



Did Mickey a) hook a fish; b) snag a willow; or c) hook a fish that leaped into a willow? The answer is on page 2.

* Actually, we promise only not to steal.

March Fishout at Rosachi Ranch

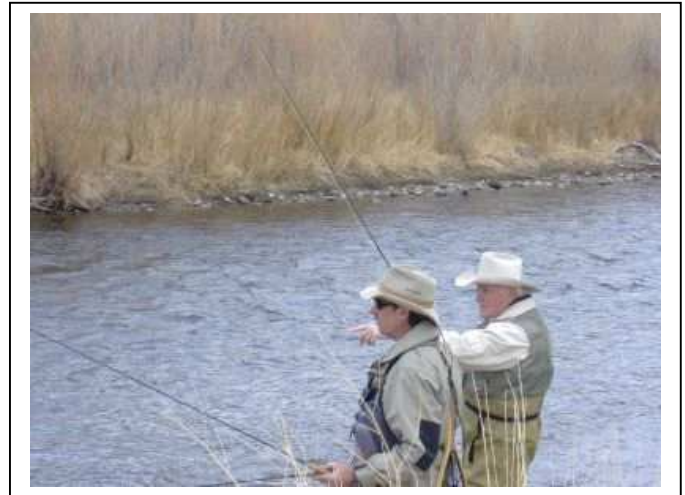
We had one of our most well attended and enjoyable (meaning that almost everyone actually caught something) outings in recent memory last month at Rosachi Ranch. The weather was great, the stream was great, and, perhaps most importantly, the hot dogs were outstanding! (Thanks, Mike!) Heck, we even had press coverage as *The Record-Courier* paid an on-stream visit and ran a terrific story on our club last week. Thanks to everyone that joined us!

And, yes, the answer is “A.”

And the April Fishout – Frenchman’s Reservoir

The April fishout is scheduled for Sunday April 29 at Frenchman’s Reservoir in Plumas County, California. Frenchman’s Reservoir is a very productive fishery located about an hour northwest of Reno. You can fish from shore, but you’ll have better success working from a float tube with an intermediate sinking line. A recent but unreliable (because it was me) report suggests trolling something like a PT Nymph within 50 feet or so from the shoreline.

The plan is to meet at Turkey Point on the east shore at about 9:30 a.m. We’re also planning to meet at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast in the restaurant at Bordertown, which is right on... you guessed it... the NV/CA border just off U.S 395. To reach Turkey Point, head north into California and turn west on CA 70 at Hallelujah Junction. Go about six miles to the little town of Chilcoot and turn right on CA 284. Head north and, when you get to the dam, hang a right. The road will turn to dirt after a couple of miles; keep going and turn left when you see the “Turkey Point” sign. More information (and maps) will be available at the April General Meeting, or you can contact Liz or Don at The Angler’s Edge (782-4734).



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TREASURER'S REPORT

HSFC's treasurer reports a checking account balance of \$6,620.60

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Eastern Sierra Focus
By CJ Webb, Virginia Lakes Resort

Submitted March 25, with an Update on April 10

Fishing Tip

The Eastern Sierra weather pattern this past winter is non-existent with one minor exception, that the snow pack over the crest is 30-40%. February is when the big blast always hits the Sierra, and it hit again around the 22nd but with very little snowfall. March started out unstable with a light dusting of snow, rain and finally started to warm up by the 10th. Spring is here if you haven't noticed.

OK, for once Punxsatawney Phil was right, and I turned in my hunting license on rodents for this year only!

Spring run off has started in some areas and the flows are slightly up with West Walker, East Walker, Hot Creek and Owens running with good clarity. Bridgeport Reservoir is full but release won't increase until full-on thaw starts. There's always a bright side, but this year probably won't have one due to the low water, so we'll have water through most of the summer and fish food will be plentiful.

If you plan to fish the Eastern Sierra within the next few weeks, bring extra layers of clothing as weather can be unpredictable, and if you plan to fish the Bishop area, bring bug juice, they are hungry and seeking new meat. Just when you think it's too early, you'll become part of the food chain.

Be safe if you walk in and around desert brush, watch for snakes, as it's warmer than normal this time of year and the diamondbacks are creatures of temperature so be alert and prepared, and don't take chances unnecessarily.

Fishing Report

Rock Creek is frozen and the road crew will probably start on the road earlier than usual due to the lack of snow. **Hot Creek** – water is clear, with comfortable temperatures and midges are hatching. Bring a bevy of midges to be prepared. The point is being prepared with all your midge imitations. The breezy afternoons always prevail so come geared up for everything. Please stay out of the water to prevent the spread of the New Zealand mud snail. Fish over 20" were the norm last week with sub surface flies. It's been an unusual year for snow patterns, and we haven't seen much in the way of precipitation. Use your arsenal and if you've got the "stuff," you'll get the "fish." **Crowley Lake** is ice-free and will be ready for the opener. **Mammoth Basin** is still under snow and ice and the Lake Mary Road should be open earlier this normal. **San Joaquin Road** – plowing will not start until May 10th as that is the agreement between MMSA and Caltrans. **June Lake** is ice-free and the loop road is open. June Lake marina cage culture program will be releasing some great fish for this opener. Tubing will be great as water temps will only increase eliminating bladder and long hot chocolate/coffee breaks once the season opens. **Gull Lake** is ice-free and ready for tubers. **Silver Lake** is ice-free and waiting to kill your dreams. **Grant Lake** is ice-free and always a challenge. **Tioga Pass** – Discussion has begun as to what their target date to start the road. The Park Service will start on April 15th, and you can drive all the way up to Ellery Lake. If temps increase everything will change accordingly. **Lundy Lake** is ice-free. Road is open and the gate is still up, but there is less than 8 inches of snow on the ground. **Virginia Lakes** – road was plowed to Rand Road on the 16th of March, a record for my 32 years of operation. The Virginias have water showing and getting very dark, meaning the ice is also melting from underneath. **Trumbull Lake** is the same, with only a small opening at the east side of the lake. **East Walker** flow is at 90cfs and won't increase until the Bridgeport Reservoir (Rez) fills to capacity which should start in about 3 weeks. I scouted the area and found midges everywhere. Midge cache needs to be in tow in order to hit the right combination when you arrive and switch often because what hits this morning probably won't be getting tugs tomorrow. Bring everything and try it all. You won't be disappointed. San Juan Worms worked one day, and Bird's Nests the next, but tiny zebra midges, rainbows, WD40s, Tailwater Tiny, and Mercer's Midgling in root beer. A reliable source reported 26 fish over last weekend with one topping 23". Piranhas (no-see-ums) are not here as yet, but it's early don't give up hope to make your annual blood donation to their drive, they'll be very appreciative. **Bridgeport Reservoir** is ice-free and the water is fairly high and clear. Water has not been stocked as yet but DFG bows will be arriving in about 3 weeks. **West Walker** flow is running fast and off color. **Sonora Pass** – road crew is considering a start date and waiting to see what the next series of storms will produce. Night temperatures are warm and the likelihood of snow is nil unless we get winds in excess of 80 mph to push out the high system for the barometric pressure to return winter conditions. Optimum temps for snow at 8138' on Conway Summit is 28 – 32 degrees. **Monitor Pass** is open.

See you on the water, CJ (7.3). For updates you can email me at vlr@qnet.com



High Sierra Fly Casters
PO Box 3121
Gardnerville, NV 89410

YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD IS CURIOUS!

With the growing popularity of our Club, we want to make sure that we're servicing members with presentations, fishouts and meetings that are beneficial to you. It will help us immensely if you let us know what you're interested in. If members will let us know by completing this short survey and drop it off during meetings or mail it back to the club, we can make this an even better resource for members.

1. Do you use the Club's library?

Yes No

2. During the raffle at meetings, would you prefer a lot of smaller (less expensive) items or would you prefer a few (higher value) items?

A lot of less value items A few higher value items

3. What are you interested in learning or improving on?

Spey Casting Casting Accuracy Casting Distance Entomology

Stillwater Technique High Water Technique

Your idea(s) _____

4. In the recent past, how many Club fish-outs do you attend during the year?

1 - 2 3 - 4 5 - 6 7 - 8

5. Are there any places that you are interested in having future fishouts?

6. Is there a distance limit for traveling to fishouts?

Yes No If yes, what's your limit? _____

7. Would you be interested in "overnight" fishouts?

Yes No

8. Would you be interested in Friday - Sunday (camping or cabin) fishouts?

Yes No

9. Any other ideas that you might have?

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