

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo taken by Peg Miskin

GBF members Mike McGee, Frank Stolten, Denny Welch, Rick Radoff, Mike Howes, and Dennis Baker assisting breast cancer survivors at the recent Casting For Recovery retreat at Clearwater Lodge.

October 2008



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

OCTOBER 2008

SUNDAY **MONDAY** **TUESDAY** **WEDNESDAY** **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY** **SATURDAY**

5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
Crowley Lake Fishout 3rd - 5th ↑	7:00 PM Conservation Meeting Horseshoe Bar Fishout - 7th	7:00 PM Conservation Meeting Horseshoe Bar Fishout - 7th	7:00 PM Monthly General Meeting	7:00 PM Monthly General Meeting	Crowley Lake Fishout 3rd - 5th ↑	Salmon Festival- 11th - 12th ↑
12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
Salmon Festival- 11th - 12th ↑ NCCFFF Conclave ↑			7:00 PM Board Meeting			
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.
Upper Sac Fishout ↑		6:30 PM Fly Tying Jam			Upper Sac Fishout 16th- 19th ↑	9:00 PM Beginner casting
26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	

President's Message

Mike Howes



Granite Bay Flycasters' Board is committed to preserving our fisheries and supporting other conservation efforts. This year we have established a budget that will contribute \$8300 to our conservation commitment. In doing this, our budget is \$8030 in the red; yes, \$8030 over budget. The expenses to run our club of 250 members are increasing yearly. The Board has taken financially astute measures to decrease our current expenses. The biggest expense is the publication of the "Leader" (over \$9000 a year). Starting in January 2009, *The Leader* will be published electronically. Going electronic will not recapture all the expense, but we will realize a savings of \$6600 annually. In 2009 *The Leader* will be sent via a GBF Email blast. We are focused on eliminating expenses before we look at increasing revenues. That said, we will not propose increasing membership dues this year.

The Board will continue to monitor our budget, and look for ways to balance it. Our objective is to have

a balance budget with a commitment to conservation in the 2009 – 2010 fiscal year.

I know there will be questions about the \$10,000 donation to Placer County last year, and why we are over budget this year. The history behind this is: two years ago when Rick Radoff became president, he emphasized that our charter as a non-profit organization was for the betterment of our fisheries and conservation efforts. The Board looked for ways to do a better job in supporting conservation. We had \$50,000 in the bank, and decided only 6 months worth of expenses is required, \$18,000, to run the club safely.

During the last two years we have donated \$32,000 to conservation. We still have \$23,000 in the bank. We will continue our commitment to conservation, and our commitment to make sure our club is solvent.

If you have questions or suggestions on the budget, talk to a Board member, they are the guys and gal with the blue name badges.

... Life is reel

Monthly Fly Tying Winners for September

Beginners: -

Mike McGee

Advanced: -

Jim Holmes

\$25.00 Certificate to American Fly Fishing Company:

Don Van Sant

Horseshoe Bar Fish and Game Preserve, Inc. Fishout

October 7, 2008

Time: 10:00 AM to Sunset

Horseshoe Bar Fish and Game Preserve, Inc. is a private water fishing club located on the Middle Fork of the American River just below Oxbow/Ralston Dam. The club allows fly fishing only with single barbless hooks and has a catch and release policy. It is approximately 40 miles from our Granite Bay Fly-casters clubhouse. Horseshoe Bar offers true wilderness fly-fishing on thousands of acres in the American River Canyon Watershed.

The property includes five miles of river where wild rainbow and brown trout abound. The Middle Fork of the American River at Horseshoe Bar is a "freestone river." The water is supplied by snow runoff from French Meadows and Hell Hole Reservoirs. Although the property elevation is only 1,000 feet, it is like fly-fish-

ing an upper elevation Sierra River because the water from the upper reservoirs is delivered to Ralston Afterbay, (Oxbow Dam), via a tunnel system. The water is cold and clear. Better yet, the area is open to year round fishing. Hatches are numerous and include BWOs, Caddis, October Caddis, Golden Stones and Yellow Sally's to mention a few. The various beats contain great runs of deep holes, great tailouts, pocket water and perfect seams that hold lots of wild trout.

The property also has a small lake of several acres that is about 70 feet deep. This lake is part of the main stream and was created by water flushing through the tunnel during heavy storms. Members use their float tube to fish this area because it has easy access and has great dry fly action. Those of you that are not inclined to stumble through the rocks can fish the lake in your float tube. The water is around 50 degrees so you may want to use your waders. I have fished the lake

Continued on next page

Kiene's



Bill & Marilyn Kiene

2654 MARCONI AVENUE
SACRAMENTO CA 95821

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email: info@kiene.com
www.kiene.com

Continued from previous page

in my nylon pants and fins without a problem.

GBF members that sign up for this fishout will be given a map to property with directions/instructions and the combination to the gate to allow access to the property for the day. Upon arrival members will be required to go to the campsite area to complete liability waivers and obtain information as to where to fish. Please feel free to contact me for more information regarding this fishout.

Tight Lines

Thomas G.B. Bartos

President and Founder

hbp@surewest.net • 916-791-6072

Membership

As of this writing, Granite Bay Flycasters has 247 memberships (individual and family, which means we actually have a lot more people in our club than 247).

Anyone wanting a copy of the membership list can obtain it by sending me an email message at bcarnazzo@ftcnet.net, and I'll send it in a reply. It is in Excel format.

The board's policy is that the list is not to be used for any commercial purpose, and is not to be distributed to persons outside the membership—so please observe those restrictions.

A big welcome! and round of applause for our newest members:

Al Giovannini

Robert Miller and family

Aaron Dimig

When you see these folks at our meetings, please greet them and invite them to go fishing—after all, that's what we are all about.

Intermediate Casting Clinic

Our Intermediate plus casting clinic is scheduled for Saturday November 1st.

The clinic will run from 9:00 to 12:30 and will be on the Gibson Ranch Park pond in Elverta, across the street from Cherry Island golf course. There is a \$4 entrance fee if you do not have an American River yearly pass.

The purpose of the clinic is to concentrate on techniques that will improve your catch rate as a fly-fisher.

We are interested in accuracy and control more than distance.

The casts we will cover are as follows.

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

Plus a few fishing techniques.

What to bring:

Your rod and reel, leader, glasses, drinks and a pair of shoes that will stand some wet conditions.

You are lucky, as our club has a lot of very qualified instructors that can help with all facets of casting.

Let's have some fun.

If you have any questions you can contact me at:

Sturmer White

(916) 791-2618

Sturmerwhite@surewest.net

Upcoming Classes and Clinics

Bill Carnazzo, Chair, Member Education

Below is a list of clinics and classes that will be offered to members. Some have scheduled dates; the others will be scheduled shortly. If you have suggestions as to other clinics or classes, be sure to contact me and we can discuss your thoughts. Look for specifics on classes and clinics on the web site, and in future Leader articles.

<u>Clinic/Class</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
Casting:*	
Beginning	October 25
Intermediate	November 1
Fly Tying:**	
Beginning	January 10, 24
Intermediate/Advanced	January 6, 12, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 16
Fly Fishing Basics***	TBA—in Dec. or Jan.
Fishing with indicators****	TBA—in Nov.
Advanced knot tying	TBA—in Nov. or Dec.
GPS/Map reading	Spring, '09
Stillwater (on the water)	TBA
Making balsa poppers	Spring, '09
Demystifying lines, leaders	Spring, '09
Entomology school (Sagehen)	May, '09
Techniques for "swinging"*****	Late Spring, '09

*Sturmer White, along with a cadre of GBF stalwarts, will lead these classes; they will be held at Gibson Ranch County Park in Elverta. There will be signup sheets at the October general meeting

**Paul Egan will lead the beginner class; it will be held at the San Juan Ave. Raley's Event Center. Bill Carnazzo will lead the intermediate/advanced class, using a format featuring a different tyer at each session. The six classes will be held at either the Granite Bay or Roseville Raley's Event Center.

***This class has not been held for a few years, and it is time to do it again. It is for newer members who want to learn the basics of our sport. It will be taught by Bill Carnazzo, Sturmer White, and Karl Wolff.

****This class will be taught by Ryan Miller, professional drift boat guide on the Yuba, Feather, Lower Sacramento, and other waters. The format is not clear yet, but the plan is to do a part classroom/part on-the-water combination.

*****This class will feature proper technique for swinging streamers, soft hackles, etc. I plan on engaging a professional to teach this very important technique.

Salmon Festival

This is an early reminder that the Salmon Festival is coming up; this year's dates are Oct. 11-12. This is the largest undertaking our club is involved in for the general public and we need your help. It takes about 50 volunteers to pull it off.

We will need volunteers for fly casting and fly tying. If you are new to the club and have little experience in either of these fields, it takes a very short time to show you how to tie a wooly bugger. You should be able to help kids tie this fly in only 5-10 minutes of instruction.

This is also a great time to get more involved with other club members. There is always time to visit with other club members and get to know each other. If you have any questions, see me at the general meeting, fly tying jam, or call me at (916) 240-1997.

Thank you,
Pete Peterson

keep up to date
www.gbflycasters.org



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Lake Crowley - Eastern Sierra Fishout October 3-5, 2008

GBF's Crowley Lake Fishout hosted by Karl Wolff is scheduled for October 3 - 5, 2008. This is a beautiful time in the Eastern Sierra with the quaking aspen in full fall colors, the days warm but not hot and cool nights. The fish in Lake Crowley are usually stuffing themselves for the winter on midges and other invertebrates along with perch fry. Usually, we fish Crowley in the morning and after the winds come up around 11 am, we fish Hot Creek, Owens River, or other rivers in the afternoon. The hot springs at Hot Creek are also a fun attraction; you can rejuvenate your body in the springs.

Lodging arrangements are camping at Convict Lake, cabins at Convict Lake Resort, or motels in Mammoth Lakes.

If you want to add days to your trip, Bridgeport Lake, West Walker River, Virginia lakes, Heenan Lake and many other fisheries lie between Sacramento and Lake Crowley.

We'll meet at the Convict Lake campground on Friday morning or Thursday evening; please post a note on the campground message board with your location.

For further information check the web-site for suggestions on flies and other tackle or, contact Karl Wolff at karl.wolff@sbcglobal.net, 916-719-0860.

GBF's Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner date is official!

Mark your calendars for the Granite Bay Flycasters 23rd Annual Dinner on Saturday, March 21st, 2009! This is our biggest event of the year (you DO NOT want to miss it) so be sure to get this date in your planner, your spouse's planner, your Blackberry, your iphone, your iwishiwasaniphone, your TU calendar... or just scratched on the fridge.

You get the point... this is a must-attend event. It's important that you participate for at least two reasons: This event raises the funds your club needs to survive another year, AND... this event lets you mingle and break bread with fellow fly-fishers (and their better halves) that you might otherwise

never have the chance to really get to know very well.

As always, this evening will have a HUGE RAFFLE with incredible prizes ranging from rods, reels, and flies, to artwork, wines, and other great non-fishing items. And our famous silent auction is always your best shot at snagging an awesome fishing trip (guided, local & long-distance) at prices so low that a staycation will seem expensive by comparison!

Lastly, we still need a few more folks to help bring this event to life (it's one of our club's most rewarding volunteer opportunities). If you want to be a part of making this evening a success, contact Mike Howes at (916) 863-6795. In the meantime, start thinking about what you might be able to donate to the raffle or auction! Tickets go on sale next month!

Fishmaster's Report

As summer winds down and the days are getting shorter, fishing outings are on the rise. The Club has four fishouts scheduled for October and one for November.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Days</u>
Fuller Lake	Chuck Honeycutt	1
Crowley Lake	Karl Wolff	3
American River	Tom Bartos	1
Upper Sac	Eric Palmer	4

We still would like to have more fishouts, but we need people to step up to be a fishout leader. If you would like to lead a fishout, PLEASE CONTACT ME so we can schedule it.

Bill Hagopian
Fishmaster
916-771-5837
Billh07@comcast.net

**Granite Bay Flycasters
Classifieds**

For Sale:

I have two custom wooden wading staffs for sale. One is slightly used (used once) and one is brand new. They are made of ash and come with a long strap, rubber grip, and rubber tip. The used one is \$25 and the new one is \$28.

Bill Carnazzo

Spring Creek Guide Service
5209 Crestline Drive, Foresthill CA
95631

(530) 367-5209 (home office)

(916) 295-9353 (mobile)

bcarnazzo@ftcnet.net (email)

Sage Model GLF 1090-3 RPLX, 9' 10
wt. rod, Graphite III \$250.

Lamson LP 3.5 Reelw/extra spool
and 3 shooting heads (fast sink, me-
dium sink & slow sink) \$75.

(Though being around for some time,
the above are in new condition.)

ALMARCO 'Lil Drifter' 7'9" Aluminum
Pram w/anchors for front and rear.
2/o oars and in excellent condition
\$350.

Mike Freeborn

1256 Jorgenson Dr.

Lincoln, CA 95648

916- 543-3570

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:
fstolten@comcast.net with subject
line: 'GBF: Classified'. Or mail your
info to: Frank Stolten, 8290 Country
Lake Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662.
All ads must arrive by the 15th of the
month to be included in the following
month's *Leader*.

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October is the traditional start of our Delta Striped Bass season. Each year around this time, fish fresh from the ocean start filtering into San Francisco Bay and subsequently into the lower Sacramento and San Joaquin Delta systems. It is very timely then, that we have a program addressing the pursuit of these fish and a little bit about their history here in California. We are very fortunate to have Tony Buzolich to speak to us at our October 9th GBF meeting. He is a life-long resident of Northern California and a fly fisherman since his childhood. He guides out of "Johnson's Bait and Tackle" in Yuba City and specializes in Striped Bass fishing. Tony describes his personal outdoor bio as follows:

"Growing up in Sacramento well before Cal Expo was built, the American River was both my backyard and my playground where I learned to hunt and fish with

my dad. I got my first fly-tying kit at the age of 10 and have been tying and fly fishing ever since. I graduated from Sac State College in 1971, taught school there for several years, and later went into business with Big O Tires for almost 30 years. Later, moving to Napa, the Bay and Delta opened the door to saltwater fly fishing which became my passion. From Kona

to the Florida Keys, to the Yucatan, and Belize, all became my stomping grounds taking every type of fish from tarpon to tuna on the fly.

After retiring in 2001, the local streams still called where striped bass and salmon have continued my obsession with big fish on the fly.

Now living in Yuba City, I manage the fly fishing department at one of the oldest bait and tackle shops in California, that being Johnson's. I also guide on the Feather and Sacramento Rivers as well as our wonderful Delta."

Tony's program will explain how striped bass came to California and became established; he will also discuss how to successfully fish for them in all of the major river systems around our area.

October 9, 7:00 PM
Where: GBF Clubhouse

The Golden Trout Program

This program is a skills / knowledge development program in which participants undertake various fly fishing and conservation – related activities in order to improve their skills and increase their understanding and enjoyment of the sport. On completion of the program requirements, participants receive a special 'Golden Trout Award' pin and Certificate of Completion, and have their name engraved on the club's perpetual Golden Trout plaque.

The requirements are: Participants will complete seven of the ten program categories shown in the Golden Trout Program handbook. Categories 1 – 4 are required to be completed by all participants.

Categories 5- 10 are electives: any three may be completed, for a total of seven, to fulfill the requirements of the program. There is a two year time limit for the program completion. When a category is completed, the participant will ask the 'sponsor' to sign off that category in the participant's handbook. To participate in the program, club members will contact the program coordinator and pay a \$10.00 program fee. The coordinator will provide a program hand book and record the participant's starting date.

The Categories are:

1) Fly Casting (required), 2) Knot Tying (required), 3) Conservation (required), 4) Club Event (required), 5) Club Fishouts, 6) Literature, 7) Entomology, 8) Fly Tying, 9) Rod Building, 10) Net Building.

All of these events are scheduled throughout the year, so check out *The Leader* and attend club meetings to find out when these classes

and events are happening and get signed up. For any class or event a Golden Trout participant get top priority, we want you to succeed in your endeavor and complete your program.

For more information on the Golden Trout Program, contact Larry Goodell at 530-268-8160 (or e-mail at lgoodell@aol.com). The club website also has additional information.

Second Annual Veteran's Day Delta Fishout

For all of you older coots who can't remember a lot, we had a fantastic day on The Delta last Veteran's Day. Well, we're going to do it again this year. Veteran's Day is **Tuesday**, November 11th. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting and I'll want to know how many boats are going to be available and how many non-boaters want to attend. Last year we had about 15 boats and we were able to accommodate about 35 anglers. I expect we'll do about the same this year.

For those of you with boats, fill'em with gas and make sure they can start. We'll have some special rules re the Delta for this trip and I'll make all that public later. What I'd like to do ASAP is get a preliminary headcount. Please email me (dennywelch@jps.net) and let me know if you're interested in the trip and whether you have a boat. As time goes on I'll be posting email blasts giving further information re the trip.

If anyone is interested in co-hosting this trip, please contact me. Thanks.

Ken Hanley's October Blimp

Last month I featured Bill's Stick Caddis, Fall Phase version. Normally in this issue I would have featured my October Caddis emerger, which I call Bill's Emerging Thing. My plans changed when I read Ken Hanley's brand new book, **Tying Furred Flies—Patterns for Trout, Bass, and Steelhead**. This book will introduce you to some interesting, valuable, practical techniques for creating very life-like patterns. Ken's vast experience and knowledge are brought to bear on every page; the photography is excellent, including the instructional sequences; and it is all woven together with Ken's personal touches, humor, and insights on everything from color and hue, outdoor ambiance, and fishing strategies, to the ruminations of a most introspective flyfisher. You'll learn the history of the ancient technique of "furling" various materials, how it can be applied to the world of fly fishing, and how to tie some very effective, fish-enticing patterns. A few examples include Ken's Hex Magic, October Blimp, Pygmy Hopper, Damsel Teneral, and Furred Alevin. I have personally used many of these patterns, and have found them to be simple to tie, and very effective. I highly recommend Ken's book not just for the techniques so beautifully demonstrated, or the many and varied patterns he has created; mostly, as an artist of sorts myself, I am fascinated by the perspective of a respected artist on this broad and ever-expanding sport/addiction that we call fly fishing

Ken's October Caddis adult, called

the "October Blimp," is featured on pages 44-49 of his book. As soon as I read those pages, I knew this would be a great fly to share with members, especially those who plan to attend our annual fishout on the Upper Sacramento in October. So, let's go a-furlin' and build some blimps.

Tying Instructions:

1. The instructions for furling the body can be found in GBF's fly tying archive, at http://www.gbflycasters.org/fly%20tying/patterns/Ken_Hanleys_Furred_Damsel_files/Ken_Hanleys_Furred_Damsel.htm. For this fly, you will need to use a bunch of the fluorescent orange that is about two matchsticks in width, and a bunch of the burnt

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MATERIAL LIST

Hook:	Daichi 1260, 1270 or similar hook such as Tiemco 200R, #6-10
Thread:	6/0 or 8/0 orange or tan
Eyes (optional) :	Black plastic, small or extra small
Abdomen:	Furred fluorescent orange and burnt orange Antron
Thorax:	Orange leech yarn
Wing:	Natural deer hair
Head:	October Caddis orange dubbing
Head/float:	3mm orange foam, or white foam colored with orange Prismacolor pen
Legs/ antennae:	Pumpkin / pepper flake Sili-Legs

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Step 1

orange that is about half that size. Lay them side by side and then begin the furling process. You will achieve a "barber pole" effect if you do it correctly. This will be the abdomen of the fly. Prepare at least 6 of these, and dip them in a bottle of Softex which helps prevent fouling of the abdomen on the hook point by stiffening the yarn. Set the bodies aside to dry completely.



Step 2

2. Attach the tying thread behind the eye; wrap a thread base back to the middle of the shank. Measure the now-dry abdomen to equal the distance between the eye to the hook point, and tie it in at mid-shank. Don't trim the butts, but comb them out. Place a drop of superglue at the tie-in point.

3. Tie in a small strand of orange leech yarn at the same point and



Step 3

wrap it forward over the Antron butts. Stop about 3/8" behind the hook eye and tie it off.

4. Pull back the unfurled Antron and trap it with thread wraps. Place a drop of superglue at the point where you secured it in place.



Steps 4 and 5

5. Add legs/antennae on each side of the hook by tying in a piece of the rubber leg material just ahead of where you tied back the unfurled Antron. Tie the leg material down in the middle of the piece, so that there is an equal amount pointing forward and backward.

6. Cut a strip of foam about 1 1/2" long and 1/4" wide. Trim one end to a fine point and with the tip pointing to the rear, lay the foam flat along the front 3/8" of the hook. Tie it in there.

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Step 6

7. Trim the Antron butts so that they are long enough to reach the point where you tied in the abdomen. This is the underwing.

8. For the overwing, cut and clean a small portion of deer hair. Tie it in at the point of the foam that you tied in. Advance the thread to the eye, and add a drop of superglue to hold all of the material in place.



Steps 7 and 8

9. Using the orange dubbing, dub a large head. Dub rearward so that your thread ends up where you tied in the overwing.

10. Pull the foam strip rearward over the dubbed head. Tie it down with a few loose wraps and check its position to make sure it is directly on top. Make a few more wraps, increasing the tension with each wrap. Whip finish and apply head cement to the wraps.



Step 9

11. To trim the foam, Ken recommends laying your scissors on top of the foam; don't raise the foam, and make a straight cut. This will leave a slight "dishlike" appearance to the foam, which acts as a float .

12. Trim the legs at the end of the hook; the antennae should be about the same length. If you have used white foam, color the foam orange.



Steps 10, 11 and 12

Tying and finishing tips:

1. Prepare at least 6 bodies and tie 6 of this pattern. You will find that if you do this (indeed, with any pattern you tie) your consistency will increase immensely.

2. Be sure to use 3mm foam in order to achieve the balance and flotation needed. Fish the fly on the surface or just below for best results. If you aren't hooking fish,

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try suspending an October Caddis emerger beneath your Blimp.

3. Ken says that this fly is also a good imitation for the giant Salmon Fly, technically known as *Pteronarcys californica*.

4. As mentioned above, I highly recommend Ken's book for a complete explanation of furling, and the techniques Ken uses.

Fish this beast in the evenings during the October Caddis hatch, which usually commences near the end of September, and lasts through the end of the year. Yes, it's cold, and yes, it rains and snows at this time. If you don't like to fish in those conditions, there are always "bluebird" days during the fall, and even during the early winter. So, give it a try—you won't regret it. See ya on the creek.

Fuller Lake Fishout Saturday - October 4

Fall is a special time to fish in the mountains. The summer crowds have significantly decreased, the leaves are changing colors, the weather has cooled and the fish are searching for food to withstand the coming winter. To many fly casters, fall is the best time of the year to fish for trout.

On Saturday, October 4, I am going to lead a fishout to Fuller Lake. Most of the club has fished the lake in the past, so great detail is not needed. One of the goals of this fishout is to assist new members and new fly casters as they learn the wonderful world of lake fishing and float tubing. So, if you are new to lake fishing and float tubing this is your opportunity.

Let's meet at 8 AM sharp! Fishing Gear—4, 5 or 6 weight rod with an intermediate sinking line would be the best combination—and you will need a float tube—with fins. Fly casting from the bank is really not an option. Woolly Buggers and Sheep Creek are normally the most productive flies. Fuller Lake is regularly stocked with rainbows, but don't be surprised to catch a few brown trout too. Hopefully, everybody will catch fish!

If anyone has an extra float tube, please bring it to the fishout and/or email me at chuck95762@yahoo.com. If you don't have a float tube and would like to go to the fish out email me so I can see if I can get you one.

Fuller Lake is approximately 1 hour from Roseville on I-80. Take the Nevada City - Highway 20 exit and proceed down the hill to Bowman Lakes Road and turn right. **Note:** The right hand turn is just before the bottom of the hill. Once on Bowman Lake Road (which is paved all the way to Fuller Lake) proceed 6 miles. You will see the Fuller Lake dam and parking area. Go to the NEXT right hand turn (on dirt) and proceed to the Fuller Lake boat ramp area. There is a paved parking lot, picnic tables and very clean rest rooms. The day use fee for this area is \$5.

For the new members or new to lake fishing, I will be available for help or questions before the September General Meeting at 6:30 pm. Also, my e-mail is chuck95762@sbcglobal.net.

...Chuck Honeycutt

Why Barbless Flies? Part III (Final Installment)

In the September Leader, I wrote about the second most important reason to debarb your hooks—protecting yourself and your guide and/or fishing companions—and added some further comments on the proper way to debarb hooks. You will find a good technical discussion of hook shape and configuration as those characteristics relate to barbless hooks or debarbed hooks at <http://www.flyguysoutfitting.com/barbless.html>



A third reason for using barbless hooks, which follows from Pete Peterson's comment (see September Leader article), relates to hook penetration. Here are some comments that I found at http://www.flyfishingjacksonhole.com/turck/fishing_barbless.htm : "Simply put, it is easier to achieve a solid hook set when using barbless flies because you are freed from having to overcome the resistance of the barb.... Have you ever set the hook, doubling the rod over for the briefest of moments, only to have the hook 'pull' and rod subsequently straighten? The barb actually inhibits hook penetration and a certain percentage of missed strikes with barbed hooks can be attributed to this fact."

A fourth, related reason, has to do with the size of the hole in the fish's jaw created by a barbed hook: It is much larger than one made by a barbless or debarbed hook. Aside from the more extensive damage

to the fish, a larger hole increases the chance of losing a hooked fish. I hadn't considered this point until recently when I was in Manitoba, Canada, at God's Lake fishing for Northern Pike and Lake Trout. Lee, the lodge manager and a very experienced guide, made this point during a discussion of barbless hook issues.

Fifth, consider what happens when you are using tiny flies and light tippets. There will be less tippet breakage at the time of hook set because of better penetration. Tiny flies are notoriously hard to remove if not debarbed, resulting in fish and fly damage.

Finally, a further quote from the last-mentioned web site: "Using barbless hooks will teach you to play a fish properly by forcing you to keep tension on the line during the fight. A properly set barbless hook, followed by solid fish playing skills will land far more fish than a barbed hook, questionable hook set, and clumsy fish playing skills." I couldn't agree more.

In summary, I realize that this subject is controversial and that there are many different opinions among competent, intelligent anglers. The opinions expressed in my articles on this subject are mine, based on almost 50 years of experience. Nevertheless, I respect opinions that differ, and welcome any comments or constructive criticism. If I do receive input I will follow up and write a further installment.

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Upper Sacramento River Fishout October 16-19, 2008

October is almost here, and that means the Upper Sac fishout at Dunsmuir is rapidly approaching. As reported last month, the dates have been moved out one week to Oct. 16-19 (Thursday thru Sunday).

Bill Carnazzo has graciously agreed to present his popular Short-Line Nymphing Clinic on Saturday morning, the 18th. Last year, the first three members to practice the

technique immediately after Bill's instruction hooked and landed a very nice fish on their second, if not first cast. All told, the weekend was productive for all members, with some landing crazy numbers of fish in the park.

October is "prime time" on this Blue Ribbon Freestone trout stream, and fishing can be at its best. Trout average 12" but can reach over 20" including Browns. Weather can be variable in October, ranging from warm to light rain, so plan accordingly.

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

We will have the usual “no host” dinner get-togethers at local restaurants for the first three nights for those interested. There is no charge for this fishout, and further details on fly selection and recommended gear is now available on the web site. Since there is virtually unlimited river access for miles above and

below Dunsmuir, there is no limit on attendance.

The signup sheet will again be available at the October meeting. Those signing up will receive more specific info on the agenda, along with suggested access points via email as the date approaches.

For further information contact Eric Palmer at 916-987-1359, ejpalmer@pacbell.net.

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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 Rick Radoff at 916-624-2107.

Doors open between 6:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually involves a guest speaker and slide show, or other presentation. All meetings are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to attend.

Membership: Applications are available on-line at 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 Bill Carmazzo at 530-367-5209, or visit the website at www.gbflycasters.org.

The Leader: To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: [Frank Stolten at fstolten@comcast.net](mailto:Frank.Stolten@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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