

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo by Gary Flanagan

Larry Lee with a 27-inch Sacramento Pike Fish caught on the Fall river earlier this year. Larry landed this fish after a 20-minute battle on a five-weight LL Rod with 5x tippet.

October 2005



Visit our website: <http://www.gbflycasters.org>

# OCTOBER 2005

SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

2.	3.	4. Conservation Committee Meeting	5.	6.	7.	8. Salmon Festival	1. American River Isolation Pools Project
9.	10.	11.	12.	13. Shooting Head Clinic at Clubhouse 5:00 P.M. Gen'ri Mtg. 7:00 P.M.	14. Henderson Springs Ranch Fishout	15.	
16.	17.	18. Fly Tying Jam Rod Building	19.	20. Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. Upper Sac Fishout	21.	22.	
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29. Pontoon Orientation Clinic	
30.	31.						



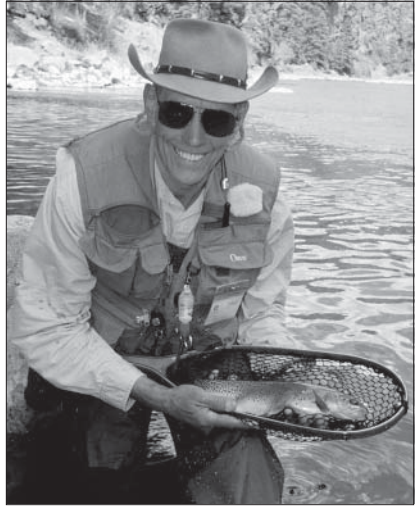
# President's Message

I awoke today to a crisp, cool morning. The temperature was 49 degrees, only a week ago it was 62 at the same time. We surely have had a rash of sharp temperature swings this year, nothing gradual. The weather change makes one realize how fast this year has gone by. October is almost here and with it comes the 8<sup>th</sup> annual American River Salmon Festival. This year's festival is being held on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> (Saturday and Sunday) from 10 am to 4 pm both days.

For those who have never attended, it is combination educational experience, fun event with great food and a fund raiser. Funds generated by the Salmon Festival go towards helping to protect Salmon and the American River. There is no admission charge, just a \$7 parking fee that also provides you with a shuttle bus from the remote parking lots. Besides the educational aspect there are games and booths geared towards youngsters and bands playing throughout both days. In addition to the Wild Salmon BBQ plate being served (\$9 for adults and \$6 for children) this year they are also having Celebrity Chef Salmon Cook-offs. Four prominent Sacramento area chefs will flaunt their culinary talent in two Iron Chef style competitions. Want more information? Check out their website [www.salmonfestival.net](http://www.salmonfestival.net).

Granite Bay Flycasters has been a participant since the Salmon Festival's inception. We have a large fly tying area under a shade tent set up on the shore of Lake Natoma where GBF members assist young-

## Art Hawkins



sters in tying a wooly bugger. This provides many children and parents with their first introduction to fly fishing. Each year around 600 children tie a wooly bugger at the GBF tent.

Last year we added a Club information booth and hands-on casting for the adults. This provided visitors an opportunity to learn about our Club and a chance to try casting for the first time. In a short one-on-one session a Club member explains the basic principals of casting, does a brief demonstration and then lets them give it a try. Ever since the movie "A River Runs Through It" people have become more interested in fly fishing but unless they have a friend to introduce them to the sport this may be their first opportunity to try casting and to learn more first hand.

Pete Peterson is this year's coor-

*see "President's Message" page 12*

## GBF Comes Through for GBL



Special thanks to Mike Brune, Nick Marmolejo, and Sturmer White who admirably represented our club at the Granite Bay Lions' annual Youth Fishing Derby last month. These guys gave up their Saturday morning to provide free fly-casting instruction for participants of this favorite local event

that serves about 200 kids and their families.

Helping to introduce our sport to local youths... strengthening bonds with our prestigious clubhouse-mates (like GBF, the Lions hold their monthly meetings at the Activities Center)... and spreading general goodwill for the sport we love – all in one event. What a concept! The only improvement would be to get more of the kids to try casting next year!

The accompanying photo shows Sturmer receiving a 'ticket' at the event. Turns out, Sturmer knew this Keystone Cop – but that didn't help him avoid getting busted for *Impersonating a Fly Caster!* (Quite the injustice, really, since Sturmer spent a lot of time at the event teaching Mike and Nick a number of really cool new casting techniques!)

## SALMON · STEELHEAD · TROUT



On our staff, Dave Sloan is the inventor of "Sloan's Paralyzer" and "The Mighty Mite" manufactured and distributed by Umpqua.

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## Upcoming Monthly Speakers

A significant part of the Granite Bay Flycasters' monthly meetings is devoted to the monthly speaker. One of the reasons I joined the Club was because of the great speakers that Ron English was getting to talk at the Club. Over the last couple of years, the Club has been very diligent at announcing who will be speaking each month in The Leader and on the website. This enables Club members to make arrangements to attend a meeting of particular interest.

Since some might not have been at last month's meeting, Art announced that Ron was taking a break from Program Director after several years of wonderful service and I would be attempting to back-fill his role. With the work that Ron had already performed, I hit the ground running and announced several speakers booked for the upcoming year. In an effort to keep everyone informed, let me provide the upcoming schedule as it stands now.

In another article in this month's Leader we announced that one of the foremost experts on stripped bass fishing will be giving this month's presentation. We are truly lucky to have Dan Blanton at a time when stripped bass fishing is in full swing. As you might know, Dan has received the *Federation of Fly Fisher's 1990 Arnold Gingrich Memorial Life Membership Award* and is a member of the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame.

Moving on to November's meeting, I'm excited to announce that Mike Mercer has agreed to speak to our club. Mike has been a fix-

ture at the Fly Shop in Redding for 24 years. Mike is also one of the West's leading fly designers. He is an Umpqua Feather Merchants contract tier and many of his fly designs are being used successfully around the world. Additionally, Mike has recently published a book, Creative Fly Tying, which details 12 of his most popular fly patterns that are standard in any well-equipped fly box. This is a must have for any serious fly tier.

For the first month of the New Year, we have Flat Iron Troutfitters. Several club members went to Wyoming to go on a horse back trip that focuses on trout fishing destinations. "Troutfitters" packs you in to various fly fishing hot spots that normally are inaccessible any other way. This presentation should be packed full of great information along with great scenic pictures.

Then in April we booked Ken Hanley. Ken produced the popular instructional DVDs and videos titled "Saltwater Salmon on the Fly" and "Coastal Fly Fishing with Ken Hanley & Friends". He's the author of six books and also writes and photographs for national and regional publications in the outdoor industry.

The speakers for the other months are coming together. I have a couple leads on a conservation topic or two. I'm in contact with other guides and authors to provide both local and regional fly fishing related information. In addition, I am talking to various club experts to have them give presentations on topics where they are the industry experts.

As a final parting note, I would like to request that if any of you

*Continued on page 19*

*Don't be shy, submit a fly*  
**Fly Tying Skills Program**

Sponsored by  
American Fly Fishing Company  
Beginner: \$15 gift certificate  
Non-beginner: \$25 gift certificate

Observe a fly tying master tie this fly at this month's general meeting and bring it to next month's meeting to be eligible for gift certificates donated by American Fly Fishing Company. Get input and critiques from experienced tiers. This will help you improve your skills and help increase your chances of catching fish.

Rules:

- Judging takes place during the general meeting.
- Winning flies are those that best match the specific pattern recipe published. No other pattern is accepted.
- Non-beginner category certificate winner will be drawn at random from among entries in that category.
- Beginners will be moved to non-beginner category after winning their category twice.

**Monthly Fly Tying  
Winners for September**

**Beginners:** - no winner

**Non-Beginners:**

Bragging rights: Michael Gervais

\$25.00 - Ron English

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company

## October Conservation Corner

### Can GBF Advocate?

At our last monthly meeting I requested that club members contact Governor Schwarzenegger's office to support the passing of State Assembly Bill 7 (AB7) and I also said that the GBF Board had not taken a position on this matter. The reason the Board had not taken a position was simply a matter of timing. Both the NCCFFF and Cal Trout have come out strongly in favor of AB7 and it is highly likely that the GBF Board would have done the same had they been given the opportunity before the monthly meeting. The problem was simply one of timing between my learning more about AB7 and our monthly meeting being held before our monthly Board meeting.

This leads to another recent question about what our 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax exempt corporation may and may not do regarding political action. Basically, we can inform members about issues (our information does not have to be balanced), we can encourage members to call or write public officials and we can encourage members to speak either in favor or against issues at public events. We can also encourage members to vote in a certain way but this may not be the primary purpose of the club (political action) and we can't demand

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that our members vote a certain way or they will be penalized in any way. To my knowledge GBF has not acted outside of the law and if anything we've been too timid in our support of legislation that supports our fantastic sport.

Certainly GBF needs to concentrate on the fishing aspect of our sport and I believe that the club does a fine job of presenting outstanding speakers, a terrific variety of great fishouts and extremely informative clinics. In addition to enjoying fishing today we need to spend an appropriate amount of time (a little or a lot) protecting those opportunities for future generations.

The Conservation Committee encourages all GBF members to become active in issues that may impact our sport and we welcome your questions regarding legislation or other water related matters. Contact GBF VP Conservation, Heath Wakelee at 916 870 5253 or at [GBFConservation@cs.com](mailto:GBFConservation@cs.com).

## Upper Sac Fishout Update

As announced at the September General Meeting, there will be a Club-sponsored Short Line Nymphing Clinic held during the Upper Sac fishout. It will be held at the upper parking lot of the Railroad Park in Dunsmuir. Bill Carnazzo and Ron Rabun will be the instructors. The clinic will be held on Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$20 and is payable in advance or at the session. A sign up list will be at the October meeting, or call Joe Aichroth at (916) 772-4177.

keep up to date  
[www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org)

### Grantie Bay Flycasters Classifieds

#### Pontoon Boat for Sale

10' Outcast PAC 1000 pontoon boat, almost new, for sale. Includes composite oars, high-capacity air pump, carrying case, and seat saddle bags. The pontoons are heavy duty 1300 PVC Denier Fabric. Value \$1,600. Sell for \$1,000. Call Pete Andersen, 530-888-7993 or 530-823-2882.

To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of *The Leader*, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: [artlivings@comcast.net](mailto:artlivings@comcast.net) with subject line: 'GBF: Classified'. Or mail your info to: Art Livingston, 8330 Newbridge Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. All ads must arrive by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.

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## Rod Building 109B: Two-Handed or Spey Fly Rods

Previous rod building articles have primarily discussed single-handed casting fly rods: the advantages and disadvantages of use, how to select blanks and components, and the best methods of construction. This is the second of three articles that discuss two-handed fly rods (also called Spey rods). This article will discuss the selection of size, length, and action type. The last article will discuss guides, handles, reel seats, and size selection of reels.

### Selection of rod:

This is the same question that we first asked ourselves when confronted with choosing a single-handed casting fly rod. As when selecting a single-handed rod, selecting a double-handed fly rod, the builder will have to address many details. One rod will *NOT* be able to fit all situations because of the huge variety of fishing conditions in which one can find oneself. Double-handed rods come in different lengths, number of segments, line weights, rod weights, material stiffness, blank colors, eye sizes (with different colors), reel seat types and colors, handle configurations types, etc. Some basic questions anglers should ask themselves when deciding what type of rod to build are:

- What kind of fish (and what size) do you want to catch (i.e. bass, trout, salmon, striped bass, various salt water varieties, etc.)?
- What type of water are you

planning on fishing (i.e. small, medium or large rivers, lakes, ocean etc.)?

- What rod break down size will you need for easy transport to the fishing location?
- What types of flies are going to be used (i.e. how big, weighted, dry or wet)?
- How much money and time are you willing to spend on your rod?

### Size and length:

These rods are manufactured in lengths from 11'-6" to 16'-0", with 3 or 4 segments for easier transport. Rod weights vary from 5 to 11, with the weights corresponding to that of single-handed casting rods. The table on the next page provides an approximate guide for weights of rods, species of fish, and available lengths.

### Action of Blank:

There are two general actions associated with two-handed rods. They are: 1) a traditional (British Isles) type; and 2) a Scandinavian (European) type. The traditional type tends to act like old Scottish wooden rods: the action is slow to moderate. The Scandinavian type has a much faster action for those that like a faster, quicker rod response. The action is, as always, a personal preference of the angler.

In the final article of this series about two-handed fly rods, we will discuss the selection of guides, handles, reel seats, size of reels, and line selection. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at [larrylee@L3rods.com](mailto:larrylee@L3rods.com) or telephone at (916) 962-0616.

*Chart continued on next page*



Rod Weight	Fish Desired	Available Lengths
5 to 6 weight	trout, bass, small saltwater varieties	11' - 6" to 12' - 6"
6 to 7 weight	larger trout, steelhead, bass, small saltwater varieties	11' - 6" to 13' - 6"
7 to 8 weight	steelhead, stripers, salmon, small-medium saltwater varieties	12' - 0" to 14' - 0"
8 to 9 weight	steelhead, stripers, salmon medium saltwater varieties	13' - 0" to 15' - 0"
10 to 11 weight	larger stripers and salmon, medium-large saltwater varieties	14' - 0" to 16' - 0"

## Beginners Flycasting 101

Sturmer White will be teaching Fly Casting 101 on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Casting is an Art, a Science and a Skill and as such requires practice to become better. Of course practicing while fishing is not a good idea, but catching fish is. In this clinic you will learn the basics that will help you become a better angler and fly-caster if you practice what you have learned.

Here is an overview of some things that will be covered. We will start with the little things that often count the most such as stance, grip and surroundings. Following that, we will take a look at the basics of casting such as the roll cast and the simple forward cast. Then, we will cover the concepts of loop size, rod angle, wrist movement, arm movement, body movement, and more. We will also talk about

rod loading, the pickup, the back cast, and timing.

This will be a one-day clinic that will last about 4 hours, beginning at 9:00 AM. The Club has 8 Sage rods that can be lent to anyone needing one. Call Larry Lee at (916) 962-0616 for information about borrowing a rod. The fee for this clinic will be \$15.00 in advance and is payable to Granite Bay Flycasters.

This clinic will take place at Gibson Ranch. Gibson Ranch is just west of Watt Ave. on Elverta Road, (North Side). After entering the park, stay on the main road until you get to the north side of the lake. This is a Sacramento County Park and requires a \$4-entrance fee.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the October meeting.

Contact Sturmer White at 916-791-2618 with questions etc. [Sturmerwhite@surewest.net](mailto:Sturmerwhite@surewest.net)

## FLY FISHING FOR SAN LUIS RESERVOIR AND O'NEIL FOREBAY STRIPERS

San Luis Reservoir and its equalizing basin, the O'Neil Forebay, combine to make one of the finest fly fisheries for fresh water striped bass in the world. These fisheries are located on the western rim of California's Central Valley, not far from the rural community of Los Banos. The largest striper taken on a fly, to date, pushed the scales to 54-1/2 pounds and was taken by veteran striper angler, Al Whitehurst.

### *Dan Blanton*

*ONE OF THE PIONEERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PACIFIC COAST AND CENTRAL AMERICAN SALTWATER FLY FISHING.*

Whitehurst and others, like Len Bearden, Steve Santuce, and Dan Blanton, have all taken stripers weighing more than 30 pounds on a fly from these impoundments. In December of 1994, Len Bearden landed his largest striper ever, a 49-pounder.

Our Guest Speaker, Dan Blanton, has been fly fishing these waters since 1968 when San Luis Reservoir was at minimum pool. This slide show, takes you from A to Z on how to successfully fly fish these productive waters - when, where and how-to, from both a boat and a float tube. Dan's excellent presentation will put you there, right on the deck of his skiff, his fly rod in your hand. Most of his techniques for these two impound-



ments will work anywhere fresh water stripers are found.

Dan Blanton, from San Jose, California, now living in Morgan Hill, California with his wife, Cindy, is a well-known and respected fly fishing and casting instructor, lecturer, fly fishing author, and outdoor photographer.

He is acknowledged to be one of the pioneers in the development of Pacific Coast and Central American saltwater fly fishing. He is the recipient of the Federation of Fly Fisher's 1990 Arnold Gingrich Memorial Life Membership Award for outstanding achievement in outdoors writing as related to fly fishing. He also is the FFF's 1995 recipient of the Silver King award for outstanding contributions to the sport of saltwater fly fishing. On April 13, 2002, he was inducted into the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame.

An acclaimed fly tier, Dan originated the Whistler Series, Punch Series, Sar-Mul-Mac Series, Sea Arrow Squid, Bay-Delta Eelet and

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many other world renowned salt-water fly patterns.

The former Managing Editor of Angler Magazine, Dan is currently an Editor-at-Large for Fly Fishing in Salt Waters magazine, Fly Fisherman magazine and the California Fly Fisher. He was the saltwater fly fishing columnist for Fly Fish America and for Sport Fishing magazines for ten years. A freelance writer for 35 years and an active member of both the Outdoor Writers Association of California, and the Outdoor Writers Association of America, Dan contributes regularly to many fly fishing periodicals. His book, Fly Fishing California's Great Waters, Amato Publications is available now through fly shops and on-line book outlets. Visit his popular fly fishing website at [www.danblanton.com](http://www.danblanton.com)

When: October 13, 7:00 PM  
Where: GBF Clubhouse

## Pontoon Boat Orientation

Several GBF members have recently purchased a new pontoon boat & are interested in an on-the-water boat orientation. We plan on meeting at the Sailor Bar Boat ramp at 9am on Saturday, October 29. We will float down the American River & pull out at Rossmoor Bar. We will spend time on how to set up the pontoon boat and introduce you to rowing and maneuvering. In order to participate, members must have a pontoon boat & wear an approved personal floatation vest for the orientation & float. I will be away on a fishing trip to the Green River in Utah & miss the October GBF meeting, but a sign up sheet will be available. Interested members who have signed up will be called back the week prior to the October 29 outing. See the associated GBF Leader article "Pontoon Boat Reminders".

- John Peterson



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## President's message

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dinator and he has nearly filled the sign up sheet for fly tying and casting instructors but he has a few openings. It takes a lot of volunteers to help 600 kids tie flies and demonstrate casting to adults over the two days. So if you haven't already signed up to help give Pete a call at (916) 240-1997 (cell) or (916) 786-9376 (home) and see if he still has openings needing to be filled. Besides having a blast working with the kids there are two other perks for working a single 3 hour shift (10am – 1pm) or (1pm – 4pm). First you get to park your car in the State Park for free and secondly you don't have to ride a shuttle bus from and to the remote parking lots.

So I hope to see you at the Salmon Festival. And, don't forget to wear your GBF shirt, hat and/or badge.

Tight lines. . . - Art Hawkins

## Rogue River Fishout

Two years ago, I had the pleasure of fly-fishing the Rogue River around the town of Shady Cove, Oregon. Stan Hellekson, then owner of Fly Fishing Specialties, hosted the trip for six GBF Members. Stan was nice enough to teach us the correct way to swing flies for Rogue River Steallies. I learned a lot from Stan and during the course of fishing, I fell in love with the Rogue and the town of Shady Cove. Because of the wonderful fishing I experienced, I wanted to share the Rogue River with Club Members that enjoy catching five pound plus bright chrome fish and large Sea Run Cutthroat Trout, a truly beautiful fish.

The trip has been scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be staying in Shady Cove at the Edgewater Motel. Shady Cove is leisurely five-hour drive from Sacramento on Interstate Five. The motel is right on the water and is next to a small park that has a launch ramp. Depending on which section of the river you float, this launch ramp will either be our take out point or the beginning of a downstream float trip. There are actually three different floats that we will be taking during the trip and I found them all productive.

Although indicator fishing is very productive and angling style is your choice, I prefer to swing a black, size 6 articulated leech through the various runs. There is nothing like the feel of a large, bright, fresh run Pacific Steelhead smacking your fly as it swings on a tight line.

A drift boat or a pontoon boat, (at least eight feet), is required to fish the Rogue River. This River is not difficult to float and is comparable to floating the Yuba from Highway 20 downstream to Sacramento.

If you are interested in booking a guide and don't have a watercraft but still want to go, please let me know and I will give you a few names of guides that specialize in fly-fishing the Rogue River.

I have placed more information on the GBF Website regarding equipment, maps and other specific items. If you have any questions you can call me at (916) 223-4240.

You can make reservations at the Edgewood Motel by calling (541) 878-3171. This Rogue River is nationally known for exciting fishing opportunities. . . - Gary Flanagan

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## The Bow River Calgary Canada

We all have heard of the garlic festival and the asparagus festival, well I want to tell you about a well-kept secret. And that is the Brown Trout Festival that happens on the Bow River in mid July through August.

These sneaky and somewhat reclusive fish are definitely on the fly in these months. I caught several Browns well over 20" with my largest being just a little over 27" and that was on a large foam dry fly. When she hit she was heading right for the fast current and was into my backing in a flash. The fight was a good one and the landing was even more special as I have never caught a Brown trout of this size on any fly. Oh and when the Browns were not hitting then we just caught rainbows up to 26".

We mainly fished streamers and dries with an occasional nymph dropper under the large dry. There were down times, but when one of these fish hit your fly you quickly forgot about the slow times. There was plenty of action from the boat banging the banks with large streamers, but the most fun was getting out and sight fishing with dries from the bank. Very cool. These big fish would come up and just swallow the fly.

The Bow is a large river and reminds me a bit of the Missouri River out of Helena Montana, except it does not get blistering hot there. The river runs right through Calgary and meanders through the countryside. We also fished from about 9:00 AM until dark, which happens around 10:30 PM.

This could be a trip of a life time, so if you are thinking you might like to get a piece of this action let us know and maybe the Club could put on a trip to our neighbors to the North.  
- Nancy Siegler

## Great American River Clean Up

Here's your chance to help our beloved American River Parkway and learn some new fishing spots at the same time!

The Great American River Clean Up is coming Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 9am to noon. This is the annual opportunity for river users – and other conscientious citizens – to give a little back to the beautiful Lower American River that traverses our State capitol.

On that date, participants walk the shores of designated stretches of the river to collect litter and other debris in specially-provided bags. The event organizer, the American River Parkway Foundation (ARPF), takes care of the disposal of all collected materials.

The additional opportunity for fly fishers is to pick a stretch of the river you aren't as familiar with, or haven't ever fished, and undertake to learn it as you clean it! Combining the banks for debris provides an intimate way to learn access points, safe wading places, and 'fishy-looking' runs.

In previous years, ARPF has provided cold water bottles, munchies, and a nice t-shirt to early participants. Their website ([www.arpf.org](http://www.arpf.org)) has more information on this event, including detailed, downloadable maps of the river sections designated for clean up.

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Come to the September general meeting of Granite Bay Flycasters to learn of any organized Club participation in this rewarding activity. Otherwise, mark your calendars for the time and date – and get ready to help and learn the American River all at the same time!  
- Mike Brune

## Trout Unlimited Establishing Sacramento Area Chapter

On June 25 the State Council of Trout Unlimited (TU) hosted a feasibility meeting for reestablishing a TU chapter in the Sacramento area. Considerable interest was expressed but few were able to attend the meeting because of short notice.

If you have enjoyed working on the conservation projects sponsored by GBF but want to get even more involved in cold water fisheries restoration, here's an opportunity to do it. TU is not a fishing club; it assumes you have, or will get elsewhere, the fishing skills you want. And, although it arranges fishing opportunities, it generally arranges those opportunities in conjunction with a hands-on work project or educational opportunity. One of the projects proposed for the local Chapter is to restore some of the fisheries directly downstream from abandoned gold mines in our foothills. The camaraderie that develops in both organizations is very enjoyable, and the two organizations complement each other by approaching fishing from different but equally important perspectives.

If you are interested in joining the

Sacramento area chapter of TU, contact Joe or Barbara Bania at [jbbfishers@yahoo.com](mailto:jbbfishers@yahoo.com) or phone (530) 677-4263.

## Got Badge?

With our membership now exceeding 300 and new members joining each month it is most helpful if all members wear their name badges to meetings. This makes it easier for new members to remember those they have met and get to know you by name. Also, long-term members will get to know those who recently joined if the new members wear their name badges as well. Lastly, name badges are a savior to those who are "name recall challenged" regardless of how long they have been a member. So do your part and wear your name badge.

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Sun 8am-6pm	Sun 9am-5pm

## “Klodhopper”

The Klodhopper is a simple, high floating hopper that is virtually unsinkable. Yet, it rides down in the water film just like a regular hopper would. Sometimes hoppers can be fished just under the surface film. You can make this fly perform in that manner also.

If you're like me, you receive a few fly fishing magazines and read them when you can. You run across an article about a fly pattern, and it holds your attention. You cut it out and put it in a folder for future reference—and then promptly forget it. Because I am guilty of all that, I make a point of reading the contents of that folder every so often, especially if I'm looking for something new or a particular type of fly. Recently I was looking for a new hopper pattern to supplement the others that I favor, so I consulted my folder where I found several good looking suspects. One of them was the Klodhopper. I tried it; it works; that's all I need to say. I'm not saying you should abandon all of your favorite hopper imitations; rather, here's a simple one to add to your terrestrial box.

### Tying instructions:

1. Cover the hook shank with thread after de-barbing it. At a point on the shank just above the back of the now smashed barb, tie in a very short tail of cleaned and stacked red deer hair. It should be no longer than  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Note: the red tail is not part of the original pattern; I added it because I liked that



“The Klodhopper”

feature of some other hopper patterns.

2. Cut a piece of foam about 2

### MATERIALS

Hook:	Any hopper hook, 2x long, such as Mustad 94831 or Daiichi 1180, sizes 6-10
Thread:	8/0 with color to match body of the fly
Tail	
Optional:	Red deer hair
Body:	Grey, tan, or olive 2mm foam, covered with dubbing material to match
Dubbing for body:	Sparkly fine synthetic dubbing material
Hackle:	Brown dry fly saddle hackle
Under wing:	Deer hair
Over wing:	Speckled turkey wing
Legs:	Orange and black rubber leg material
Head:	Foam, same as body

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inches in length, and about ½ the width of the gape. At one end taper with your scissors to a point. Bring the thread forward to a point that is just behind the eye.

3. Fold the foam around the shank after making sure that the pointed end is to the rear and is sticking out about ½ the length of the red tail. Tie in the foam just behind the eye, and move the thread rearward about 1/8". There take two wraps around the foam. Repeat this process until you reach the rear of the hook. This forms a nice segmented body. Leave the thread hanging there for now. Note: at this point, about 1 inch of the foam should be extended out over the hook eye. Don't cut it off.

4. Tie in a good dry fly saddle hackle; brown is best for this purpose. Apply dubbing to the thread, and move the thread forward, winding it into the creases that form the segments so that there is a nice dubbed look to the body. Palmer the hackle up to about the 1/3 point behind the eye and tie it off there.

5. Cut, clean, and stack a pencil-and-a-half size clump of deer hair for the under wing. Measure it so that it extends to the end of the red tail, and clip the butts. To make the hair stay under control and on the top of the hook, take one wind around the butts before putting the hair on the hook. Move the hair and thread to the hook and tighten it. Use 5 or 6 good tight turns to lock the wing down. Trim any excess and move the thread to the base of the wing.

6. Cut a strip of turkey wing about 3/8" wide. Apply a coat of Flexament and let it dry well. Hint: if you're doing (as you should) a half dozen (at least) of these, cut and coat the strips all at one time.

7. Shape the wing so that the rear is tapered round. Apply a coat of Flexament to the butt end of the under wing and lay the turkey wing on top of it. The end of the wing should match that of the under wing. Take several wraps around the butt end of the turkey wing to secure it atop the under wing.

8. Tie in the rubber leg material on each side of the hook just ahead of the turkey wing tie-in point. Note: I will demonstrate a good shortcut for this at the October general meeting.

9. Apply some dubbing, if you choose to, of the same sort and color that is used for the body. It should be wound between the legs.

10. Bring the remaining foam back over the eye and anchor it down behind the legs, taking care not to catch up the legs in the winds. This forms a nicely shaped head. Trim the legs fairly long, with the rear legs being slightly longer.

11. Move the thread under the thorax and to the hook eye, where you should now form a small head and whip finish. Apply a tiny drop of superglue to the underside of the body, at the point where the foam was tied down in the last step.

Take a few of these in different sizes and colors and go to the Lower Yuba. See ya on the creek!!!

**New Members**

Single membership: Bob Barker, Bill King, Jim 'Doc' Yarrow

## Intermediate Plus Casting Clinic

Granite Bay Flycasters will be offering an Intermediate Plus Casting Clinic on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at Sailor Bar Park from 9AM until 12 Noon. Sailor Bar is located on the North side of the American River just downstream from Hazel Ave. From Hazel Ave and Winding Way, go west on Winding Way and turn left on Illinois Ave into the Park. Sailor Bar is part of the American River Parkway and there is a \$4.00 entrance fee into the Park so you may want to car pool. Once inside, drive to the launch ramp and park. The clinic will be held to the left of the ramp in the still water section. There will be a Signup Sheet available at the October and November meetings.

The purpose of the Intermediate Plus Casting Clinic is to concentrate on techniques that will improve your catch rate as a flyfisher. The criteria to sign up for this clinic are the ability to do basic casts or have completed a beginner's fly-casting class. It is necessary to be able to double haul on many of these casts. For this reason, the first thing we will do is to develop efficiency in the double haul. We are interested in accuracy and line control more than distance.

The casts we will cover and perfect are as follows:

1. Single/double haul.
2. Shooting line.
3. Air mends/reach mends.
4. Curve casts.
5. High backhand cast.
6. The oval cast or Belgium cast.

You must be a Club Member to enroll in any GBF function. Mem-

bership applications are available from our website at [www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org). The fee for this class will be \$15 in advance and is payable to Granite Bay Flycasters.

If you have any question as to qualifications, please contact Sturmer White at: (916) 791-2618 or by e-mail at [sturmerwhite@surewest.net](mailto:sturmerwhite@surewest.net)  
- Sturmer White

## The GBF Annual Dinner

Mark your calendar for a fantastic evening of food, friendship, fishing gear, and FUN! Thousands of dollars worth of merchandise and trips will be raffled and auctioned off at the Granite Bay Flycasters 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 2, 2006, at 4:00 pm.

By the way... the Dinner Committee will be looking for a few more folks to help with this important club function. As our biggest bash of the year (and primary source of operating funds) this event is one of the Club's most important and rewarding volunteer opportunities. To contribute, contact dinner chairman Joe Aichroth at (916) 772-4177.

Lastly, the Dinner Committee is requesting that everyone take lots of photographs at upcoming club outings and events. We're putting together a slide show of club activities for the dinner and *we want your shots in the show!* For now, save your photos: film, slides, or digital. More information will follow at a later date.

Mark your calendar right now... you definitely don't want to miss this incredible evening!

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have a topic, speaker or something of interest you would like to me to investigate as a potential monthly presentation, please let me know. I have ten openings per year and while that is not many, there is room.

- Paul Meyers



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## Annual Upper Sac Fishout

The October 20 through 23 Upper Sac Fishout is shaping up to be a well attended affair. To make the weekend more informative and enjoyable, we are planning on two events which have always been well received.

There will be a Short-line Nymphing Clinic on Saturday morning at a cost of \$20 for those who want to take advantage of this learning experience. On Saturday evening we are planning a group dining experience at one of Mt. Shasta City's favorite restaurants.

Cave Springs has been the primary place most members have stayed at due to their location and reasonable price. They have motel rooms, cabins and RV hookups. Using Cave Springs keeps the group together and makes communication and linking up with others much easier.

Cave Springs  
4727 Dunsuir Ave.  
530-235-2721

- Joe Aichroth

**Officers**

President	Art Hawkins	916-725-3026
VP Membership	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
VP Conservation	Heath Wakelee	916-870-5253
Secretary	Nick Burnett	916-488-3725
Treasurer	Larry Lee	916-962-0616

**Directors:**

Thorough June, 2008	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Through June, 2008	Mike Kaul	530-677-8022
Through June, 2007	Kent Ripley	916-797-6940
Through June, 2007		
Through June, 2006	Art Livingston	916-722-2992
Through June, 2006	Craig Robertson	916-786-4674
At Large, 2006	Mike Lang	530-677-7491
Past President	Gary Flanagan	916-223-4240

**Committees:**

Annual Dinner	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Casting Instruction	Sturmer White	916-791-2618
Classroom Egg Prog.	Rick Radoff	916-624-2107
	Frank Stollen	916-725-6894

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Monthly Raffle	Bob DeRoss	916-933-4716
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Youth Program	Position Open	
Refreshments	Roger & Phyllis Mattson	916-632-8802

[www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org)

# The Leader

The Newsletter of The Granite Bay Flycasters

Granite Bay Flycasters  
4120 Douglas Blvd. #306-356  
Granite Bay, CA 95746-5936

## Granite Bay Flycasters

**Mission:** The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat, advancement of the art of Fly Fishing, and good sportsmanship.

**Meetings:** General club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay Activities Center on the shores of Folsom Lake. For directions, check [www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org), or call Art Hawkins at 916-725-3026.

**Doors** open between 6:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually involves a guest speaker and slide show, or other presentation. Each meeting also has a raffle, and visitors are always welcome.

**Membership:** Applications are available on-line at [www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org) and at general meetings. Single membership: \$30; Family memberships: \$35; and youth (under 18): \$10. There is also an \$8 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, call Paul Meyers at 916-797-1955, or visit the website at [www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org).

**The Leader:** To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Art Livingston at [artlivings@comcast.net](mailto:artlivings@comcast.net). Please put *GBF Leader* in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month. Thank you to Alpha Graphics, 916-638-2679 for printing the *Leader* at cost.

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