

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

July 2011

www.gbflycasters.org

## President's Message

by Dennis Baker, GBF President

Well, summer is definitely here, and so is the heat. So, let's remember to stay well hydrated while searching for our catch of the day.

GBF's Annual Picnic was held June 9-12, and may have been the smallest gathering on record. That aside, we had a great time. The weather was mild—in the seventies—and the winds light most of the time. Our One Fly Tournament began at 9:00 AM Saturday morning. Jeanne English landed her first fish at 9:09 AM. She also contributed to her team's winning total with nine fish in the three hours of the tournament. The winning team consisted of Jeanne English, Michael Gervais and David Jones. The first lost fly belonged to Doug Kytonen. I was blessed with a 15.5 inch rainbow for the largest fish landed, though several were caught in the 13 to 15-inch range. Our youngest fisherman was Michael Delaney. He hooked and played a nice rainbow right to the boat, but someone who will remain un-named, failed to net the catch.

Lunch was prepared by Mike Howes—hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, and drinks, too. Tony & Allison Hamamoto provided and cooked pork ribs for the Pot Luck Dinner later that day. (See photo's below.)



July also means there are new Officers and Directors representing you, the Membership:

Returning for a second year are: *Dennis Baker, President,*

**VP Membership**, a new position for *John Hogg,*

**VP Conservation**, *Henry Sandigo* for his second year,

**Secretary**, a new position for *John Pellegrin,*

**Treasurer**, a new position for *Corley Phillips,*

**Three-year Director** positions for *Tony Fabian* and *Duane Nelson*

**Director-at-large**, a one-year position for *Scott Vaughn.*

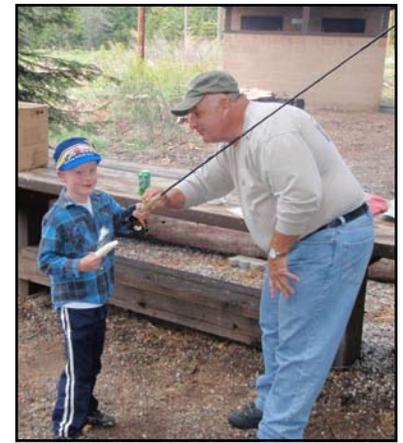
**Returning Directors:** *Taylor Yates, Eric Palmer, Don Van Sant, Tom Petty* and Past President *Mike Howes* round out the Board. Please take a moment at the next General Meeting and say hello to your Officers and Board members.

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*David Jones and Jeanne English of the winning team that caught the most fish.*



*Michael Delaney, the youngest fisherman, showed he's plenty old enough to catch rainbow trout.*

J U L Y 2 0 1 1						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1.	2.
3.	4.	5. 7:00 PM Conservation Committee Meeting	6.	7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.	13.	14. Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM	15. Virginia Lakes Fishout 14 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup>	16. Yuba River Clinic
17. Virginia Lakes Fishout 14 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup>	18.	19. Fly Tying Jam	20.	21. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	22.	23.
24.	31. 25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.

**Monthly Program**

Our speaker for July is **Keith Kaneko**, fly fishing guide, destination travel agent, and Steelhead fanatic. A self-described refugee from ‘corporate America,’ Keith established his own fly fishing guide service ([www.norcalflyfishing.com](http://www.norcalflyfishing.com)) more than a decade ago. He guides Northern California waters such as the Feather, American, Yuba, and other Central Valley rivers for trout, shad, stripers and steelhead. In addition, he founded *Angling On The Fly Travel* ([www.AnglingOnTheFly.com](http://www.AnglingOnTheFly.com)) about 7 years ago, and has been helping clients book fishing trips to faraway destinations, as well as constantly exploring and developing new fly fishing opportunities around the globe. One of Keith’s favorite freshwater species is the Steelhead, and he will be sharing his knowledge on how to maximize your success while fly fishing for this anadromous fish. This informative and educational presentation is well suited for first-time Steelhead angler and seasoned traveling angler alike. FISH ON!

**Program Description:**



“10 Essentials for Steelhead” - famed for being the “fish of a thousand casts,” Steelhead can become less of an elusive species if you understand where this transient species holds in a river and what tactics to utilize to entice them. In this presentation, we will cover 10 essential elements in understanding where Steelhead will hold in a river and what environmental factors influence their behavior. In addition, a review of fly fishing tactics will be discussed and related to specific types of fishing situations. Overall, this presentation will enhance and broaden your knowledge in the pursuit of the “Chrome King”... the Steelhead.

**Denny Welch**  
**Attorney at Law**

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## Fly Line Workshop



Fly Line Workshop

### What's in a fly line?

With over 1600 fly lines to choose from, GBF's recent nuts and bolts introductory workshop focused on identifying fly lines to suit local fishing and casting conditions. Fly line materials, tapers, head lengths, grain weights, and densities were reviewed as to how they could be matched to particular rods and actual fishing situations. The workshop was held in conjunction with the fly tying jam at the clubhouse on Tuesday, May 17.

## North Yuba Nymphing Clinic

Bill Carnazzo

This annual event is one of GBF's signature clinics—it's always filled to the 20 person capacity. So sign up and enjoy!

**Where:** North Yuba River above Downieville

**When:** Saturday, July 16, 2011

**Clinic Leader:** Bill Carnazzo, Licensed Guide (CGL #2917)

**Fee:** None

**Signup limit:** 20 members; if more than 20 sign up, we will have a lottery so that everyone has an equal chance of participating.

**Equipment required:** A valid California fishing license is required—please be sure to purchase it prior to the date of the outing, and have it with you. Rod—4 or 5 wt, 9' (preferably, but an 8 ½' rod will do); floating line; leader—Bill's Short Line Leader System (3x or 4x), and an extra package of tippet sections (both available at Kiene's Fly Shop); flies—to be determined. In July waders are optional. A wading staff is also an absolute requirement, for safety reasons. A complete equipment list and other information will be given to participants well in advance of the outing.

**Purpose:** Do you want to learn how to fish with nymphs in pocket water, or learn different techniques for this type of fishing? This is your opportunity to do so on a first-class river. You will learn rigging, reading water, spotting fish, proper approach/wading techniques, short line strategies, and much more.

**Signups:** Signups will be taken commencing with the May general meeting, and continuing into the July meeting if the clinic doesn't fill up before then.

**More information:** Bill Carnazzo - [bcarnazzo@ftcnet.net](mailto:bcarnazzo@ftcnet.net) ; (530) 367-5209 (home) or (916) 295-9353 (cell).



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## Conservation Corner

### It's Lower Yuba River Conservation Easement Project

I attended a presentation on Saturday, June 4th and met three of the Yuba County Fish & Game Commissioners. Cecily Mui, the Restoration Project Manager for the project from SYRCL gave the presentation. Some of the information we already knew, of course. But, here are the notes that I took...

There are two aspects to the project: Rehabilitation (aka re-vegetation) and public access. The rehabilitation part of the project is requiring very little permitting since it is falling under CEQA regulations. The first 'test' planting will be this November 2011 at Hammon Bar - about 5 acres. To accomplish this, a backhoe will be used to dig very large holes (about 10-12 feet in diameter and 10-12 feet deep) and 7-12 foot cuttings of Cottonwood and Willow trees will be harvested so they are able to reach the water table. 1,200 cuttings are planned and this must be done in October because this is when they are dormant.

The second 'test' planting will be Fall/Winter 2012, same location. A stinger will be used to punch single 5 foot holes and smaller cuttings of Cottonwood and Willow trees will be harvested so they are able to reach the shallower ground water. 4,000 cuttings are planned, and here's the best part. They will need volunteers to help with both projects! This will be a GREAT opportunity for our club members to do some hands on conservation work as well as give us a bird's eye view of the progress of the project.

Now for the controversial part of the project: Public Access. As we know, SYRCL has 'partnered' with WA [Western Aggregates] to obtain the conservation easement (aka public access easement). This means they will do no more mining in the area and there will be no more intense development. Public access will be allowed (with limitations). WA will donate the easement to Cal Trans & SYRCL (to be conveyed to a land trust). Now, one of two things will happen. It will become a land trust of Placer County or Yuba County (to be funded by WA). We were also told that WA does not plan to transfer the title to the land; just put it into a land trust, meaning they will retain ownership, and thus, liability.

*Continued on Page 5*



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### Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

**For Sale:  
2010 Hyde LH Signature Series 16.8  
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Call Tom Simms at (916)206-7634, or e-mail at [tsimms@starstream.net](mailto:tsimms@starstream.net)

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](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.

Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 4

A new grant from Cal Trans was signed into agreement in May – this adds to the funding for the project. SYRCL will work with Yuba County to add a parking lot, picnic areas, a lower gilt edge trail, informational kiosk and maps. SYRCL is TORN about the boat access issue. They feel that allowing any vehicular traffic on the easement defeats its purpose. One of the F&G commissioners is suggesting that WA donate just a sliver of the land to Yuba County to make a road down to the public easement under the bridge. This would accomplish two things: WA would no longer have the liability and clubs could help to monitor and maintain the area (possibly cutting YOA out of the loop?). Another suggestion was a self-pay (iron warden) station for any fees decided. There is certainly a perfect place above for a parking lot for trucks/trailers. SYRCL is concerned about the engineering costs of such a 'road' if we can even get WA to donate this slice of land. F&G commissioners stated they wouldn't need to worry about that if it was donated to the county.

SYRCL expects the conservation easement agreement will be signed into action by summer 2012. For more information on the totality of SYRCL's rehabilitation concepts for the Parks Bar to Hammon Bar reach of the Lower Yuba River, click [here](#).

. . .Robin Egan  
tggr514@yahoo.com

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Michael Fife  
Bryan Sopha

Fly Tying Contest Winners for June

Beginners: Tony Fabian  
Advanced: Bill Lockhart

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## Fly Tyer's Corner

by Bill Carnazzo

### Bill's Swimming Hex Nymph

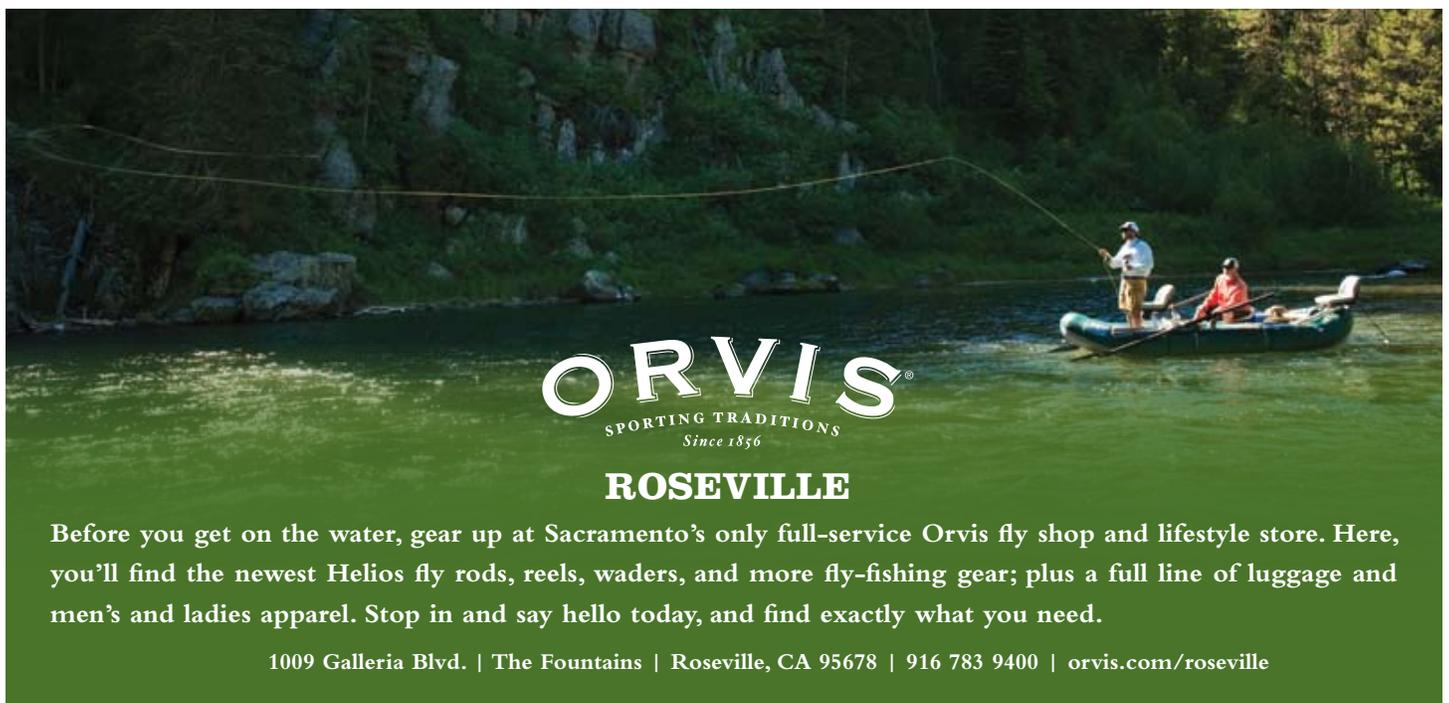
A few years ago, when I went to Labrador with a small group of friends to fish for giant Brookies, we expected that there would be a good hatch of *Hexagenia* mayflies—and, as it turned out, that was the case. What we didn't know were two big factors: (1) The *Hexagenias* in Labrador are even larger than they are in our neck of the woods; and (2) There was a simultaneous hatch of Gray Drakes and Green Drakes—and each of these two additional species was the same size as the *Hexagenias*. In other words, as it happened there were three distinctly differently colored ginormous mayflies blanketing the water. Nevertheless, it didn't matter much because the fish gulped down all three species indiscriminately. My guess is that they do so because they are all a nice big meal, and their season of plenty is so short-lived that they eat whatever is available. Their watery home is frozen over for nearly 8 months, so as the lawyers say, "time is of the essence" for them.

Being contrarian by nature, I decided to see what would happen if I used the Hex nymphs that I had tied for the trip. The guides thought I was a brick or two short—and maybe they are right. But they stopped their prattling when they began seeing the results. Of course, once I had made my point I returned to the adults—as we all know, it just doesn't get any better than watching a big fish crash into your floating fly. More recently, on a trip to Henderson Springs for the annual Hex hatch at that venue, my theory about what big fish do during a Hex hatch proved itself time and again. My theory is quite simple: If you see fish swirling amidst a horde of adults adorning the surface of the lake, don't assume that they are taking the adults. In fact, at times they may not take the adults at all, opting instead to intercept the nymphs near

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

Hook:	TMC 300 or similar hook, size 8
Weight:	3 wraps of lead-free weight at thorax
Thread:	Dark brown 8/0
Abdomen:	Arizona Peacock dubbing, applied thinly
Wing case:	Brown deer hair
Rib:	Fine copper or gold Wire
Thorax:	Arizona Peacock dubbing, robust
Throat:	Pearl Spirit River Lite-brite
Hackle:	Brown spey hackle, or long guard hairs
Head:	Arizona Peacock dubbing

*Continued on Page 7*



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Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 6

the surface before they hatch. Instead of putting on my favorite Hex adult patterns, I set my rig up with a two-fly tandem arrangement: the top fly was my Swimming Hex Nymph, and the bottom fly was Lincoln Gray's Floating Nymph. My friend Keith Pierraz stood and watched as I landed 17 fish (all between 18 and 24") in an hour; after Keith left, I stayed for another hour and landed 10 more beauties. I would have kept at it but it was black dark and I had to get off the water. During that whole two-plus hours, I did not see a single fish take an adult. Go figure—but also give it some thought. I've watched countless times as anglers dig out their dry flies as soon as adult mayflies appear on the water. Big mistake. Stay with those nymphs until it is clear that most of the fish are taking adults. I will sometimes fish the nymphs or swing soft hackle right through the hatch. Only when I'm sure—and I'm never sure of anything, really—that the fish are done with the nymphs will I switch to dries.



Steps 1, 2, 3, & 4



Steps 5, 6, & 7

#### **Tying Instructions:**

1. Smash the hook barb. Wrap 3 turns of weight at the thorax area, which will be about 2 eye-widths behind the hook eye.
2. Cover the shank with thread, leaving it at the back of the barb.
3. Tie in a piece of fine gold or copper wire.
4. Dub a relatively slender abdomen of Arizona Peacock dubbing; stop at the one third point on the hook shank behind the eye. Rib the abdomen with the wire and tie it off in front of the abdomen.
5. Cut a small bunch of brown deer hair, clean it, and tie it in by the tips in front of the abdomen with the butts pointing to the rear. Leave it in this position for now.
6. Dub a robust thorax of Arizona Peacock dubbing.
7. Pull the wing case over the top of the thorax, tie it down in front of the thorax, and trim the excess.

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Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 7



Steps 8 & 9, completed fly

8. Turn the fly upside down and tie in a beard of pearl Lite-Brite; this should be very sparse, and no longer than the hook point.
9. Return the fly to upright position, tie in a brownish spey hackle, and take a few wraps in front of the thorax; tie it off and trim the excess. Alternatively, you can use long guard hairs from an Arctic Fox or similar skin, and distribute them evenly around the shank. Apply a small head of Arizona Peacock dubbing, and whip finish.

Crank out a bunch of these blokes, go feed them to some trout, and...See ya on the creek.

### Virginia Lakes Fishout — July 14-17

Let's go to Virginia Lakes!! July 14-17 (I will be going up on the 13<sup>th</sup>). Virginia Lakes is one of the most beautiful places in the Eastern Sierra, and this should be the perfect time to go. This is an excellent outing just for the fishing, but is also a super place for families, as there is plentiful hiking and such attractions as Bodie not far away. There are three lakes within walking distance of the campground at Trumble Lake, all of them excellent still-water fishing with rainbow, brook, browns and Alpers available (twenty-plus fish days are fairly normal). There are numerous streams and rivers nearby, though they may be blown out. The lakes are at 9700', so nights can be cold. There is a small store with showers at Little Virginia Lake, and cabins for rent. I will be happy to help new comers to still-water fishing (including children).

A float tube is the usual way to fish the lakes with an intermediate or faster sinking line on a 3-5wt rod. For some top water action, there are lakes a short hike up the trail that are loaded with active brookies. A taco dinner will be provided the afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup> for all in attendance. Just bring a chair and your drink of choice.

Please let me know if you intend to come, need a campsite, or if you have any questions. Michael Kaul (530) 677-8022 [mkaul@sanjuan.edu](mailto:mkaul@sanjuan.edu).

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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](http://www.gbflycasters.org), or call Dennis Baker at 916-580-7639.

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](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 John Hogg at 916-663-2051, 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: Frank Stolten at [fstolten@comcast.net](mailto:fstolten@comcast.net). Please put **GBF Leader** in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month.

Please notify if address change

## Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

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