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We are in the sixteenth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on the great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We’ve been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., NO EXTRA COST.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS SHELTERING IN A REALLY COOL PLACE.....WITH BIG FISH!



In Northeast California, about a four drive from the Bay Area, is a private wilderness getaway with big and feisty rainbows, spectacular hatches, great lodging, mountain scenery setting, and a slice of true nature. Jim Hine had been there before, and he returned for four nights this May with Karen (his "handler"), Karen's two daughters, Emma (14) and Zoe (18), and their two friends, Jacquelyn (15) and Piper (18).

Jim’s comments on their experience: “We were all stir crazy from sheltering in place in Marin and San Francisco. We were fortunate to hit the heart of the Hex hatch on these scenic lakes. Several years ago, the owner discovered Hexagenia’s in one of his five lakes, probably migrants from Lake Almador or the Fall River. Knowing he had a good thing going, he

transplanted “Hex Mud” into his other lakes, creating an astounding annual event from mid May to Mid June.

(Photos below: Karen casts from float tube, fish on, and a nice rainbow; On right, Hex dun and, left, it’s imitation.



With the lodge to ourselves because of COVID and social distancing, we enjoyed lovely dinners each evening, biding our time until the main event, which started around 7:30, when the huge Hex mayflies started popping. From both float tubes and the shore, the dry fly action on big duns and emergers was non-stop until well into the night. Emma and Jacquelyn both caught their first fish on flies. Karen, who is quickly becoming a seasoned fly fisher, was tight-lined almost continuously. In addition to the Hex’s, we also hit an incredible three hours of a

massive Callibaetis hatch. Many of the rainbows were very large. Zoe was our photographer and caught the action on her camera, and Piper capped the night setting up lakeshore campfires and 'smores.

(Photos below: Emma releases first fish caught fly casting from shore (she began by trolling); Emma rows while Jacquelyn has rod ready; group at dinner table; Jim in float tube with fish on.)



We spent the warm days paddle-boarding on the lakes, swimming in the pool and the lakes, birding (Karen spotted 8 species she had not seen before), and hiking. We saw at least two bears, multiple times, and then I made a rookie mistake of leaving my tubes and net at one of the lakes overnight. Bears love to chew up nets with fish slime on them. It was a long faced group when we had to leave to return to COVID self-imprisonment in the Bay Area. But this will definitely be an annual event.”

(Photos below: big rainbow; Piper roasts 'smore and was in charge of nightly campfire; photographer Zoe trying to cool marshmellow; one of the living areas in the Main Lodge.)



RE. “COOL PLACE” ABOVE – ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL OPTIONS PLUS THEIR SEASON

- A two part season: September 22 through the day after Thanksgiving and February 15 through June 15.
- Meal options: you can either do your own food preparation or two chefs are available to cook for you.
- Minimum two-night stay is required.



- There is a main lodge (above) and a guest cabin
 - Main Lodge: 8 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 large living rooms, 4 fireplaces, kitchen, big screen TV with huge deck overlooking a spring creek. Swimming pool and spa.
 - Guest cabin: kitchen, 6 queen beds, full laundry facilities, wide screen TV, 2 full baths, gas BBQ
- There is the possibility for a family or group to privately occupy either lodging, or have both lodgings.
- For more booking details, either e-mail us flyfish@napanet.net or give a call – 888-347-4896.

COMBO TRIP – PART TWO: ARGENTINA



This is a combination trip with extreme changes in the environment – beginning with the hot and humid rain forest of the Amazon and ending near the base of the Andes in Argentina. At Fly Fishing Adventures, we define a “Combo Trip” as a trip that combines two different environments in the same general part of the world. We have crowned Dana and John Landis as the Queen and King of the combo trip as they do at least one each year. From the Seychelles/Africa to New Zealand/Borneo, they have traveled the globe with their fly rods and cameras. The early 2020 edition of their combo trip was to South America. It included:

- a week at the Amazon's “fly fishing only” lodge with friends Annette and Rob Pizzie
- touring Buenos Aires for a few days
- a stay at one of Argentina's world class fly fishing lodges
- a four day stop in Bariloche at a fine resort hotel.

Note: the Amazon portion of their trip was covered in our May newsletter – this is the link to that report: [FLY FISHING ADVENTURES NEWSLETTER - MAY 2021](#)

Following their week in the Amazon and a few days of touring in Buenos Aires, the next stop for the Landis’ was a world class fly fishing lodge located on a working estancia. Memories from Dana: “This lodge was so very special. The lodge was like a home, very simple, but warm and cozy. Beautiful outdoor settings all around the house. The addition of having an option to get a massage and the use of hot tub, dry sauna and yoga room was a treat. The staff made everything feel like it was effortless to take care of any need we had.”

Photos below – l to r: Dana with a pretty little rainbow; not all the big ones make it to the net; the lodge; Dana greets one of the horses she was unable to ride, due to injury, on this trip.



John on the fishing: “Dana and I loved our experience here and plan to make it a biannual event in combination with our favorite Patagonia lodge in Chile. Fishing was like the western US with 10-20 fish days with the majority of brown or rainbow trout in the 12-14 in size with the largest caught by Dana at 22 inches. We did not horseback ride while there (Dana was recovering from injury), but will do that when we return.”

Photos below – l to r: using a drift boat; outdoor lodge lunch; John with nice rainbow; Rosette Spoonbills.



Next, Dana's report on Bariloche: "Staying at one of Argentina's finest resort hotels was an amazing experience due to the sheer natural beauty (Andes Mountains) that was viewed from our room. The way the hotel was set up everywhere you looked was a beautiful scene. Our time with our tour guide, Gabby, was great as she took us to scenic viewpoints that were stunning and gave us the background of Bariloche, as well as life in Argentina for locals. She was a treat to have as a guide. Would use her again for sure. Our dinners were quaint and special as we dined at small restaurants with limited seating."

Photos below, l to r: John and Dana from their room; dining in-room; Dana and Gabby; chairlift to an Andes peak.



John recaps: "The Bariloche guide was an 'outdoor' girl and she was fantastic. Highly recommended. We went to many small restaurants in Bariloche, among the best we have dined in the world. We loved Bariloche and will always make that a stop when we are in Argentina."

A POSITIVE COVID 19 REPORT – BELIZE AND REOPENING

As of May 24: Belize has been COVID free for over 30 days and is the first country in the Americas to report no active COVID cases. Belize has had only 18 confirmed cases since the beginning of the outbreak.

We have over 35 years of experience in observing and dealing with the government of Belize, generally finding their governing unsatisfactory. Given that experience, we were shocked at Belize's efficient approach and prompt reaction to the COVID 19 outbreak – they immediately closed their borders, imposed a strict quarantine, and established very tight policies for public conduct between people. The results, in limiting the impact of COVID 19, have been amazing, especially in comparing to other Central and South American countries.



We are now taking bookings, beginning in July, for all the lodges in Belize as well as Captain Dean's Rising Tide liveaboard (at right).

UPDATE ON OPEN WEEKS ON THE RISING TIDE:

- July – 18 to 25
- August – 5 to 12
- Sept – two open weeks
- Winter months – lots of flexibility

2021 – each month has at least one open week – we're in the process of finalizing the first six months of our 2021 calendar. Website for Rising Tide Belize Adventure: www.flyfishbelize.com

ALASKA NOW OPEN – INTERESTING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Due to Covid 19, Alaska has had a 14-day quarantine rule for out of state visitors. That quarantine rule was lifted on June 5th. In its place, you now have the option of being tested for Covid 19 within 72 hours of boarding your flight to Alaska. Upon arrival, you'll need to fill out a form and provide proof of a negative result.

In normal times, all the top lodges in Alaska would be booked solid for the summer. However, that is not true for this year.....many of the best options are available, upon short notice, for this summer. If you'd like to investigate, let us know.

WHAT WE DO AT FLY FISHING ADVENTURES

This is a link to a description of who we are and what we do – at no cost to you.....also, it lists all the destinations around the world that we have covered. Our reliable information will help you properly prepare for your trip and create realistic expectations.....[Fly Fishing Adventures - About What We Do](#)

JUNE MEMORY PHOTO



Guides and outfitters in many places, like New Zealand and Australia, are having a difficult time because, as of now, international travelers are not being allowed into their country. Guide Brett Wolf, in the tiny town of Exmouth on the Ningaloo Reef in the NW corner of Australia, has let me know that the large Giant Trevally fishing inside the reef has been outstanding, but only locals (like Murray Pattison holding the large GT) have been able to experience it.

This photo makes me very jealous. I have hooked five large GT's (50 to 70+ pounds) at the Ningaloo and lost them all to coral heads. The largest I've been able to boat so far has been only 32#. While I do spend most of my time when fishing here stalking permit, I always allow for some opportunities to cast to these angry monsters – one of fly fishing's greatest thrills is watching one of these guys, 40 feet away, charge your fly in shallow water!

PHOTO CREDITS: Sheltering in Cool Place – Zoe Hamblett; Argentina – Dana and John Landis.

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,
Don Muelrath
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www.flyfishingadventures.org – 888-347-4896