

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo by Dan Blanton

Some of the 'hot' bass flies. The Whistlers' will be one of the many flies to be tied at Pete Peterson's "bass fly tying class. For more information on this class see page 15.

February 2005



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

President's Message

G a r r y F l a n a g a n

I sure had an enjoyable time at the January Meeting last night. Our speaker, Chris Parsons is a great guide and truly a nice fellow. He is at the top of my list as someone to hire as a guide on any of the Northern California Waters he frequents. I know he was rushed at the end of his presentation and in case you missed it, the Klamath River is currently on fire. Chris has been having twenty plus fish days of trout and Steelhead. If you want a nice day floating the River and catching lots of fish, give him a shot.

We also had a capacity crowd in attendance at the meeting. It wasn't the most we have ever had, but well over a hundred members. Mike Howes told me we had eight new members sign up last night plus we already had three new join earlier this month. If big is better, Granite Bay Flycasters is doing well. It also looks like we are getting close to the 97% renewal rate we enjoyed last year! I think Granite Bay Flycasters is doing things right!

Please start looking around for Club Members to nominate for Board Positions. Annual elections are only five months away and many of us are at our term limits. Holding a board position in Granite Bay Flycasters is a perfect way to get the most out of the fun you can have in the Club. If you are interested in running for a position, come to the next Board meeting and learn more about what we do. We meet at the Clubhouse on the third Thursday of every month at 7 in the evening. Every one is welcome.

I noticed we sure have a lot of

activities to offer in the next few months. They are listed in the Leader and on the website. It looks like Bill Aaberg is offering his now annual trip



to Broken Arrow Lodge in Montana again this year. This is a trip I plan on making. What a great value it is, considering that the cost is just a little over a hundred bucks a day, which includes lodging and food. I don't believe you can find a better offer for full service accommodations on a river as great as the Ruby.

Just now, I received a call from Sturmer White. He wanted to let me know he had twenty-one students in his beginning fly casting clinic this morning. The reason for the popularity of this clinic is Sturmer has a no nonsense approach to casting which focuses on a student becoming a better caster, chiefly for the purpose of catching more fish instead of casting as an art form. Students find this clinic a bit different from others they may have attended but they benefit greatly from Sturmer's approach.

I was surprised when Sturmer told me that three of the students that signed up for his clinic were not GBF members at the time they enrolled in the clinic. These people learned about the casting clinic directly from the GBF website. As a result, these three students are now our newest Club Members,

see 'President's Message' page 7

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1.	2.	3. Conservation Committee meeting: 7 pm	4.	5. Casting Clinic see page 12
6.	7.	8.	9. Steelhead eggs to schools see page 7	10. General meeting: 7 pm see page 10	11.	12.
13.	14.	15. Fly Tying Jam 6:30 pm	16.	17. Board Meeting 7pm	18.	19. Lower Yuba River see page 6
20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
27.	28.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

Tying the "X-Caddis"



X-Caddis

The X-Caddis was created by Craig Matthews around 1980 at Blue Ribbon Flies in Yellowstone, Montana. When Caddis are present, this fly will take fish all day long if fished drag-free using a floating line. It is an emerger or cripple imitation, so it pays not to add floatant to the body or to the shuck, so that the fly achieves a "hang-down" attitude during the drift. Over time the fly morphed somewhat. The original was tied with beaver or muskrat for the body; artificial dubbings seem to be most popular now. More importantly, the Z-Lon shuck was originally tied in as a tail, and trimmed bluntly. Ralph Cutter and others observed that this type of shuck splayed out, making the artificial look unnatural. They tried instead a shuck made by twisting and looping the Z-Lon back to the hook to better represent the trailing bubble-like appearance of the shuck when viewed from the fish-eye perspective. For more information on this fly, and some tying techniques that are more technical than is appropriate for this column, go to www.fedflyfishers.org and

click on their fly of the month or search for the X-Caddis on their site, for an informative article by Wayne Luallen.

I n s t r u c t i o n s

1. Smash barb on hook, and cover hook shank with thread. When doing this, leave a blank area equal to two eye-widths just behind the eye. This is true for virtually all patterns.

2. Separate out about 9 or 10 fibers of Z-lon yarn. Secure one end of it at the front of your windings and trim the butts. Take the other end and twist it about 1 turn clockwise and secure it at the same spot as the first end. The length should be such that the shuck protrudes from the back of the hook about the width of the hood gap, or just a tad more.

3. Grab the shuck and twist it counter clockwise and hold it at an angle above the hook. Wrap back to the end of the shank, keeping the yarn directly on top of the hook. Stop winding where the thread is

See page 5 "tying the X-Caddis"

MATERIALS

Hook: Tiemco TMC 100, 5210, 100BL, Daiichi 1310, Mustad 94840, etc., sizes 12-20

Thread: 8/0 to match body color

Tail: Z-lon, Zelon, or similar material, amber gold, crinkled

Body: Fine dubbing or antron in tan, olive, brown, or black to match naturals

Wing: Deer or elk hair

Tying the 'X-Caddis'

from page 4

directly above the back of the barb.

4. Dub a nice, thin, tapered body forward to the point where the original thread wraps end. This leaves the front part of the hook blank.

5. Cut, clean, and stack a portion of deer or elk hair. The length of the hair wing, when tied on, should be equal to the shank.

6. Secure the wing at the exact point where the body ends near the front of the hook, keeping all of the hair directly on top of the

hook. It is helpful to put a drop of Flexament on the hook just before tying on the wing.

7. Trim the butts leaving a small stub, in the same fashion as the Elk Hair Caddis pattern.

8. Form a nice small head in front of the wing.

I don't recommend storing these flies in a box configured with compartments. Rather, they should be stored in a foam or similar box to prevent tangling in the antron material.

See ya on the creek....

The 5th annual 'Wet Fly Award'

The Board is now accepting nominations for the club's infamous Wet Fly Award. This annual recognition is bestowed on the club member that has demonstrated the highest level of 'oneness' with the waters we

fish... who has taken that fateful extra step leading to an intimate bonding with the environment of our quarry... who has gone above and beyond the limit of mere waders to immerse him/herself in the world of our noble nemesis... who, in other words, has fallen in the water while fishing!

Who do you know who's slipped, tripped, stumbled, fallen, crashed, capsized, or otherwise gotten soaked while fishing – and won't mind having the story recounted

see 'Wet Fly' 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 Dec.

Beginners:

Larry Goodell

Non-Beginners:

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company:

Michael Gervais

Best Tie: **Jim Holmes**

For more Fly tying recipes
go to:

www.gbflycasters.org

Upcoming Fishouts

By the time you have read this article, the Amador and American River fishouts will have occurred. Although I'm writing this article before either fishout happened, I'm sure that all who attended had a good time and caught fish (hopefully).

Here are the outings that we have scheduled for the upcoming few months:

1. Lower Yuba River (Steelhead). We have set up two dates for this outing. We are privileged to be able to access the river through the UC Davis property for both dates. You can sign up only for one of the dates. There is a limit of 15 members per date. To be fair, signups will be taken only at the January meeting. If you can't make the meeting, ask someone to sign you up. Once the spots are filled, there will be a waiting list. We have Paul Meyers to thank for setting this up with the university. Pete Koistenen will chair the first date, which is February 19, 2005; Paul Meyers will chair the second date, which is March 5, 2005. You can reach Pete at (916) 780-0925 or peterkoistenen@comcast.net. You can reach Paul at (916) 797-1955 or paul_meyers@hp.com.

2. Float tube clinic On March 12, 2005, Gene Goss and Jim Holmes will conduct a float tube information and safety clinic. There is no charge, and it will be held at the club house as it was last year. Gene and Jim do an excellent job on this clinic. Attendees will learn about float tubing rods, reels, lines, flies and, most importantly, techniques. There will be a discussion of the various types of tubes and associ-

ated equipment, as well as handling and safety tips. There will also be doing the Pyramid Lake outing (see below). There will be a signup sheet at the February meeting. You can also call Gene (962-7375) or Jim (967-6709), or send them an email (eugenesusan@aol.com), (jwholmes@aol.com).

3. Pyramid Lake Jim Holmes and Gene Goss will host the Pyramid Lake outing on March 20-22, 2005. There will be a signup sheet at the February meeting. Jim and Gene will provide details on this outing later, but for now put it on your calendar.

4. Pontoon boat clinic Stan Hellekson, co-owner of Fly Fishing Specialties, will again host a moving-water pontoon boat information and safety clinic on March 26, 2005. Stan has a lot of experience in a pontoon boat, and will share that information with Granite Bay Flycasters members. He will discuss equipment, handling technique, and safety issues. The clinic will be free, and will be held on the American River. If we have a lot of signups there will be a morning and afternoon clinic. I will have a sign up sheet at the January and February meetings.

5. April outings. Tony Hamamoto will host a one day outing at Greenstone Lake on April 9, 2005. This outing is extremely popular, and will be limited in the number of attendees. More information will be sent out on this outing later, and there will be a sign up sheet at the March meeting. We are also going to hold a weekday outing at Rancho Murietta on April 20, 2005. We'll

see 'Fishouts' page 12

President's message

from page 3

which makes a total of thirteen new members this month. The GBF Website has accounted for a many people learning about our Club and has helped increase our membership greatly. Kent Ripley, our Webmaster has been doing a great job of maintaining and updating the website with current events. With the website and the Leader being such high quality, I can see no reason for members not being

well informed as to what's going on at Granite Bay Flycasters.

Finally, Sturmer wanted to acknowledge Chuck Honeycutt, Pete Peterson, Jim Hunter, Jim Holmes, Bill Carnazzo, Larry Lee and Rick Radoff for volunteering as instructors at the casting clinic. My thanks also goes out to Sturmer and the gang for doing their part to make our Organization "**the best fly fishing club**" ever.

Steelhead egg delivery in Feb.

It is February already it is time for the classroom eggs deliveries. February 9 will be the date that Granite Bay will be delivering

Steelhead eggs to the classrooms. Contact Frank Stolten, if you would like to help deliver the eggs.

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Class Schedule: www.jpflyfishing.com

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Rod Building 106

Choosing between the many cork handles

Cork handles come in several shapes, grades, and sizes. You can purchase pre-made handles or construct your own based on your own preferences. Making your own handles can be a very exciting process because you can customize your handle to fit your hand size and grip and appearance preferences. However, we will discuss custom handle making in a future article. For now, we will focus on giving you the best grip for your hand and your buck without needing to make your own handle!

Cork handles came into common use around 1900. They are very light, easy to shape, and very rugged, if properly taken care of. Most cork originates in Portugal and comes from the bark of a special



Photo by Jeff Burkholder

The various cork handles for flyrods

type of oak tree. In order to utilize it, the cork is cut away from the tree. Cork rings are typically constructed to be 1/2" long and 1" to 1 3/8" in diameter with a small hole of approximately 1/4" to 5/16" in diameter drilled in the center. These rings are glued together and then shaped by hand or by using lathes. Cork may be bleached to give it a light color. The bleaching process is performed on all cork used in the United States. Unfortunately, the bleaching process can cover up many imperfections on the surface of the ring.

The rings are graded based on their appearance. Typical cork handle grades include: extra super fine (top grade), super fine (middle grade), and extra select (economy grade). Other names that are sometimes used for these grades are AAA (top grade), AA (middle grade), and A (economy grade), or super grade (middle grade). When selecting your cork grade, if you are not clear about what the grading system is, do not hesitate to ask the seller about their grading system. This insures you will get the grade of cork handle you desire.

Typical cork handle shapes are

see "Cork handles" page 9

Cork handles

from page 8

shown in the illustration. From left to right, they are: hooded half well, half well, reversed half well, full well, and hooded full well. Across the top is a Spey rod fore grip and rear grip. Typically, the hooded half well, half well, reversed half well are used for the smaller 0 weight rod up to the 6 weight rod Full well and hooded full well grips are normally used from 4 weight to 14 weight rods. With larger big game rods, a large full well cork handle may be used including a 6 " fighting grip mounted above the regular grip.

Cork grips vary in length. They are usually 6 1/2" to 7 1/2" in length for hooded grips and 6" to 7" in length for regular grips. The Spey rod fore grip is approximately 13 1/2" in length while the rear grip is about 5 1/2" in length. There are

small differences in the cork grip circumferences. If you can, feel various cork grips to see how they fit your hand and how comfortable they feel. It's a good idea to test out other rod handles available to you (such as other rods you own, a friends rod, or a club members rod) to select a grip that fits well and works for you when casting or fighting a fish. Everyone's hand is a different size and different shape, so what may fit for one fisherman may not fit for another.

Fly-fishing is a very active sport and the right cork handle can greatly improve your fishing efficiency and comfort. We can't say that the fish really care, but *you* will certainly have a more relaxing time. Remember, your hand grasping the cork handle helps you become "one"

see "Cork handles" page 9

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Fishing for Delta bass with Alan Fong

Alan Fong has been fishing for nearly 50 years. Born and raised in Sacramento, he has fished the Delta and local rivers since childhood.

Alan worked the professional bass tournament circuit from 1976 to 1988. While tournament fishing in the Delta, he became interested in Striped Bass—a species near and dear to many club members. Since then he has zeroed in on Stripers,

ALAN FONG

PROFESSIONAL BASS FISHERMAN

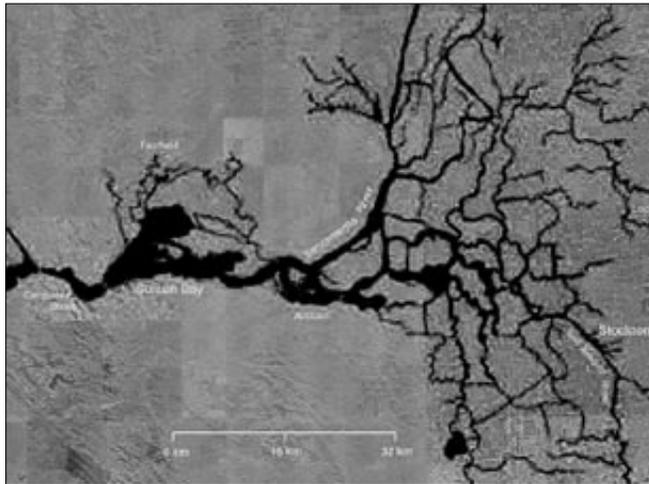
and now shares his prowess with clubs and other groups, and makes presentations at fishing shows. Alan likes all types of fishing, including fly fishing, which he does while fishing for Stripers.

Alan is also an expert in fishing electronics, including fish finding equipment and GPS units. He currently works as a manager for Fisherman's Warehouse, at the new Rocklin location on Granite Drive. Visit the store, folks—you will be pleasantly surprised, and the staff is very friendly.



Alan Fong

Alan's program will cover fishing uses for GPS (global positioning system). This is an immensely interesting subject with uses far beyond fishing. He will explain what GPS does, how we can use it to better our angling experience, and what equipment is available on the market. Alan will also, of course, talk about Striper fishing. The picture that accompanies this article will whet your appetite.



When: Feb. 10, 7 pm
Where: GBF Clubhouse

Raffle/Auction Items Needed

At each year's Annual Dinner, club member contributions make a huge difference – whether donating merchandise or services, or just pitching in some extra funds to help the raffle committee buy more prizes (usually at 'wholesale' or other discounted prices).

Please consider donating something to this year's dinner. Our success at obtaining nice raffle and auction items is directly related to our success at raising the funds needed to pay for club activities in the year ahead. Contribute now and you'll benefit all year!

Here are some of the kinds of things club members have donated in years past:

- New, unused merchandise – fishing-related or otherwise.
- Professional services – in

gift certificate or coupon form.

- Handcrafted goods – again, fishing-related or otherwise.
- Funds specifically designated for the purchase of prizes.

Getting any ideas? If you can help, please call Mike Lang at 530-677-7491. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donators are duly acknowledged at the dinner. Here's your chance to help the club help you (and fellow members) catch more fish in 2005!!!

Fishing Photos

Wanted for dinner

The annual dinner committee is preparing a slide presentation for the dinner and they want your fishing photos in it! The 'show' will be a fantastic PowerPoint production of club members catching fish, enjoying each others company on fishouts, attending other club functions, losing fish, camping out, falling in the water, etc... you get the idea.

To get your shots in the show, bring your photographs, slides, or electronic media to the February club meeting and give them to Mike Brune. Also provide a brief note on any pertinent details (location, etc...) and your name. All photos/slide/media will be returned if requested. Photos from the last year or two are acceptable.

Photos for the dinner presentation can be submitted up until March 1st. Call Mike for arrangements (916-723-4524) or just send them to him via e-mail at m.brune@comcast.net. Think about submitting a few shots from your last fishout, campout, or other club event you could be a star at the annual dinner!

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Dunsmuir, CA 96025

(916) 663-2604
2079 Country Hill Run
Newcastle, CA 95658

Future Fishouts

from page 6

also have an outing at Davis Lake during April, but we haven't set a date yet. Sign ups for all of these outings will be taken at the March general meeting.

Finally, here is some early info on future outings: Putah Creek in May; Red Bluff bass ponds in May; a float on the Lower Sac and a Bridgeport area outing in June. We

will also have fill-in spur of the moment outings in between the ones named. And, don't forget the North Yuba nymph fishing clinic, also in June.

I NEED HELP IN SETTING UP OUTINGS. Please contact me with your ideas. We want the outings to mirror what the members want, so your input is valued. Thanks.

Sign up early and often.

Be a Recognized Sponsor

The financial success of the Annual Dinner funds our conservation programs, speaker fees and other activities as well as allowing us to keep our membership dues low. Member cash donations added together allow us to purchase some pretty spectacular raffle prizes. So, do your part to make the evening a huge success whether or not you can attend the evening's festivities. In the past we have had great support from many members and we want to recognize those whose contributions make it possible for us to have such an outstanding club. This year the printed program and our website will recognize members

who contribute cash and/or merchandise as follows:

- \$25 Level = **Rainbow Trout Sponsor**
- \$50 Level = **Brown Trout Sponsor**
- \$100 & up = **Golden Trout Sponsor**

Make a donation and let your fellow anglers know that you support GBF and help make it successful. Mail your check to GBF, attention Art Hawkins, or contact Mike Lang to donate raffle merchandise. You can make a difference and help keep our membership dues at a nominal level and activities endless.

E c o l o g y C O R N E R

bill hagopian

Volunteers make the difference

How big do they get? How many come here? Why is the gate closed (causing them to bang their heads endlessly on the metal weir)? Why do they jump up the ladder? Why do some of them have white patches on their backs? Why do you kill them? How do you tell the males from the females? What do you do with all the meat after you've spawned them? How (& where) do fishermen catch them? Where's the

bathroom?

Welcome to the Nimbus Hatchery Top 10. These are some of the most common questions asked by hatchery visitors during the annual salmon run each October-December. Kids, adults, fishermen/women... even the occasional bicyclist... everyone wants to know something about the amazing events happening right before their

See 'Volunteers' page 18

Fishing the Lower Yuba River

The Lower Yuba has been a secret treasure of Northern California fly-fishing for quite a while, but the secret is getting out. Today, the river is enjoying its greatest popularity in years, but it is still far from being over-fished and is still wide open except on big fishing weekends. The lower Yuba River between Englebright Dam and the Daguerre diversion dam offers over eight miles of wild trout, steelhead, and salmon waters, and it is just a little over an hour drive from Sacramento.

The fall is the most productive time for fishing the Yuba. Fall brings the salmon to the redds, and dead drifting glo-bugs and nymphs under an indicator can make for some 20+ fish days. The Salmon redds are identified as white patches in the gravel on the bottom of the river. The salmon stir up the gravel with their tails as they build their nests, shaking off the algae coating on the gravel and turning it over. This action also stirs up mayfly nymphs, stone fly nymphs, caddis lava and pupae. Combining this with the escape of hundreds of eggs makes for easy pickings for the trout and steelhead who get right into the redds with the salmon or wait down below them. You can see the salmon chasing the trout and steelies along with the jacks (immature salmon) as they work on the spawn.

The trick to this kind of fishing is getting a dead drift and getting the flies right down in the gravel. Lots of split shot and a good indicator are keys to success this time of year. Boles Float Right Indicators are the best for novices learning this type of fishing. They look like

pumpkins and float better than anything. They are orange and have a little green and black "toothpick" sticking straight up out of the indicator. The reason these work so well for novices is that they will point in the direction of the drag. If the toothpick is pointing upstream, it means your line is dragging behind it and a downstream mend is needed. And if the toothpick is pointing downstream then your fly line is dragging the fly, and an upstream mend is needed. At least one BB size split shot is needed unless you are fishing water that is relatively flat and calm. In faster riffles and slots you may need up to 3 BBs to get your fly down. If you aren't hanging on the bottom at least every once in a while, your

see 'Fishing Yuba River' page 16




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Intermediate fly tying clinic

I will be teaching an intermediate tying clinic; the dates are the following Mondays: February 14, 21, and 28, 2005, at 7:00 sharp at the clubhouse. There will be a sign-up sheet at the January and February general meetings. If you are not

able to attend those meetings, but are interested in the clinic, call me at 663-2604 or send me an email at billcarnazzo@aol.com to sign up or for details. The fee for this class will be \$15.00.

-Bill Carnazzo

Floating Indicator Clinic Feb. 26

We are indeed fortunate to be blessed with an abundance of highly qualified licensed fly fishing guides in Northern California. One of the nicest of these guides is Dave Shafer. Dave has offered to teach a floating indicator clinic exclusively to GBF Members on Saturday February 26th from Noon until 4 PM at Goethe Park.

I always like to tell our members a little about our instructors. Dave lives in Carmichael, CA and works at American Fly Fishing. He has been guiding for ten years and has been fly-fishing for 21 years. Dave grew

up fishing the oceans of California and Oregon, but got bit by trout fishing with a spin rod at 9 years old on the Rogue River in Oregon. Dave guides the Lower American River, Lower Yuba River, Lower Sacramento, Upper Sacramento, Pit River, and McCloud River.

The fee for this clinic is \$15-, and is due at the time of sign-up. The clinic will be limited to 20 members. Floating Indicator Fly Fishing is primarily used on the larger open rivers in our area like the American, Feather, Yuba,

see 'Indicator Clinic' page 17



6412 Tupelo Drive, Suite C
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
916-722-1055
info@flyfishingspecialties.com

Bass/Saltwater fly tying class

I will be holding a "bass/saltwater" fly tying class on four consecutive Mondays.

These dates are March 14, 21, 28 and April 4. This class is not for beginners but you do not have to be and advanced tier either. The fee for this class is \$25-, which covers the cost of your materials.

The fee must be paid at sign-up time. I will supply ALL of the tying materials for the selected flies. All you will need to bring is your tying vise and tools.

Some of the flies that we will tie are the Whistler, Sar-Mul-Mac, Fatal Attraction, Sheep Shad, Gurgler and Lefty's Deceiver. As a bonus there will be an extra class

on the following fly tie jam night, which is April 19. At this class we will tie the Clouser Minnow and some of its variations including the Half & Half. There will be a fishout at the conclusion of these classes exclusively for students at on one the many private access lakes at Rancho Murieta on May 7th.

This class is limited to nine GBF Members and always fills fast. A sign up sheet will be made available at the February meeting. I will also maintain a waiting list.

Please make your check payable to "Pete Peterson." If you have any questions, please call me at home at (916) 786-9376.

-Pete Peterson

Old line and flies, anyone?

Our annual dinner decorations coordinator, Karen Flanagan, needs your spare monofilament, fly lines, and old flies (and she's not just trying to replace the gear that Gary lost on his last fishing trip). Karen is once again designing and building the annual dinner decora-

tions that help make this event so memorable - and she needs your old line and flies for creating the right atmosphere. Bring your stuff to the February club meeting (or call Karen for other arrangements), and she promises to store it where Gary can't find it!

Get Free Raffle Tickets

Dinner Tickets on Sale

Be sure to bring your checkbook to the February meeting to purchase your Annual Dinner Tickets. Save \$5 and buy your ticket(s) before March 1. Why not include a donation towards the purchase of raffle prizes on the same check.

Get a friend to join you at this fun event and introduce them to GBF. For every ticket sold to a non-member (spouses excluded) listing you as their sponsor you will receive \$5 in raffle tickets. Make sure you get credited for the sale, bring

their check to the meeting and buy theirs and yours at the same time. At the time of purchase you need to select your entrée for the evening. The choices are Beef, Chicken or Vegetarian.

If you can't make it to the meeting, mail your check (with the names of those attending and their entrée selection) before March 1 to:

Granite Bay Flycasters
Attn: Art Hawkins
4120 Douglas Blvd, #306-356
Granite Bay, CA 95746-5936

Fishing the Yuba River

see 'Fishing Yuba River' page 15

flies aren't getting down to the fish.

When fishing the redds, stay back and cast above them to give your flies time to get down before drifting through. DO NOT WALK THROUGH THE REDDS. You can kill thousands of unborn salmon with just a couple of steps through a redd. When fishing glo-bugs with a dropper, let the rig swing when it gets to the end of the drift as the Yuba fish are known for taking nymphs on the swing and will also occasionally take a glo-bug on the hang.

The end of fall and beginning of winter bring adult steel head in to take over the spawning grounds. They prefer finer gravel than the salmon but can also be found in the same areas. Higher flows don't mean the fishing shuts off; it only changes to bank fishing. When the flows are in the 2000-4000 cfs, fish the shallows with nymphs, stone

flies, and caddis pupas. Stoneflies are a prime source of food this time of year. January is the month when we start to get the smaller Skawala Stoneflies. These are best imitated with a poxy-back rubber legged stonefly, a large bead-head gold-ribbed hare's ear, or for a dry, a little yellow stimulator dubbed with an olive tinged yellow and hackled with black.

Don't miss out on the tremendous fall fishing offered by the Lower Yuba. These fish are wild and put up a killer fight; it's not unusual for a sixteen inch Yuba trout to take you into your backing! Remember, salmon are spawning during this time and caution should be taken when fishing amongst the redds. Before you go out, stop by my shop in Nevada City for more information and to gear up for a fine fishing day on the Lower Yuba.

-Jeremy Gray

Intermediate Plus Casting Clinic

Granite Bay Flycasters will be offering an Intermediate Plus Casting Clinic on February 26th and March 12th. Maidu Park in Roseville from 9AM until 12 Noon. Maidu Park is located on Rocky Ridge Road just south of Douglas Blvd. You must be a Club Member to enroll in any GBF function. Membership applications are available on our website at www.gbflycasters.org

There will be Sign up sheets available at the February meeting and enrollment will be on a first come first serve basis.

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 classes. It is necessary to be able to double haul on many of these cast.

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.

see 'Casting clinic' page 17

Membership Renewal

The winners of the early Membership Renewal effort were: Jeremy Gray and Steve Greenfield. Congratulations!! Jeremy walked away with a waterproof cooler/storage bag (donated by Kiene's Fly Shop) and Steve received a pair of binoculars.

Members that have not submitted their membership fees for 2005 have until February 15th to submit them. Those who do not pay by

February 15th will not receive "The Leader" in March.

Checks for membership renewal (\$30 single, \$35 family) made out to GBF can be sent to:

Granite Bay Flycasters
Attn: Membership renewal
43120 Douglas Blvd. #306-356
Granite Bay, Ca. 95746-5936

I would like to thank Kiene's Fly Shop for their generous donation.

- Mike Howes, V.P. Membership

Floating line Indicator Clinic

from page 14

Lower Sacramento and other Valley Rivers and is an important method to learn as an angler when fishing for trout, Steelhead and Salmon on these waters.

For this clinic, you will need waders and a fly rod with a floating line. Normally you will want to use any-

where from a five weight rod to an eight weight rod. If you don't have a rod in this range, club rods are available and can be checked out at a general meeting by contacting Larry Lee.

For more information contact Paul Meyers at (916) 785-9446 or Paul_Meyers@hp.com

March 15 & April 19

Beginning & Intermediate Rod building

Another two sessions of rod building classes will be held on 3/15/05 and 4/19/05 and will coincide with the club's Third Tuesday fly tying jams at the GBF Clubhouse. Each of these classes will run 6:30 pm-8:30 pm. These sessions will include both beginning and intermediate (for the first time) rod building.

This multi-session workshop is presented for club members to the art of rod building. The sessions are designed for those members who have not built rods or have built rods previously and would like more detail (handle construction, guide selection and placement, and multi-color guide wrapping). This workshop offers the chance

to learn about the latest materials and building techniques. Each participant will build a 'custom' fly rod during the course of this workshop.

Participants: Be thinking about what rod you want to build (line wt, length, #of pieces). Unless you have a specific, name-brand rod in mind, we can suggest where to get an inexpensive, private label rod-building kit that will allow you to build a beautiful, wonderfully-usable 'first' rod for around \$50-\$60 (various line weights are available). Please contact Bill Avery (916-632-1275, billavery@grant.k12.ca.us) or Larry Lee (916-962-0616, larrylee@L3rods.com).

Ruby River and the Broken Arrow Lodge

Originating in the snow packed peaks of the Greenhorns and Gravelleys, the Ruby makes its way through an ever-broadening valley to the Ruby Reservoir inlet. The Upper Ruby is home to populations of rainbows, brook trout and some cutthroat and brown. A pilot grayling introduction is underway



in the upper most reaches of the Ruby River. Located in the South Western portion of Montana, the Ruby River offers superb fly-fishing and spectacular scenery.

Broken Arrow Lodge is a modest, family oriented fishing/hunting lodge. It is located on the Ruby River and is centrally located between the Beaverhead and Madison Rivers. The Ruby offers an abundance of fishing for all levels of expertise. Regardless of your fishing ability,

the river can be easily waded.

- Date: July 17th to 23rd
- Lodging: \$106.75/day or \$743.75/week (includes 3 meals per day)

Last year 15 Granite Bay Flycasters attended this fishout and everyone had a wonderful time.

For additional information, call Bill Aaberg at 916-773-1897 email: adryfly@comcast.net to reserve your room.

Volunteers make the difference

from page 12

eyes at this special facility. The variety of questions is exceeded only by the diversity of visitors!

So many questions – but so few hatchery workers to answer them. With hiring freezes and budget cuts, the staff level at the hatchery is well below that needed to handle all the questions generated by the average daily crowd during spawning season. The missed opportunities to explain the hatchery system and salmon life cycle (and increase the public's understanding and appre-

ciation for this challenged species) can be significant.

Enter the Granite Bay Flycasters Nimbus Hatchery docent program. Coordinated through the club's conservation committee, this effort puts interested club members in touch with the hatchery's Visitors Center contact that trains and schedules volunteer docents. Once trained, docents serve as 'floaters' around the hatchery grounds – answering visitor questions, and can even lead organized tours of the facility if they choose!

Mark your calendar for the GBF Annual Dinner
April 2, 2005

www.gbflycasters.org

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

For Sale.....Outcast Pac- 8 pontoon boat, completely set up and ready to go, like new condition, used very little, asking \$500.00... same quality as newer version, that list for \$1089.00. Also Stillwater float tube (U-shape) \$45.00. For details call Mac Hunter, 916 791-0359.

For Sale: 2 New, mint Sage rods with blank warranty cards, original Sage tubes and sleeves. Never been cast, slight rub where rods sat in dealer's rack. Each is in beautiful condition. XP 490-4 \$450, XP 690-4 \$470. List price for each is nearly \$600! Buy one or both. Call Nick Burnett at 916-488-3725 or email at nickburnet@aol.com

The Stillwater classic pram. \$500.00 firm oars extra and 10 foot Don Hill Drift Boat and Trailer Custom seats, oars, \$1,500 Contact Bill Ossolinski Tel # 916-354-8474 E-Mail bossolinski@sbcglobal.net

To place a classified you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Submit your listing to: jburkholder@nmvinc.com with subject line: 'GBF: classified'. Or mail your info to: Jeff Burkholder, 11300 Coloma Rd. Suite B14, Gold River, CA 95670.

Wet Fly Award

from page 5

aloud at our annual dinner on April 2nd? If you have someone in mind, just pick up and complete a Wet Fly Award nomination form at the Feb. or March club meeting. If you have a nomination but can't make it to the meetings, just contact a Board member to relay the deserving 'story' by March 15th.

Remember... think wet!

Cork handles

from page 9

with your rod, and therefore a well shaped handle is a very important piece of your rod. Next time you are casting, pay attention to your hand and arm feelings when using your rod. You may learn more about the rod and yourself.

New Members

Bob Brown, Tom Bartos, John D. Cox, William J. Curtsinger Jr., Aidan H. Becker, Kim Jorgensen, Fred Mitsch, Don Moura, Sandy Moura, Derek Page, Bill Nienaber

Officers

President	Gary Flanagan	916-223-4240
VP Membership	Mike Howes	916-863-6795
VP Conservation	Bill Hagopian	916-771-5837
Secretary	Roger Bryan	916-645-6897
Treasurer	Art Hawkins	916-725-3026
Directors		
Through June, 2007	Bill Carnazzo	916-863-2604
Through June, 2007	Bill Aaberg	916-773-1897
Through June, 2005	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Through June, 2005	Mike Kaul	530-677-8022
Through June, 2006	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
Through June, 2006	Karl Wolff	916-941-8584
At Large, 2006	Jeff Burkholder	916-536-1902
Past President	Denny Welch	530-889-8562

Committees

Annual Dinner	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Casting Instruction	John Hogg	916-863-2051

"	Steve Johnston	530-644-4061
Classroom Egg Prog.	Rick Radoff	916-624-2107
"	Frank Stollen	916-725-6894
Fishmaster	Bill Carnazzo	916-863-2604
"	Karl Wolff	916-941-8584
Fly Tying	Bill Carnazzo	916-863-2604
Gatekeepers	Michael Gervais	916-783-5477
"	Jack Peuler	916-797-1547
Golden Trout Program	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Leader Editor	Jeff Burkholder	916-852-7716
Librarians	Mike Howes	916-863-6795
Merchandising	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Monthly Programs	Ron English	530-677-7169
Monthly Raffle	Jeanne English	530-677-7169
New Members Coord.	Position Open	
Refreshments	Karen Flanagan	916-791-3528

Youth Programs Rey Nunez 530-677-7169

www.gbflycasters.org

The Leader

THE NEWSPAPER 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 or call Gary Flanagan 916-223-4240.

Doors open between 6:30pm and 7pm for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30pm. 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 online 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 pro-rated throughout the year. For membership information, call Lester Snow 916-967-7563 or visit the website www.gbflycasters.org

The Leader: This publication design and layout is donated by NMV The Marketing Firm, Inc., a creative services and marketing firm. This is a monthly value of over \$2000 from GBF member, Jeff Burkholder. NMVinc. can be reached at 916-852-7716. To send articles, photos, ads, and other materials please email to: jburkholder@nmvinc.com Please put 'GBFC' in the subject line. Deadline for materials: 15th of the month, previous publication date. Thank you to Alpha Graphics, 916.638.2679 for doing the printing at cost.

please notify if address change