
January 2014 Newsletter



Dedicated to the Memory of Bill Peakes

No one announces his or her own departure from this earth.

By the time I met Bill Peakes, he had already retired from the Oakland Fire Department a long, long time ago. It was so long ago that no one knew or heard of him at the firehouse when he would visit. His Forestry degree from UC Berkeley was useful when he was hired on, in his youth, as Oakland was still considered country space. I could never envision him, with his slight stature, carrying fire hoses and such. Then I heard he was the firehouse cook. Back in the 90's, Bill went to Alaska with a group of us. Bill remarked the last time he was in a plane was to Fairbanks for a winter while in the service. It took days to get there, Bill had to help push the plane out of the hanger, and turn it around before boarding. Then Bill pointed out it was a prop cargo plane.

When Bill joined Mission Peak Fly Anglers in February 1984, he was newly retired and his garage was full of a narrow gauge model train layout. Like his beautiful fly plates, it was a sight to see. Bill soon dismantled the layout, sold his equipment and turned his attention to fishing. Growing up, his father had fished and had used a bamboo rod. Bill remembers his father completely rebuilding the rod after it became delaminated in the case. Years later, Bill rebuilt it again.

Bill developed a fondness for bamboo rods and for the next 30 years he collected and restored them to their original condition. He became a master at exactly matching the rod to the original specs of the maker. If he needed a ferrule, he made it. If he needed a reel seat, he made it to match the original. He matched the original thread and the exact number of wraps on the rod. The rod had to be original in every way. No new style reel seat, no new style guides, and the right color of thread. He used a simple wrapping stand and turned out amazing work.

He was most happy fishing a small stream (Clark's Fork was his favorite) with one of his bamboo rods, his personally designed indicator (made from a rubber "flip flop") and a nymph he tied himself. Over the years he came to know all the holding lies and could find and catch fish the rest of us would miss.

Bill was soft spoken, as he patiently and methodically taught and shared his knowledge from rod building to tying traditional fly patterns to framing fly plates. Bill taught others his craft to build their first fly rods in his garage that many fondly referred to as "The Museum". The Museum could easily have been the earliest form of a man cave. Bill had a knack of tying his flies without use of a bobbin- the old way in which he learned. If you were ever at any of the NCCFFF dinners, Striperfest, numerous fly club dinners in the area, and even at Mike Lawson's Henry's Fork Anglers fly shop in Island Park; Bill's fly plates could easily be spotted with his signature style. Mostly he would just ask for material costs as compensation for his work. Long before it became popular, Bill use to write fly tiers asking for their flies, which he framed for his own personal fly plate collection. Mission Peak Fly Anglers use to rotate their board meetings at board members' homes. It became a real temptation to completely disengage from the meetings at Bills house and just walk around the room admiring Bill's collection of flies, which included a signature card with each tier's set of flies. His collection even included hand tied flies from the Dettes, famed for the Catskill style flies. Bill highlighted the tier's work over his own as the "Fly Framer". This ran parallel to the way Bill carried on his life.

Bill was also the club treasurer longer than I have been a member. He carried a handwritten ledger for the club records. Resistant to change, board members would try to bring him into the twenty first century by getting him to switch to a computer for his bookkeeping. When those savvier tried to establish a budget for the year, Bill pointed out the holes in their budgets. Bill would then open his ledger and make suggestions based on his records. That was the last time anyone tried to get Bill to switch over to QuickBooks. The funniest part is when it was determined that the club's books needed to be audited by those with accounting backgrounds. After thorough scrutiny, everyone was satisfied when the audit reported Bill's records were off by a couple of pennies. Bill was so fiscally responsible with the club's funds, that I always referenced the Treasurer's report at both board and club meetings by asking Bill if he had bought the one way tickets for Bonnie and himself to Tahiti with the club funds.

A creature of habit, Bill always had his annual fish out to Clark's Fork, a week at Castle Crag State Park, as well as Manzanita Lake over the Father's Day weekend with his bride, Bonnie. Bill would fish and Bonnie was more than happy to read and enjoy the serenity of the area from the comfort of their trailer. One year, Bill hauled his trailer up to Castle Crag, unhitched the trailer and left Bonnie on her own while he attended the first Redding Conclave. It rained cats and dogs that weekend with lightning and wind. During dinner, I asked about Bonnie. Bill told me Bonnie would be just fine. Before Doug Fear got Bill up and running with a computer and connected to the Internet, one could expect a phone call from Bill reminding every member of the club breakfast. Once he figured out how do email, Bill was off to the races. Resistant to change, Bill feared that the Internet would take up all of his available time. To say that Bill was computer savvy would be a stretch, as many calls to Doug and Dean regarding computer questions bear that out. He had two personal IT guys who could walk him through anything, given enough time and patience.

Bill had a large music collection on cassette tapes. He wanted to get them onto CD's so that he could play them on his newer machines. After Doug set him up with the computer, Dean Lewis introduced him to the process of converting the cassettes to mp3s and .wav files. It took many months and numerous phone calls and visits with him, but ultimately he became very proficient with a structured process, and converted all of them plus a large record collection. Bill's only regret was he could not get every song from a cassette onto a CD, so the CD would exactly like his cassette.

After this project, Dean introduced Bill to eBay. Now here was a whole new world. You could find bamboo rods and other fishing equipment. There were tools, collectables and all sorts of stuff right there on the screen. If you knew Bill's eBay id, "Fly Framer", you could even track Bill's eBay purchases. His last bamboo rod (a Heddon to restore) was purchased in mid November as his Christmas present. His last eBay purchase, on January 1, was a collectable glass paperweight for Bonnie's collection.

Bill and Bonnie would have celebrated their 60-year wedding anniversary on February 6. Bill is survived by Bonnie and their son, Michael. Bill left a lasting impression on all whom he met, whether it was intended or not, whether positioned at the front desk next to the club president at meetings, in his garage, or on the water.

Craig Gittings and Dean Lewis

January 2014 Club Meeting

PLACE: Silliman Community Activity Center
6800 Mowry Avenue, Newark CA 94560
510- 742-4400

DATE: **Wednesday, January 22nd** (Note day and date)

TIME: 6:30 pm

PROGRAM : Fishing in Southern Colorado, Conejos and Platoro rivers

***** UPCOMING EVENT **** *Annual Installation Dinner* on [January 25th 2014](#)

Upcoming Events

Thurs. Jan. 16 Veterans First Fly Fishing- San Jose Respite Clinic, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Fri. Jan. 17 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Jan. 22 **Club Meeting** - 6:30 PM, Silliman Community Activity Center

Sat. Jan. 25 **Annual Installation Dinner** - Dino's Restaurant, 3600 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley

Fri. Jan. 31 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 5 **BOARD MEETING** 7:00 PM Fremont Activity Center, 3375 Country Dr., Fremont

Wed. Feb. 5 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Livermore, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 5 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Palo Alto, 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Sat. Feb. 8 **Club Breakfast:** At the Denny's in Hayward on Whipple - 9:00 AM

Fri. Feb. 14 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Fri. Feb. 14 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Oakland, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 19 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Livermore, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 19 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Palo Alto, 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 19 **Fly Tying Night** 7:00 PM, Fremont Activity Center, 3375 Country Dr., Fremont

Thurs. Feb. 20 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, San Jose, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wed. Feb. 26 **Club Meeting-** 6:30 PM, Silliman Community Activity Center

Fri. Feb. 28 Veterans First Fly Fishing - VA Hospital, Menlo Park, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Mainstream is the monthly newsletter of the Mission Peak Fly Anglers',
P.O. Box. 7263, Fremont, California. 94537

2014 OFFICERS

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| President | Dean Lewis | Board Member | Ron Smith | 1/2015 |
| Vice President | Bruce Butler | Board Member | Jan Van Zandt | 1/2015 |
| Secretary | Craig Gittings | Board Member | Don Jower | 1/2016 |
| Treasurer | Stephen Culp | Board Member | Jerry Reynolds | 1/2016 |
| Past President Wayne Culp | | | | |
| Chairpersons | | | | |
| Annual Dinner | Open | Conservation | Steve Schramm | |
| Distribution | Ray Gauthier | Editor | Ray Gauthier | |
| FFF Rep. | Gene Kaczmarek | Fish-Outs | Jeff Lorelli | |
| Fly Casting | Open | Fly Tying | Mitch Matsumoto | |
| | Open | Boy Scouts | Jeff Lorelli | |
| Fund Raising | Stephen Culp | Graphic Design | Ed Huff | |
| Video/Archivist | Ray Gauthier | Hospitality | Kay Heyes | |
| Library | Dave Heyes | Picnic | Open | |
| Programs | Ron Smith | Raffle Chairman | Dave Heyes | |
| Video Library | Santiago Jimenez | Trout Bum Award | Craig Gittings | |
| Web Master | Ray Gauthier | Fukumoto Award | Mitch Matsumoto | |
| Trout in the classroom | Ed Huff | Fly Fishing Volunteers | Ken Brunskill | |

MPFA Web Site <http://www.missionpeakflyanglers.org/index.shtml>

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E-mail address list

The club is compiling an e-mail address list for the use of club members. If you want your address included or wish to have a copy of the list, send an e-mail to Craig Gittings.

Notice

Members

The Newsletter will be coming out on the 15th of each month. Send your articles or information to the editor by the 12th of each month.

President's Message

These past few days have been one of those times, which we have thrust upon us, with not advance notice. None of us thought that Bill Peakes was in anyway going to pass away anytime soon. Yet, the night of January 2, he died in his sleep.

Right up until his last day he appeared healthy. He had a daily routine of working out with those large rubber bands/ropes. He was busily working on rebuilding a rod. He had finalized all the club accounts and monies and was looking forward to the Installation Dinner.

As of the 12th, his wife Bonnie (almost 60 years) was doing as well as can be expected. Some of us have visited with her, done some chores for her and assisted her in some of the stuff she needs to take care of. She has sight problems and mobility problems. She can't drive, so others will have to take her on appointments. Her son should be able to help with the grocery shopping and things like that, but he lives in the south bay and had his own health problems and maintaining a living. One of Bill's last acts was to bid and win (on January 1) a beautiful glass paper weight for Bonnie. He had also taken her to dinner that evening.

I would like to see a cadre of us put on a list, for Bonnie to call if she needs help. I don't mind being at the top of the list, but I know that others of you have deep feelings for Bill and would be willing to assist her if one of others of us can't fill the specific need as it comes up. I would like to create a list at our next meeting of those that would be willing to help.

There will be no services, Bill was cremated and his ashes spread out to sea. I think he would have preferred Clark's Fork, but this would have been difficult to pull off.

If you haven't done it already, please visit Dan Blanton's Board and read the beautiful memorial written by Craig Gittings.

Here's the link: www.danblanton.com/blog/bill-peak-fly-tier-and-fly-plate-craftsman-passes

Dean

Annual Trout Bum Award

Starts Jan 1, 2014

Awarded by MPFA Board of Directors at December board meeting

Requirements:

Candidate must have fished 10 or more waters during the calendar year (no private pay to play waters). Waters may be tributaries of any river or lakes with the use of a fly only, and report to the club documented with photos during a regular meeting.

Chairperson: Craig Gittings

Veterans First Fly FishingAttention Mission Peak Members Veterans First Fly Fishing

Who would like to join us and be part of helping our veterans through this worthwhile program?

What you might ask is involved? It can be as little as a group of us going out to Livermore and and/or Menlo Park once a month to teach fly casting and fly tying to our wounded veterans. It could go as far as accompanying a group of veterans on a fishing trip to be their 'gillie' and personal assistant on that trip.

I have made the initial contact at Livermore VA Nursing unit and there seems to be an interest, but I cannot do it alone.

I'd bet we can get funding help from the FFF, NCCFFF, the Elks Lodge, Kiwanis, VFW, and other service organizations, all we need to do is give a little of our own time to those who have given so much for us. If interested please contact me, Thanks.

Ken Brunskill

BUDDING FLY FISHING WRITERS

Here is your chance to gain some experience writing about your fabulous fly fishing trips to places near and far. The club newsletter is seriously lacking in members written and photographic accounts of our fishouts. Of course you may not think a trip to Putah Creek is worthy of such notoriety, but remember, many members have never been there and would welcome a description of how your fishout went. And, as for a trip to Alaska or Baja, a story of your adventure would be most appreciated. Send articles to the editor.

NOTE FROM TREASURER, STEPHEN CULP – Mission Peak Fly Angler’s patches and pins are available from Steve at a nominal price. New members should have received either a pin or a patch when they joined; if not, call Steve Culp.

***** Notice *****

this is my last fundraiser - somebody needs to step up and I suggest while I am here to show you in detail. I took over before I had been in the club even 1 yr - not hard - time consuming mid oct to middle of feb - here's your chance !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Stephen Culp

Want a high end fishing product at a discount?? some donations require prepay so call to see if this may work for you steve our January banquet

I will need help setting up as well as when silent auction ends to consolidate the winning bids so we can all go home. Also, don't forget this is my last fundraising I'll be doing so somebody needs to step up and take over. The offer for discounted high end rod/reel/ etc possibilities still exist if anybody is interested.

Stephen Culp

Mission Peak Fly Anglers Board Meeting of January 8, 2014

January's board meeting was held at Dean Lewis's home, where Dean brought the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. In attendance besides Dean were; Ed Huff, Bruce Butler, Wayne Culp, Jan Van Zandt, Stephen Culp, Don Jower, and Craig Gittings.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes: Ed Huff motioned and Bruce Butler seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2013 meeting. It passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report: Dean Lewis, as acting Treasurer, reported that the club's finances were good.

Bill Peakes and fallout: Bonnie had put everything together and turned over Bill's records, checkbook, etc to Dean. Dean reported that Bonnie had Bill cremated and that there would be no service. An email was sent out to that effect. There was discussion on who would replace Bill as treasurer and how to go about finding a replacement. Stephen Culp volunteered, then was drafted to take over as Treasurer. Ed motioned and Bruce seconded, board members approved. Thanks, Stephen.

Club Dinner: Dean told the board that Bonnie Peakes would be reimbursed for Bill's 2014 membership and dinner tickets.

Raffle Items: Stephen went over donations for the dinner. He also needs help setting up at the installation dinner. Stephen asked for extra funds for dinner over the budgeted amount for possible guide trips. Craig motioned, Jan seconded. Motion passed

Board Member Items:

Craig brought up the Kelsey Fish out. Date is set for May 15-16. This is a joint outing with the Oakland Casting Club.

Dean asked for a motion for adjournment at 8:16 PM.

Craig Gittings, Club Secretary

Conservation News by Steve Schramm

One could argue that to date, Bill Peakes is the greatest conservationist in the history of the Mission Peak Fly Club. In the few days since his passing I have heard the word “museum” used to describe Bill’s garage workshop more than a few times.

The Oxford dictionary defines “museum” as ‘a building in which objects of historical, scientific, artistic, or cultural interest are stored and exhibited’. That pretty much describes Bill’s garage. Furthermore, Oxford defines “conserve” as to ‘protect (something, especially an environmentally or culturally important place or thing) from harm or destruction’. That describes Bill’s purpose. The purpose of a museum varies by institution, some favor education and some conservation. Bill’s favored both.

It has been many years since I first stepped into Bill’s temple to the bamboo fly rod and the framed fly. But as I recall, and many of you will have shared this experience, I had been in the club a little less than a year when I was summarily elected a board member and subsequently attended a board meeting at Bill’s house. I can still remember the awe at seeing Bill’s stock. That was over twenty years ago when there was still a little room for a few more fly plates on the wall and a few more fly rods in the cabinets.

Bill “conserved” a lot of fly fishing culture. His many fly plates containing flies from numerous famous tyers are legendary, and I know that I personally broke the Tenth Commandment, “Thou shalt not covet” on just about every occasion that I gazed upon them. His penchant for the bamboo fly rod and his ability for restoring and repairing them were equally legendary. I don’t recall how many bamboo rods he told me that he had the last time I visited, but unlike his very general club treasurer’s reports, it was an exact number. Besides flies and rods Bill’s collection contained many other fly fishing sundries as well as some vintage conventional tackle preserved from a bygone era for future generations.

Given my over 20 years in the club, I did not spend a lot of time with Bill, but I did spend quality time with him. Back in the day, before the internet, Bill would regularly call to invite me as well as every other club member to the club breakfast. In that time I must have talked to Bill close to forty hours on the telephone. There would be a pregnant pause on the line after we got past the breakfast invite when I thought that the call and conversation had ended, and then Bill would launch into some new topic and chat for another 15 minutes to an hour. I don’t know how he ever made it through the entire membership list each month. I enjoyed that time on the phone with Bill, and when a few days back Dean Lewis sent out a copy of Bill’s subsequent email invite that superseded his phone calls, I choked up hearing Bill’s voice in my mind and knowing that in all that time I attended exactly one club breakfast. Still Bill called or emailed every month.

I also took a ride down to San Jose once with Bill to the place where he used to source bamboo rods for restoration. I don’t recall exactly where the place was, but there were literally hundreds of bamboo rods in some guy’s garage and Bill carefully evaluated each one noting such details as the agate guides and cane wrapped handles to me. Bill was in his element there and his quiet enthusiasm was palpable.

After Rose and I moved to Monterey my conversations with Bill on the phone often turned to the nook and cranny streams in the areas of Big Sur, Carmel and Los Padres and for that matter much of remote California. More often than not Bill had been to and fished most of these out of the way places usually with his father in the 1940s and fifties. His was a perspective on these fisheries a few generations before my own, and with which I could compare then versus now.

(Conservation News continued on page 15)

Fly tied by Bill Peakes



Rubber Leg, Bead Head Woolly Bugger

| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Hook: | Sizes 8 to 16 (10 to 14 is preferred) |
| Head: | Gold Bead |
| Thread: | 6/0 black |
| Tail: | Chartreuse Marabou |
| Rib: | Black Wire |
| Body: | Ostrich Herl |
| Hackle: | Green Feather |
| Legs: | Brown rubber legs |

In October 2009, Bill tied the Rubber Leg, Bead Head Woolly Bugger. All of his flies were tied in the manner used by tiers when he learned which was without the use of bobbins. If you play the video, you will see that, after each tying steps, he secures the thread with half hitches, like they did in the past. Bill never converted to the use of bobbins, and steadfastly remained true to the way he learned from the past masters of this craft.

[Rubber Leg, Bead Head Woolly Bugger Fly Video](#)

Monthly Programs

| Dated | Speaker | Program Title |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| Jan. 22nd | Bruce Berman | Fishing in Southern Colorado, Conejos and Platoro rivers |
| Feb. 26th | Anthony Carruesco | Fishing the Lower Sacramento River |
| March 26th | Ken Hanley | topic still open |
| April 24th | Mark Paparian | Lost Coast Rivers |
| May 28th | Jay Clark | Independence Lake in Sierra County |
| | | |
| | | |

January Program

Bruce Burman will present the Southern Colorado area around Conjos river and the Platoro reservoir. This area is said to produce in the thirty to forty fish a day if you work hard. It will give us an idea of a different location to fish. Fishing is from the fall out of the car and throw a line in to walking a few miles and killing them. Bruce's old home ground is this area and he should have some good insight into the fishing techniques required to make this a exciting trip for future reference.

by Ron Smith

THE JOHN FUKUMOTO FLY TYING AWARD

The criteria:

- Only current members of Mission Peak Fly Anglers are eligible.
- The fly must be presented and tied at a monthly fly tying session.
- Special consideration will be given to original patterns and unique variations of a standard pattern.
- The award cannot be won by an individual in consecutive years.
- Selection of each year’s winner will be made by the current Fly Tying Chairman and two club members of his choosing.

Outstanding Video

| Title | | Out Since | Borrower |
|--------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| 4 | Nymphing | 11/20/13 | BM Mattson |
| 5 | Fabulous Bighorn | 11/20/13 | Don Jower |
| 3 | Skagit Master | 12/18/13 | Mitch Matusmoto |
| 17 | Skagit Master- Steel heading out side of the box | 12/18/13 | Mitch Matusmoto |
| 18 | Fly Fishing for Bass | 12/18/13 | Ken Barker |
| 54 | Articulated Streamers | 12/18/13 | Mitch Matusmoto |
| 71 | Trout Tactics for Panfish | 12/18/13 | Ken Barker |
| | | | |
| | | | |

****** Video Library******

MPFA Maintains a 200+ library for the benefit of its members and we need the help of every member to keep it available to the entire membership.

We ask that you check out a video (Honor System) and return it within 2-3 months. After the 2nd month, the librarian will send the borrower an e-mail or note reminding them that there is a video(s) checked out in their name.

After the 3rd month, the librarian and/or the secretary will send a note asking for the video or \$40 to cover the purchase of it's replacement. Thanks.

Your Video Librarian,
Santiago Jimenez

(Conservation News continued from page 10)

Besides club meetings I saw Bill at the various fly fishing shows where we always took time to catch up with one another. Like our phone chats it could be for 15 minutes, or an hour or more.

But the real show was in Bill's garage. I had the great pleasure and fortune to frame flies with Bill that he had personally tied for me. They are classic Atlantic Salmon flies that Bill prepared with his "look Mom, no bobbin" fly tying style to complement a set of Canadian fly fishing stamps and first day cover envelopes (April 16, 1998) that I had purchased. I had extra stamp sets and covers and I shared them with Bill. He got some postage and envelopes and I got the lesson of a lifetime from a master craftsman.

Before a single thread wrap was lashed to a hook Bill had researched for days the original materials for the lesser known patterns with the aid of Gene Kaczmarek. It was then I learned that for Bill there was an aesthetic to the process and that careful steps must be followed and that they in turn led to the final outcome. For each step Bill had a specific tool taken from a specific drawer to complete a specific task. The result was perfection as if one happened into it, but it was no accident, it was experience.

Those framed flies have hung by my bedside for over 13 years now and I see them each night before I turn out the lights. They are the Coquihalla Orange, the Steelhead Bee, the Dark Montreal, the Lady Amherst, the Coho Blue and the Cosseboom Special, literally tied by Bill's own hand, without a bobbin. They are indeed perfection and will remain under glass for subsequent generations.

I also spent some quality time with Bill more recently in 2010 when I approached him about building a 7 weight 11 foot European style nymphing rod for steelhead based on a switch rod blank. Sounds crazy doesn't it? Bill didn't question it. He just invited me over on several consecutive weekends and proceeded to lay out every bit of information that he had accumulated from his own rod building experience as we listened to his mixed tapes of Deano, Sinatra and 1960's jazz. Despite being my first rod building experience, with Bill's help, the fit and finish on the rod came out great, but it pales in comparison to the fun I had in putting it together with Bill. I wound up with much more than a rod.

After that rod was built Rose and I celebrated with Bonnie and Bill over dinner. I think Bill and Bonnie were returning from an antique tackle show (typical, right?) and we met them at a restaurant in San Rafael since the show was up in the North Bay and close to us. Bonnie was dressed up and Bill was sporting a jacket and his trademark bolo tie for special occasions. You have to have some *gravitas* to pull off a bolo. Anyway, we had a good dinner and much of the conversation revolved around the various menu selections and our favorite foods and recipes. As dinner wound down and we moved on to dessert, Bill surprised me once again with his expertise from his days as a chef for the fire department by ordering a dish that I had never heard of before, Zabaglione. Not only had Bill had it before, he had made it a time or two, sort of like those small streams in far off parts of California. In case like me you are not immediately familiar with what zabaglione is, it is a light custard made of egg yolks, sugar and Marsala wine that is whipped to contain a lot of air so that it feels like you are eating a sweet froth of foam. Who knew? Bill did. Since then Rosie has made zabaglione a few times and each time that I have eaten it, I have thought of Bill. I think I always will.

Bill has been the club treasurer for as long as I can remember and I guess I got so used to it that I just took for granted that he would always be there. And so I was surprised and sad to hear that he's no longer with us. I take comfort in knowing that a piece of Bill lives on in all the beautiful things that he meticulously created and in the time that he spent with his family and our fly fishing club.

I think Tom Knoth put it aptly when he wrote in tribute to Bill's memory on Dan Blanton's forum, "Bill exemplified a quality that many of us in fly fishing fortunately have; a willingness to share his knowledge." I would only add that Bill, *more than most*, exemplified that willingness to share his knowledge, and in doing so passed his greatest gifts on to us. Peace Bill and God Bless Bonnie.

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone

W. H. Auden

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

I would like to thank those fish angels that wrote letters on behalf of groundwater pumping in the Klamath, Artesa's plan to log redwood forest to plant grapes in the Gualala watershed and to support Trout Unlimited's Sportsman's Bill of Rights. You know who you are, many thanks.

There has been the usual flood of conservation topics that have come to my attention in the last month. I think the most depressing items have to do with the near daily evidence that hatchery fish are having many negative impacts on the fisheries they are meant to protect, and meanwhile those agencies tasked with protecting and expanding our fisheries are merely supervising their decay. The Delta Tunnels are still there threatening to suck the life out of the Delta and the State budget, and the drought continues.

An in-river look at what has become of the Yukon kings - Alaska Journal of Commerce - Supervised decay -<http://www.alaskajournal.com/Alaska-Journal-of-Commerce/November-Issue-4-2013/An-in-river-look-at-what-has-become-of-the-Yukon-kings/>

Hybrids of genetically-modified and wild fish outgrow their parents – Conservation – Sounds good until you consider the consequences - http://conservationmagazine.org/2013/05/a-breed-apart/?utm_source=feedly

MPFA FLY 2014 TYING CLASS



Mission Peak Fly Anglers will be conducting a **BEGINNER FLY TYING CLASSES**. Classes will be two (2) hours in length from 7:00pm to 9:00pm on the following days;

February 11–18-25 and continuing on March 11-18-25

All classes will be held at the
Fremont Activity Center 3375 Country Dr. Fremont

The fee will be \$30 for club members and \$70 for non-club members. Please pay Bill Peakes: Checks to be made out to MPFA

You will learn to tie the following flies

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wooly Worm, | Gold Ribbed Hare's ear (nymph) |
| Elk Hair Caddis (dry fly) | Bead Head Prince Nymph |
| Adams (dry fly) | Pheasant Tail Nymph |

Mission Peak Fly Anglers will supply all the tying materials needed for each class.

Your instructors will provide you with a personal packet for each fly you will be tying. This packet will include detailed instructions (and pictures) on how to tie each fly so you can continue to practice at home.

MPFA will supply following tools for you to use:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Fly tying Vise | Scissors |
| Bobbin | Hackle Pliers |
| Thread (Pre-waxed Black 6/0) | Hair stacker |

No need to buy any tools until after the class

**Those interested in taking the beginner tying class contact
Gene Kaczmarek**

| | |
|---|---|
| Dino's Restaurant 3600 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, CA | Saturday, January 25, 2014 5:00 – 6:00pm No Host Bar plus Check Raffle Items 6:00pm Dinner |
|---|---|

Choice of: New York Steak w/ baked potato,
Teriyaki Chicken w/ Rice Pilaf or
Broiled Salmon w/Lemon butter sauce and Rice Pilaf.
 All entrees served with Mixed Greens Salad, Vegetables and Dinner Rolls.
Tea or Coffee and dessert.
\$35.00 per person

Annual Mission Peak Fly Anglers Awards & Officers Installation Dinner

Make your reservation today. Reserve before December 31st and get one ticket in the early bird drawing. If you pay your dues at the same time, you will get another early bird ticket.

Member Name: _____

Dinner Selection: New York Steak: _____ **Teriyaki Chicken:** _____ **Salmon:** _____
Number of Dinners selected x \$35.00 = \$ _____

Mail Checks to:
Make All Checks Payable to: **Mission Peak Fly Anglers**

MPFA 2013 Dues:

Member Name: _____ **Wife's name:** _____

Address:

Preferred Phone # _____ **Cell:** _____

E-Mail _____

FFF Member Number:

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ **\$40.00 per member/family or**
\$35.00 if current member of FFF or
\$20.00 if under 18 or living more than 100 miles radius
from Fremont

**THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL
FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE 2014 HALL OF FAME
DINNER AND AWARDS**

2014 Hall Inductees: Don Chesarek and Hugh Miller

Location: Fremont Elks Lodge 38991
Farwell Dr.
Fremont, CA 945536

Date & Time: Saturday February 22, 2014
4:00 PM No Host Bar & Auction Preview
6:00 PM Buffett Dinner

Tickets: @ \$ 50 per plate

Table: @ \$ 450 for a table of ten

Menu: Appetizers, Salad, Pasta & Roasted Potatoes, Vegetable, Prime Rib
Coffee or Tea, and Dessert

Send reservation to : NCCFFF/HOF
3340 Daisy Ct.
Hayward, CA 94542

To purchase your tickets by PayPal online go to www.nccfff.org

Check the NCCFFF web site for application information and for more information on the event and the recipients.

Bill Peakes attending Fly Tying Nights



Bill Peakes was a big supporter of Fly Tying Nights. He demonstrated some of his flies, and he seldom missed the Fly Tying Night. He would come in carrying his portable supply case (pictured above) that he made himself for everything that he would need to tie along. His favorite spot in the room was the left rear corner of the table where he would set up for the night's activities.

Members,

Bonnie Peakes is pretty much confined to the house these days, as she can not drive and has difficulty walking. Recently she was having trouble with her cable TV. The Comcast box was acting up.

I happened to visit and got the box reset via a phone call to Comcast. Of course, the phone tree to get this done was not that easy to navigate. A day after I left, the box went out. I think Bonnie used the same number I called and they finally sent out a technician that “replaced” the defective box.

Bonnie has eye problems and is watching a small screen, older style TV. I would like for us to take up a collection to buy her a 24 to 32” LED set. The prices are very good on these now. If you would like to contribute, please bring a donation to the next meeting.

Thank you for considering this request.

Dean



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