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## *fishstories.....*

### A Wake Up Call

by Dan (Grizzly Wulff) Sedergren, HSFC President

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> of this year what might have been a life ending situation turned out to be a wake up call for all of us. On that Wednesday morning one of our club members left home early to spend the day as a “fishing buddy” at the Reel Recovery retreat being held at the Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve near Markleeville California. Before the morning was over he was in the cardiac care facility at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center.

Thanks to the advanced planning of Bob Macias and his staff, and the support of Roger and Jan Arthur and their network of ham radio operators, a potential tragedy was averted. An Alpine County emergency response team was notified of the problem, and they in turn called for a life flight helicopter that evacuated the member to Carson Tahoe.

What might have happened if he had been out there alone? I’m pretty sure he didn’t start out that morning thinking, “I’ll go fishing somewhere that doesn’t have reliable cell phone coverage (or any cell phone coverage for that matter), and have a heart attack.”

How many of us go out-of-doors with out a plan for handling potential emergencies? What would you do if you were miles from your vehicle, alone, with no cell phone coverage, and you tripped and fell, breaking your leg, or punching a hole in your chest? Maybe you just decided to take a short cut back to your vehicle and wind up lost. Who would know you were hurt, or lost, or in need of help?

Do you remember the story of Aron Ralston, the 27 year old mountaineer in Utah that amputated his own arm to free himself from being pinned by a boulder? Or have you heard about Bill Jeracki from Colorado and how he amputated his own leg below the knee when he became trapped while out fishing? What about the Stolpa family who got lost in a snowstorm in northern Nevada, or the Dominguez family who got lost 2 years ago while hunting for a Christmas tree. While these are extreme cases, they do point out that it’s dangerous out there and accidents happen.

Webster defines an accident as “an undesirable or unfortunate happening that occurs unintentionally and usually results in harm, injury, damage, or loss”, and even a minor accident can turn into a serious situation when it happens far from help. There are always risks when we venture out so how do we mitigate them? We do it the same way that Bob and his staff did back in July. We plan for the eventuality and we prepare for the possibility.

Several years ago I started carrying a first aid kit in my fishing vest, and put another one in the car. Then I contacted my local Red Cross and took an emergency first aid course along with a CPR course. I also added a “Storm” all weather survival whistle to my vest as a signaling device.

When I started thinking about communications options, I looked into satellite phones. At \$1300.00 for a basic phone it didn’t seem to be a reasonable solution. Neither did restricting my fishing to places that had cell phone coverage. When I was in the new Bass Pro shop in Denver several years ago I saw a personal emergency transponder that worked through the satellite network covering the US. When you activated it, it began transmitting a distress signal that notified the International Emergency Rescue Center (IERC) in Houston TX. Manned 24/7 by qualified personnel, the IERC has access to emergency responders worldwide. At about \$500.00 it was getting closer to my budget, but was still a little “pricey.”

Thanks to good, old capitalism and advances in modern technology the price for a personal emergency communications device has come down to the point that it is available to almost everyone. Currently there are two such devices available that sell for less than \$300.00. The first is called the Fast Find Satellite Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) and the second is Satellite Personal Outdoor Tracker (SPOT).

The PLB sells for \$299.00 and provides worldwide coverage. It broadcasts a distress signal to the subscription-free COSPAS-SARSAT (Search and Rescue Satellite) that then notifies emergency responders. The PLB also broadcast a homing signal similar to the one broadcast by avalanche beacons. The down side to the PLB is that once activated, it has to be returned to the manufacturer to be reset.

The SPOT product is the one that I currently have, and my wife calls it her POM device (peace of mind). There are two versions of the SPOT, the Tracker which is the original device, and the new Messenger. SPOT is a subscription based service; you buy the device and then pay a yearly subscription fee for the features you want. When I purchased mine a couple of years ago, the price was \$160.00 for the SPOT and \$125.00 a year for the services; these prices have come down.

The basic service which costs \$99.00 per year provides 3 functions; Check In, Help, and 911. The Check In and Help function sends a text message and location information to a maximum of 5 individuals cell phones/e-mail addresses. The e-mail includes a link to Google Maps with your location marked. When you set up your account, you define the five cell phones/e-mail addresses and the basic message.

My Check In message says "I'm OK and here's where I am." The Help message says, "I need assistance." It could be that I'm out of gas, stuck in the mud, have a flat tire, etc; it's a non emergency situation. In both instances the message only goes to those I have pre identified. The 911 transmission calls out the cavalry.

The other service I subscribe to is a Search and Rescue and Emergency Extraction insurance policy underwritten by Lloyds of London. It pays for all costs associated with finding, treating and extracting me in the event of an emergency. It costs \$7.95 per year; a life flight helicopter can cost in the thousands, so it's cheap insurance.

With Christmas coming, a SPOT would be a great gift that provides protection and peace of mind. Check the SPOT out at Angler's Edge, and ask Liz or Don to show you how it works.

## October Meeting Presentation

by Mike Phillips, HSFC Newsletter Editor

As of publishing time a speaker for our October 21st meeting at 7:00 P.M. had not been booked. Our web master Ken Baldwin will email you the information as soon as he gets it. If you do not receive an email call Liz at the fly shop (782-4734) for the speaker information. Remember to bring money for our raffle. See you there.

Also, nominations for officers of the club for the up coming year will be made at October's meeting. Let the board know if you are interested in a position with the club.

### 2009 HSFC Officers

Dan Sedergren	President	775-265-2767
Dan Sedergren	Vice President	775-265-2767
Jim Gronski	Treasurer	775-265-7124
Gini Cummings	Recording Secretary	775-265-1991

### 2009 HSFC Board of Directors

Roger Arthur	Membership	775-265-2825
Mike Matuska	Conservation	775-884-0394
Jim Norton	Education	775-265-3121
Ken Baldwin	Webmaster	775-849-3920

### At Large

Ron & Linda Sanstrom		775-782-1152
Mike Turnipseed		775-782-4254
Don Stockman	Fund Raising	775-265-7164
Liz Weirauch	Fish Master	775-782-4734
Mike Phillips	Newsletter Editor	775-265-4610

### TENTATIVE FISH OUT SCHEDULE FOR 2009

<b>Feb. 22</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Hinkson Slough</b>
<b>March 29</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Rosaschi Ranch</b>
<b>April 26</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Pyramid Lake</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Upper Twin Lake</b>
<b>June 28</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Frenchmen's Reservoir</b>
<b>July 26</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>West Walker River</b>
<b>August 23</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Spooner Lake</b>
<b>Sept. 27</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Heenan Lake</b>
<b>Oct. 18</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Indian Creek Reservoir</b>
<b>Nov. 15</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>To be announced</b>

## The Internet Fly Fisherman

by Dan (Grizzly Wulff) Sedergren, HSFC President

October 2009 –

This month's site is for our women members. In 1996 Fanny Krieger (Mel Krieger's wife) and the Golden West Flyfishers of San Francisco, CA, founded the non-profit International Women Fly Fishers organization. The International Women Fly Fishers connects women interested in fly fishing with all aspects of the sport, maintains a dialogue with the fly fishing industry and publicizes the achievements of women in the field of fly fishing. Check them out at: <http://www.intlwomenflyfishers.org/>

This month's blog site is Angler's Tonic, life on and off the water. Angler's Tonic is about living a good life with much of it experienced through fishing, meaning the places we visit, the people we meet, and the amazing things we see along the way. Check them out at: <http://www.anglerstonic.com/dev/>

## September Fish Out Results– Heenan Lake by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

It was a beautiful day at Heenan when our small group of four showed up. Dave Ryniec, a member from over the hill, his friend Nick, Matt Priddy, a non-member who joined us for the day, and myself fished. We used full sink lines with white woolly buggers and prince nymphs. I hooked my first fish ever at Heenan! Nick hooked two fish. Fishing seemed best on the spring side and in the back far corner by the outlet. As the weather cools Heenan should become more productive.

## October Fish Out– Indian Creek Reservoir by Mike Phillips, HSFC Newsletter Editor

The fish out for October has been moved up a week! We will be fishing Oct. 18th at Indian Creek Reservoir. Indian Creek is located in California and is approximately 30 minutes from the Gardnerville/Minden area. It has been producing some nice fish lately. I fished it 10/08/09 and caught two nice four to five pound fish from a float tube. See pictures below. We plan on meeting in the day use parking lot at 8:30 A.M. To get there take Highway 88 to Highway 89 and turn left. Continue on 89 until you see a sign for Indian Creek Reservoir, turn left on Airport Road. Follow Airport Road until you get to the Indian Creek Reservoir sign and a campground sign. Turn left on the paved road (do not go right onto the dirt road). This paved road will lead you into the day use parking lot by the bathrooms and picnic tables. Park in the day use area. You can take your float tube down into the bay to your east. The club will be proving lunch. Remember you need a California license to fish Indian Creek.

Indian Creek can be waded or fished from a float tube. At this time float tubing appears to be better than wading, but after awhile that will change. Maybe by the time we go wading will be more productive. If you wade it, you want to use a floating line. Recommended wading areas include the east side and near the dam. If are using a tube then it would be best to use a sinking line; types 2 through 4 would be appropriate. You can also use floating line with a longer leader and a weighted fly. Leaders should be 3x and tippets 4x for the larger fish. Flies to use would be woolly buggers, prince nymphs, hares ears, and leeches. I had a lot of luck with a size 8 bead-head , cinnamon colored woolly bugger on Thursday.



## Fundraising Help Needed

by Roger Arthur, HSFC Membership Chairman

Although we are a few months away from our annual fund raiser and banquet March 13, 2010, we need to be thinking about writing letters to companies asking for donations to help fund our many on-going projects. We are also asking our club members to check and see if they have any "white elephants" in their fishing closets that they would be willing to donate to the club to be used for fund raising purposes. Furthermore, if any of you know of someone or a company that you feel that would be willing to make a donation of products or services for our annual fund raising banquet please let us know.

We could really use some help with this fund raiser, so anyone interested in helping on the March banquet please contact one of the following: Roger Arthur 265-2825; Don Stockman 265-2825; Liz Weirauch.

## Annual Fly Club Dinner Slide Show

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

Hey everyone, guess what time of year it is? Yup, get those computers out and start looking for a blank disc and start your burning! We're looking for photos of this year's fishing adventures. To be more specific for those who might try to submit pictures from previous years (hehe) look for pictures taken between February and December of 09. Last year's show was a beauty (if I say so myself), and we want the same type of submissions. Some fish, fisher-persons, nature, funny pictures and poignant. We ask that you submit it on disc, since my email gets too full. For those of you who can not or have trouble putting their photos on disk, Mike Kingston has graciously volunteered his services. Just email your pictures to him and he will put them on disks. Please include a description of each, so Liz knows how to caption them. Mike's email address is Barrykings@msn.com. Please have all your pictures in by December 31st. We cannot take late submissions, and you never know.. if you don't submit your own... we might have to put one in for you and well, I think they call it Artistic License ... it could get ugly!

## We Have Been Invited

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

The Historical Society has invited the High Sierra Fly Casters to put up a Christmas tree to be on display at the Museum during the month of December. We need some help. We're thinking of decorating a "tree" made of 9 foot fly rods with GIANT flies. We need the fly tiers of our Club to tie at least 2 or 3 large flies. These are traditional patterns, like the Royal Wulff, but then SUPER-SIZE IT! We'd like to have a few of the classics, with information on the fly; Your name, the fly's name, what type of fish it is used for, when it was developed, who developed it (if you can find that out). We welcome custom flies of your own design, though, please include the above information. Each fly will have a little tag on it with this description. I believe that we may be able to use wire hangers to make the "hooks". We'd like the hook shank to be a maximum of 3.5" long and the Gap to be 2". These will need to be delivered by November 28th. We will need some help getting the "tree" set up and decorated. So if you'd like to help or have a suggestion, it will be greatly appreciated. Questions, please call Liz 782-4734.

## Membership Renewal Coming Up

by Mike Phillips, HSFC Newsletter Editor

In next month's edition of the newsletter we will include membership renewal forms. Membership for an individual or family will be the same \$30.00. For individuals 16 and younger who do not have a family membership dues will be \$10.00. For those who renew before January 1st a prize drawing will be held for one to possibly three prizes. So put your \$30.00 aside for the best fly club in the valley.

## The Carson River Clean-up

by Don Weirauch, HSFC Member

## The Road To.... Hell?

There's that old saying that "The Road To Hell Is Paved With Good Intentions." So with all the good intentions in the world, on Sunday, October the 4<sup>th</sup> we got ready to meet HSFC club members, Western Nevada Water Conservancy, the Washoe Tribe, Douglas County Park & Rec. and anyone else interested, down at the East Carson for a river clean up day. Then we looked outside.

As I had checked the National Weather Service the night before I was sure my eyes were deceiving me. On the table on my back patio stood a pile of what the weather service must consider "a possible accumulation of up to 1" of snow". When I measured it

an unofficial weather service ruler it stood at a healthy 6" with nickel size snowflakes still falling.

Figuring that nobody would be nuts enough to show up in this weather we thought we'd better head on down to the river to make sure and at least get a couple pictures of the seasons first snowfall. While we were there we met Dan Kafer with the water conservancy, who had a truck cab full of hot dogs, buns, chili, chips, etc. Gwen and two volunteers from the Washoe Tribe, Dan Sedergren from HSFC and a guy from Douglas County Park & Rec. who showed up to ask, "What are you guy's...Nuts!?"

The snow was still coming down pretty good at that point and after chatting for a bit I think we all decided that, yes indeed we were probably nuts for hanging around. The good news though is that while we were there not a single bit of trash or debris was spotted! Amazing what good intentions and 6" of snow cover can accomplish.

Hopefully we can re-group and try this again very soon. Thanks to everyone else who got up early and had those same good intentions... BEFORE looking outside!



Two tough volunteers who showed up on Sunday

## Eastern Sierra Fishing Report– Oct 09

by CJ Webb. Virginia Lakes Resort

**ROCK CREEK LAKE** has been good with most of the fish sitting in deep water due to the lake temp, so use full sink with black woolly buggers, and blue damselfly. Dries are working, so try olive Hornbergs.

**CROWLEY LAKE** moss is worse than ever and it depends on which way the wind blows as to where you will be able to fish. Fishing is good when you get into the right waterway so try streamers, perch fry and leeches, but check with the experts at Crowley Lake Marina or in Mammoth for the latest info.

**UPPER OWENS** has also been fishing well when you find the right spot. Fish are a tad small but keep working it until you find the main channel where they are holding and use dry/dropper, Copper John, soft hackles, pheasant tails, and prince nymphs with your best presentation. Use sizes 20-24.

**CONVICT LAKE** has had a good breeze on most days so fish the same southwest corner near the aspens, go deep, deeper and the deepest you can handle and start from there up to see where the trout are holding. Water is warm all over, but is changing soon.

**MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN** - Twin and Mamie are doing great on brown and olive Docs Twin Lake Special (DTLS), Olive Matuka, or a leech pattern with a nymph dropper #16 or #18. Pick your best working nymph.

**HOT CREEK** is fishing well; water level is low and weed beds are showing. Fish early and late with dries (vary your colors in sizes 20-24, also small WD40's, PT flashback (22-24), gray baetis patterns #20-24, scuds, and small caddis emergers. Large foam ant patterns and try some small hoppers. There is always a afternoon breeze so be prepared for everything.

**SAN JOAQUIN** – You can drive down to the meadow in your own vehicle now. You'll have to do some extra walking to get into fish as the water level is low and warm, so look for pools and keep a low profile while using Yellow Sallies, Royal Coachman, Parachute Adams and definitely Olive elk hair caddis #16.

**JUNE LOOP** – Gull has been doing well on brown Twin Lakes Special, with or without a Pheasant Tail dropper, and June has done well on burgundy or olive leech patterns, the "staple" Hornberg (green) with a prince nymph dropper. Go deep and I'm not kidding.

**LUNDY LAKE** has been doing fair from boats and tubes and is got their last load of Alpers last week. Their last day open was Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. Work with Hornbergs, olive crystal flashy buggers, wiggle nymphs in olive or rust, and try some ants near the inlet and south shore near the aspens.

**VIRGINIA LAKES** had been good to great after Alpers trophies arrived along with the supplement fish and 400 pounds from Fish and Game. Just about anything worked for over 8 days, but the continued warm weather has plagued most of the Eastern Sierra without any relief driving the fish even deeper than last week. Flies working are black stripped-down version of a woolly bugger with some flash in the tail, and you'll probably have to drive it down with full sink with a slow strip. Try a 2 fly rig with a hare's ear over a scud pattern, or a blue wing olive parachute, gray hackle peacock, or fur body black ant. Also, black gnat parachute, and Selby's Black Bitch.

**EAST WALKER** – Flow is currently at 92cfs and fishing quite well. Early is the best time to use PMD's, and trico's. Nymphs working are blood midge, WD40's, tiger, crystal and small caddis patterns in the afternoon in the 1st mile down from the dam. Elkhair Caddis in #16 or 18, small yellow sallies over any nymph will work. Fish only when temp is below 67 degrees, it's healthier for the trout. Current temp is 60 as the nights are cooling down the day-time water temperature.

**WEST WALKER** – Water is at very low 42cfs but standard for this time of year, so look for flat water and fish the pools and curves, and use a two fly rig with large attractor and tiger, crystal or flashback Zug as the bottom fly with a shorter distance between flies. Try some terrestrials, hoppers, ants, etc.

**SADDLEBAG LAKE** - The lakes basin is a bit slow except for Saddlebag, and it is doing well on the east side and heading toward the resort using a full sink with olive and or olive/black woollies. The stream is running fair and some nice brooks, browns and bows can be found in deeper pools so keep a low profile, they are spooky.

See you on the water...cj 9.9

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