



SALINAS VALLEY FLY FISHERS

November 2014

FLY TIMES

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20In addition to the normal 14 Board Members

Tracy da Silva 229-9568

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Treasure

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951-3454

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267-8088

Newsletter Editor

Jay Jefferson- 809-0290

"President's Message"

Tracy "Decoy" da Silva

November is here and as the weather cools down the fishing heats up! It's looking like it could be a fantastic steelhead season for Northern California. With great reports coming in from all over, and even a personal experience a few weeks ago, I would tell anyone who enjoys the hard life of steelheading to get your gear ready and start planning some trips! The Trinity has been fishing excellent lately, and it's hard to beat when it's on. I'm guessing that all the north coastal rivers ought to be getting good too, with the recent rains, and cooling temperatures

As far as our local Steelhead season goes, as usually we will have to pray for rain and waiting to see if enough shows up to get the rivers up to the minimum flows needed to make them fishable. If that happens then we can pray for the fish to be there. On a different local front, some great reports continue to come in from the forebay, big numbers, and some decent size fish as well! You might want to check out the website for a glimpse at a beauty that Loren got a couple weeks ago. With an upcoming trip to the forebay on the SVFF calendar it ought to be hard to pass up. Don't forget our meeting coming up this Wednesday evening. I hope that you'll make if you can. There's lots to discuss, with the holidays fast approaching we have a lot going on. Don't miss it. We will be accepting money for Annual Dinner and next years dues for those looking to get in on the early bird drawing (well worth it)! t'll next time..

Keep you rod tip up and let her run.

Tracy

Mike Sutton is Guest Speaker

In addition to the regular fish reports, outing planning and raffles, This month's meeting will feature Michael Sutton from the Fish and Game Commission. In addition to his role on the commission. The former Park Ranger has an impressive list of environment involvements that he will be able to share at this Wednesday evening's get together.

What's going on in the world of fly fishing and tying?



No Fly Tying this month

All about midges

Midges

The midge life cycle is similar to that of the caddis: they live as larvae, are buoyed to the surface as pupae, emerge and deposit their eggs as adults.

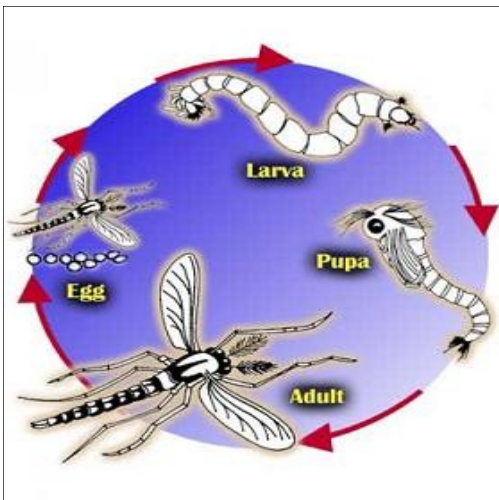
The first stage consists of an egg stage. Adult midges mate during flight, and tend to gather in large mating swarms along the waters edge of lakes or streams. Once mating is complete the females fly back over the water to release fertilized eggs by tipping their abdomens in the surface film. The eggs sink to the bottom of the stream.

The larval stage emerges from the egg and begins its life on the bottom of lakes and streams or free living in the water column. Because most midges are poor swimmers, they are often found hiding amongst the aquatic vegetation of the slower runs and flats of the stream. Some species of midges construct small tubes or cases in which they live in. These larval houses are oriented upright at the bottom of the stream. Fully developed larva undergo the change into the pupae state. For many species, the final larval stage occurs with a larval tube or case, which is sealed off while it undergoes the final transformation. Once the pupa is fully developed it breaks free of the old larval casing and begins to rise to the surface of the stream. They produce a gas beneath the abdomen which give the pupa a silvery or mirror appearance that trout will often key in on.

When the pupa reaches the surface film a split forms along the back of the thorax and the adult phase emerges on the surface of the water and immediately flies off. Most pupal emergence, mating usually takes place within-in 24-48 hours, completing its lifecycle.

Prior to midge hatches, larva and pupae become washed into feeding lanes and trout will eat them. The pupae are extremely vulnerable as they kick feebly to the surface and hang suspended beneath the surface film. They are small, but so many are available that trout feed on them eagerly. Trout often feed selectively on midge pupae, but rarely feed selectively on midge larvae or adults.

To fly fisherman, midges constitute the most important group of aquatic Diptera. Fly patterns referred to as midges come in an array of colors and usually range in size from #18-28. It is difficult to determine exactly which species of midges are being imitated, and patterns are not as specific, except in size. Some popular patterns include the Black Midge, Zebra Midge, Blue Dun Midge, Chironomid Killer, Frostbite Midge, Miracle Midge, Grey Midge Pupa, Green Midge Pupa, Blood Midge, and the Snow Fly.



**Salinas Valley Fly Fishers
Annual Dinner
Saturday, January 17th.**

**@
Balestaire's
At the Laguna Seca
Golf Ranch
York Rd.**

Salinas Valley Flyfishers2014 Outing Schedule and Programs**

Nov. 12th	General meeting	Landing Zone @ the airport	Mike Sutton Guest speaker	Tracy da Silva	229-9568
Nov 15-16	Club Outing	O'Neill Forebay	Stipers	Scott Naylor	
No Fly Tying this month		No Fly Tying this month		No Fly Tying this month	
Nov. 19th (1 week early)	Board meeting	Landing Zone @ the airport	All members welcome	Tracy da Silva	229-9568
Dec 9th	General meeting	Landing Zone @ the airport	Annual Christmas "gift exchange"	Tracy da Silva	229-9568
January 17th.	Annual Dinner	Balestarie's	Laguna Seca Golf Ranch	Tracy da Silva	229-9568

Early Bird Special

The Annual dinner is fast approaching. Get in on the early bird special.
 Dinner \$40 (before Jan 1st)
 \$45 (at the door)
 Annual dues paid before Jan 1st gets you one early bird drawing ticket and each Dinner ticket purchased early get another ticket. Come join in the fun.

Remember: next month is the December Christmas "gift exchange" meeting (not to be missed)

Sale:

All club shirts are 20 % off during December (why not buy one for ed.)

Support Casting for Recovery

Bring a half dozen flies to the annual dinner Special prize ticket for all member who do.

For all the latest info. in what's happening in the wide world of flyfishing, go to:

salinasvalleyflyfishers.org

Special thanks to **Geoff Malloway** for his ongoing support of the Salinas Valley Fly Fishers and for his many efforts on behalf of stream habitat and the preservation of the fish that we all seek to catch. Next time you're out his way, stop by and say hi . With Christmas approaching, think of Central Coast Fly Fishing for your gift giving and getting needs. You could buy something for ed.

**Geoff Malloway
 Central Coast Fly Fishing
 7172 Carmel Valley Rd.
 Carmel, CA (626-6586)**

Lower Sacramento Outing (one for your bucket list)

The 4th annual fall meeting of the Salinas Valley Travel Trailer and Crawdad Eat'n Club was a fine affair. As is typical with this unsavory bunch, food was the top priority, followed up closely by liquefied libation and all manner of tomfoolery. Fishing, was of course, on their list, but judging by each morning's protracted debacle at the launch ramp, not up there where you'd notice it. Once on the water with a margin of separation that 4-5 miles of river can afford, these characters began to behave with modicum of sanity. Well there was that one incident when Richard Wilson manage to set up his own little naval blockade. It was like watching General Longstreet entrapping a Union brigade at Bull Run. We counted three drift boat and four or five young girls on floatie things all trapped by General Wilson's antics. His oars flailing the air and slapping the water like cannon shots, Fortunately an overflying sheriff's helicopter bull horned him to: "put the oars down" in response to which, Richard was released from the river's grip and his hostages set free. The a for mentioned "appearance of sanity" seemed to dissolve like a snow flake on a hot griddle anytime more then two of them scoundrels was within shouting distance of one another. Don't get me wrong, there was a few fish caught , but most of then was caught by one form or another of accident. By day,s end our motley crew had managed themselves back to the campsite for more of what the do best.: Sticker-stick'n each other's trailer behinds and drinking various forms of brown liquor from dirty glasses. Captain Rod busied himself cooking up 80 pounds of crawdad, whilst the rest of the crew relived their day and planned for more to come. Cheers!!

San Luis Reservoir History

San Luis Reservoir was constructed as a storage reservoir for the federal Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project. It stores runoff water from the Delta that would otherwise flow into the ocean. The water arrives through the California Aqueduct and the Delta-Mendota Canal, and is pumped from the O'Neill Forebay into the main reservoir during the winter and spring. The Los Banos Creek Reservoir was built to prevent storm runoff from flooding the canals.

A [visitor center](#) at the Romero Overlook provides full information on the reservoirs and water projects through audio-visual and printed materials. Telescopes are also available for viewing the area. The Romero Visitor Center is administered by the CA Dept. of Water Resources.

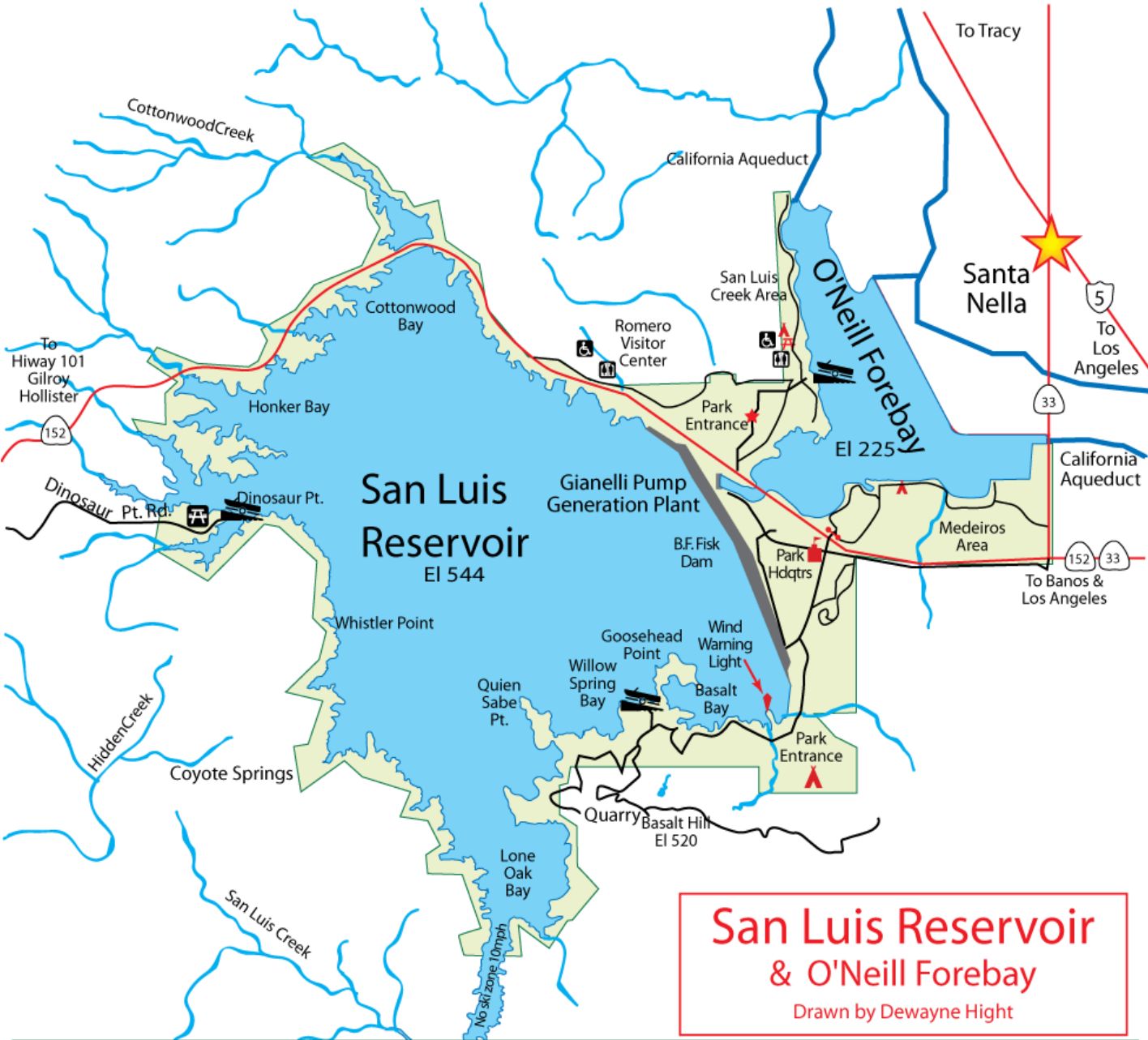
Long before the dams and canals were built, this land was the home of the Northern Valley Yokuts, native Americans who harvested seeds, acorns, and the roots of the tules that grew in the marshes of the sluggish San Joaquin River. There were also fish, geese, and ducks for food, as well as huge herds of pronghorn antelope and Tule elk on the plains. With the coming of the Spanish, though, this way of life disappeared. Many of the valley people were taken to missions around 1805, and an epidemic, possibly of malaria, decimated the population of this area in 1833. In the 1850s, most of the survivors were killed or driven off by settlers.

Pacheco pass was named for Francisco Perez Pacheco, who settled here in the 1840s. The pass was used by Native Americans, Spanish soldiers and missionaries, Mexican ranchers, and gold miners, as well as more recent travelers. In 1856, Andrew Firebaugh improved the pass and made it a toll road, with a toll house two miles west of the summit. He had hardly finished when the Butterfield-Overland stages began using the road as part of their route from San Francisco to Missouri.

The first water works in the area were constructed in 1871, when farmers built a canal from Mendota Dam to Los Banos Creek to irrigate their wheat crops. Many canals were added over the years, until they totaled 180 miles in length. Ground was broken in 1962 for the San Luis Project, which created the current reservoirs. Today, Los Banos area farmers cultivate alfalfa, grapes, tomatoes, melons, corn, cotton, beans, sugar beets, fruits, nuts, and raise dairy and beef cattle.



San Luis / Forebay



**San Luis Reservoir
& O'Neill Forebay**
Drawn by Dewayne Hight

Fishing Notes

- **Striped Bass** draw the majority of anglers to San Luis. Drifting live jumbo minnows or mudsuckers from a boat is an increasing popular method for catching fish, particularly in the fall and winter when the water cools down. Top water fishing with Zara Spooks, Pencil Poppers and Pop-Rs can be very productive in the spring, summer and fall. Fishing Zoom Flukes and jigs can also yield lots of stripers. Bank anglers find success using anchovies, jumbo minnows and mudsuckers in the Dinosaur Point and Basalt areas of the main lake and in the O'Neill Forebay. Shore fishing with Rat-L-Traps and top water lures can also be excellent, particularly during the fall.
- **Channel Catfish** provide a sleeper fishery for anglers fishing in the spring and summer throughout the lake's coves. Toss out mackerel, anchovies and stink baits to entice the cats. Fish in the 10 to 25 pound range are possible here.
- The main lake and forebay also offer **Largemouth Bass**, **Crappie**, **Bluegill** and even an occasional **White Sturgeon** to anglers, but few anglers target these species.

*October outing
O'Neill Forebay
November 15-16th.*

**General meeting
Dinner @ 6:00
Meeting @ 7:00
November 12th.**

**Fly Tying **
No Fly Tying
**this month due to the holiday
schedule**

**Board of Directors
Meeting
at the Landing Zone
Nov. 19th. @ 6:00**

Salinas Valley Fly Fishers

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"All You Need to Know"

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