

# Lake Del Valle Fishing Trip

By Rocky Ferraro

We are fortunate to have such a diverse trophy fisher as Lake Del Valle just about an hour from the peninsula. I haven't fished this lake in about twenty years and there have been many changes to the entire area since then. First of all on the trip up in Darold's truck I noticed a lot of Wild Turkey's in fields along the way. I had never noticed these even fifteen years ago. As we drove the Livermore hills I also noticed many vineyards that were not present the last time I was there.

We arrived at approximately 7AM after a brief stop for gas, coffee and inflating my float tube with air. Darold had also brought along a kayak in case someone wanted to use it. Bill, Dan Darold and I all piled in Darold's boat while John was at the Wheel of Darold's truck and he started to back up down the boat ramp. We quickly tested the sea worthiness of Darold's boat since Bill, Dan and I were all on the left side of the boat and as the boat launched it listed to port! That's at least 900lbs on one side!! We quickly moved to center so as to adjust the weight distribution. Darold maneuvered his boat back to the launch dock and we picked up John.

The lake was smooth as glass this morning and soon Darold was dropping me and my fishing gear off at a nice cove on the way to the dam.



As I fished along the east side of the lake I couldn't help noticing what a magnificent view I had of the canyon I had. I fished the points and banks using a fly I tied that is a minnow imitation called a Clouser minnow named after the famed Bob Clouser and added another fly I tied called a wooly bugger, which is a nymph imitation. At one of the points I was able to catch a small mouth bass on the wooly bugger, which I released to catch another day.



Shortly there after John caught a nice sized rainbow trout in the same area that won our fishing competition for the day, on a spinner lure. Darold, Bill, and Dan had a lot of fun driving the boat, fishing and Dan cheering us on. By noon the wind near the dam had picked up and I was glad to have Darold pick me up from the windy end of the lake and bring me back in.



Back at the dock we met up with Keith and his son Ryan. Ryan had caught another nice trout and took second place in our little competition. They were fishing in Keith's boat and had arrived earlier that morning.

We all met up at about noon and started the BBQ. On the menu were BBQ hamburgers, potato salad, BBQ corn beer and wine. We ate and drank with a gorgeous view of the hills and lake in the back ground.



After lunch we had some more refreshments and enjoyed an awards ceremony.



Pictured above from left to right Bill, Ryan, John and Rocky.  
From talking to Darold, Keith and Ryan Lake Del Valle fishes much better before the weather warms up in the spring for trout. Next year I will try this lake in the spring.

Good Fishing

Rocky