

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

June 2016

www.gbflycasters.org

Leader's Line

by John Hogg, GBF President



May saw a very successful members' night with a dozen stations set up to give members an opportunity to meet one-on-one with experts in fly tying, casting, line construction, knot tying and much more.

And now June is shaping up to be a busy month with the Upper Sac Fishout, (June 1st to 5th), and the Annual Family Picnic on Saturday, June 11th. The picnic has a new format this year that encourages family participation, and will be held at Rancho Seco Park.

Make sure to come and cast your vote at the annual election for officers and directors which will be conducted at the June meeting.

Our condolences to the family of long time member and great friend, Pete Peterson, who passed away on May 8th. We will take a few moments at the June meeting to honor his memory.

GBF's Annual Family Picnic June 11, 2016 at Rancho Seco!

Members, Families and Guests are invited. We will gather in Group Picnic Area 2b starting at 11:00AM.

GBF will provide non-alcoholic drinks and all the food, including tri-tip, chicken and hotdogs at 1:00pm! You bring your easy chairs and your family for a fun-filled day at the lake and beach. There is a \$10 per car (\$8 for seniors) daily use fee.

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Details about all the upgraded amenities at Rancho Seco are posted on the website under "[Events](#)," and also at their website, [Rancho 1](#) and [Rancho 2](#). A signup sheet was at the May meeting, but if you haven't signed up yet, please e-mail me with your name and headcount **by June 4th**. All are welcome, but we need to know how much food to buy.

Wendell Edwards wendelledwards@mac.com 916-508-7000

Pete Peterson - In Memoriam

Long time member, Pete Peterson, passed away early Sunday morning, May 8th, at the age of 79. Newer members may not have run into Pete, as his health issues, as well as those of his wife,, had severely curtailed his attendance in the last couple of years.

Continued on Page 3

J U N E 2016							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1.	2.	3.	4.	
				Upper Sac Fishout June 1 - 5			
5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	
Upper Sac Fishout June 1 - 5		Board Meeting 7:00 PM		Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM		Annual Club Picnic	
12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	
19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	
		Fly Tying Jam		Virginia Lakes Fishout June 22-26			
26.	27.	28.	29.	30.			
Virginia Lakes Fishout June 22-26							

Monthly Program



Blake Merwin

Our June speaker is **Blake Merwin, owner of the [Gig Harbor Fly Shop](#)** in the Puget Sound, WA area. He has local roots, having grown up in Granite Bay, with a lot of fond memories of fishing farm ponds in the area as well as the American River and the Sierra backcountry. He now guides Puget Sound saltwater for sea run cutthroat trout and salmon, as well as rivers for steelhead and salmon.

His presentation will revolve around the opportunities with the Puget Sound saltwater fishery for sea run cutthroat and salmon (kings, coho, pinks, and chums) from the beach, as well as kayak. It will also include river fishing for steelhead and salmon on the Olympic Peninsula and Western Washington.

Welcomer to Our Newest Members!

by Ted Way, VP Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members who have joined us recently. Make sure you keep an eye out for them at our meetings and events so that we can make them feel that they are an important part of our club.

Howard Horrocks

David Lindsay

Gerald Lumley

Pete Peterson - In memoriam - Continued from Page 1

Before that though, Pete was a fixture at all GBF events. He was the guy in the back room perking the coffee and setting up for the meeting. He was an innovative fly tyer, (Bass flies only, if you please!), and helped out with casting clinics, fly tying jams, fishouts, and much more. Pete was a great friend of Bill Kiene, and for many years coordinated club activities with Kiene's Fly shop.

Pete joined GBF in 1993, and was known as a 'bass only' fly angler, as in his opinion, trout were simply a menu item for his beloved large mouths and stripers. Pete was profoundly vague about his favorite fishing spots. Once, when asked where he had caught a particularly large bass, he replied, "Up the north arm of Folsom lake."

We intend to have a short remembrance for Pete at the June meeting, and in that light, I would like to get some photos of him and any stories that you might have that would bring Pete's memory alive again. Please let me know if you have something to share.



Pete Peterson instructing at the Salmon Festival

John Hogg johnhogg03@gmail.com

GBF Annual Election

The annual election of officers and directors takes place at the June general meeting. Below is a list of the positions to be voted on and the members who have been nominated:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominated</u>
President	John Hogg
Vice President, Membership	Don Whitecar
Vice President, Conservation	Mel Odemar
Secretary	Ed Lloyd
Treasurer	Mike Howes
Director, 3 year term	David Jones
Director, 3 year term	Ron Rabun
Director-at-Large, 1 year term	David Bennett
Director-at-Large, 1 year term	Ron Fay
Director-at-Large, 1 year term	Ron Gadreault

Nominations were made final at the May general meeting. Since there are no contested positions, we will ratify the nominees at the June meeting.

**Upper Sacramento River Fishout
Wednesday, June 1st to Sunday, June 5th**

by Tony Jelinek, Streams Fishmaster

The 4th Annual Upper Sacramento Late Spring Fishout will be taking place June 1st to June 5th in order to avoid Mother's Day, Memorial Day weekend, Father's Day, and, hopefully, the summer heat. The fishout has been expanded to include one more day, but come up for as many days as you can.

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Upper Sacramento River Fishout - Continued from Page 3

As it was a great success last year, once again, anglers will have the option of staying in a house in Dunsmuir (the house accommodates 10 anglers with their own bed). This year, instead of staying at the Log Castle downtown, we will be staying at the Blue Chateau with excellent trout fishing directly out the back door. Camping and motel options are also available. We will also have the traditional barbecue Thursday evening.

The Upper Sacramento abounds with great pocket water. This time of year has long days, great for nymphing during the day, with a good chance of some good dry fly fishing with caddis and stonefly patterns in the evening. This is a great fishout for anglers of all capabilities. Novices to fly-fishing and/or the river, will be partnered with more experienced anglers. For more information, please check-out the posting on the Granite Bay Flycasters web-site, or contact me at jelinea@me.com.

Virginia Lakes Fishout June 22 - 26, 2016

Flycasters, it is time for the annual Virginia Lakes trip. We are looking at the 22nd to the 26th of June. We will be going up on June 21st and coming home on June 26th. We will have a taco dinner on Saturday, the 25th, for all who attend. All you need is a chair, a beverage and an appetite.

For those of you unfamiliar with Virginia Lakes, they are on the eastern slope of the Sierra, just past Bridgeport, and before you drop down to Mono Lake. The scenery is "eastern side incredible." We will be staying at Trumble Lake campground at 9,700 feet, so you can expect cool to cold nights. If you are concerned about the elevation, you might consider staying a night at Twin Lakes, or the Tahoe area on the way. This is a nice campground with water and very nice pit toilets. Reservations can be made on line, but we usually are able to secure sites without them (why we are going up on Tues). There is also unimproved camping a short distance down the road by the creek (Road 139). These are also very beautiful, and right next to a Virginia Creek and free.

The two Virginia Lakes are easy walking distance from the campground, which sits right next to Trumble Lake. There is excellent fishing at all three lakes. Great stream fishing is available all around: Virginia Creek, Green Creek and dry fly fishing for Brook trout in a couple of lakes a short walk up the trail. There is a store at Little Virginia with high priced goods, a little restaurant (very nice breakfasts), and hot showers. They also rent cabins (usually for a week), but will do a weekend at the last minute if they aren't rented: <http://www.virginalakesresort.com>. Bridgeport is a 30 to 45 minute drive, and there are motels if camping is not your thing.

The fishing is generally float tube with sinking line (intermediate - fast). Catching twenty fish in a day (mostly rainbows but some brooks and browns) is not extraordinary, and I will be available to help anyone who desires it. Flies will be plentiful, as I will bring my tying stuff, as will others. There will be extra equipment available (float tubes, fins, waders and rod/reels with line) for anyone to use. Rods from 3-6 wt. are the norm.

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Virginia Lakes Fishout - Continued from Page 4

This is a great family outing, as there are a variety of things to do besides fishing. The hiking is excellent, with relatively short distances between lakes. Just down the road there is horseback riding, and the old gold ghost-town of Bodie is within 45 minutes. The city of Mammoth is less than an hour away, as is the entrance to Yosemite.

Please call me if you have any questions, and let me know if you are planning to come so I can get enough camp sites and bring enough taco fixin's.

Michael Kaul mikedkaul@gmail.com (530) 677-8022 or cell (916) 337-5468

**Tenkara Fishout - West Carson River
Tuesday, July 12, 2016**

Leader: John Pellegrin

Come and learn about the wonderful world of Tenkara fishing by our own "Tenkara Master," John Pellegrin, on an idyllic stream in the Eastern Sierras, the upper West Carson. Tenkara is simplicity—a fixed line to a telescoping rod, with a plethora of techniques to fish the fly and entice unsuspecting trout. Bring your own gear, or if you don't have your own set-up, the club does have a few loaners.

Check the [fishout message board](#), and contact John at john.pellegrin@comcast.net if you're interested in attending. **Space for this fishout is limited.**

**Little Truckee River Fishout
Wednesday, July 20th**

Leader: Ed Lloyd

The Truckee River flows south out of the Eastern Sierra into Stampede Reservoir, then upon exiting below the Stampede Dam, flows three miles through a meadow and canyon section into Boca Reservoir. Once it leaves Boca Reservoir, it flows about 100 yards to its confluence with the Truckee River. The prized stretch of water between Stampede and Boca is the Little Truckee River.

The Little Truckee River is more like a large creek consisting of riffles and pools. The volcanic rocks of the river's bottom contribute to a large variety of bugs, providing a great food source for the trout that inhabit this water. Come the end of summer, hoppers are a significant food source. Chironomids are present throughout the year.

The fishout will be a great chance to learn more about fishing this amazing stretch of river. Recently, Trout Unlimited performed extensive work on the river to increase trout habitat. Come and explore the changes to this magnificent trout stream!

Space for this fishout is limited, so check the [fishout message board](#) and contact Ed at edlloyd@att.net if you're interested in attending.

Classes and Clinics

Gordon Tornberg, Director of Education

Below is a list of the clinics and classes that are offered to members. Look for specific dates and times for a clinic or class on the website, at upcoming meetings, and in future *Leader* articles.

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Classes and Clinics - Continued from Page 5

Scheduled Classes and Clinics

Fly Tying Jam
Fundamentals of Knots
Short Line Nymphing Clinic

Dates

Third Tuesday of each month
September 20th
October 8th, Dunsmuir City Park

Still to be scheduled

Fly Tying Basics
Introduction to Spey Casting
Float Tubing Clinic (No equipment needed)
Pontoon Boat Clinic
Fishing with Floating Indicators
All About Leaders

June – July
June – July
June - July
September - October
September
October

Classes and Clinics for 2017

Net Building
Fly Fishing 101
Fly Casting Fundamentals

January – April 2017
February 2017
March 2017

Conservation Corner

by Mel Odemar, VP Conservation

This month's topic is the support and advancement of youth fly fishing. As stated on our web page, the Granite Bay Flycasters is dedicated to fisheries conservation, the advancement of the art of flyfishing, and good sportsmanship. Where better to start this process than with our youth?

The Granite Bay Flycasters once had a youth flyfishing program, but not so for the last several years. Last year I became aware of a fly fishing camp for 9-12 year-olds conducted by Trout Unlimited Truckee. The camp was held at Sagehen Creek, a University of California research station near Truckee. The tuition is \$150, and students are chosen by a panel run by TU based on the applicants' responses to the questions on the application. The Conservation Committee allocated \$600 to the camp in 2015 for support of a student and supplies. I attended as a mentor, and it was a very rewarding experience.

This year we offered two \$150 enrollments at our annual dinner and auction. Both were purchased. The club made up the difference in cost with the understanding from TU that the two students we are sending will not have to go through the selection process normally utilized by TU. The camp will be held June 18th and 19th at the Trout Ponds at the Resort at Squaw Creek and Sawmill Lake, located close to Truckee. Sawmill Lake is a pay-to-play lake full of large trout. Imagine the thrill experienced by a youngster hooking into a trophy trout the first time out!! Like we say, the drug is in the tug. Better yet, if the fish is landed.

Trout Camp is designed to give kids an awareness, appreciation and understanding of the importance of our nation's aquatic resources, with an emphasis on conservation, protection, and restoration of cold-water

ecosystems. Participants will also learn about stream ecology, cutthroat trout restoration, stream physics and chemistry, fishing etiquette and aquatic entomology, and be given one-on-one coaching in casting, fly tying, and playing and landing fish. Each student will be given a swag bag of various tools, leaders and flies. TU Truckee is partnering with Tahoe Fly Fishing Outfitters and Matt Heron Fly Fishing to put on this event, and is open to having GBF as a partner.



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Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 6

I plan on attending the camp again this year as a mentor, and I hope to recruit other club members to volunteer their time. You can volunteer for one or both days of the camp. Sign-up sheets will be available at our June 9th general meeting. If sufficient support is shown by the club, this could serve as our youth fishing program in future years.

What Color Fly Should I Use?

by Tony Jelinek

Many of you more experienced fly anglers may be able to walk down to the stream, take a look under a rock, smell the air, or get a feeling in your gut about what color of fly to use. For me, it is mostly like throwing darts and hoping something finds the bull's eye. I was excited to pick up a copy of Ralph Cutter's, *Fish Food: A Fly Fisher's Guide to Bugs and Bait*, in the hope of getting an answer to what color fly to use. Mr. Cutter is known for his column on trout foods in *California Fly Fisher* magazine, and has snorkeled rivers and lakes to better understand the habits of trout and their prey.

For color, Ralph first writes about perception, and what is red on terra firma, is green when deeper under water. I could relate, as I am a SCUBA diver, and have experienced bright reds at 20 feet under the water, turn to dull grey at 80 feet. What we perceive in the color spectrum, which is visible light, is only part of what a trout perceives, as it can perceive parts of the infrared and ultraviolet ranges. A trout's broader range of color perception is one reason why many of the flies that are tied include other bits of color in them. A fly may be predominantly green, but by including fibers of additional color, the fly may more closely appear as what the trout perceives the actual bug to be. "Trout don't care if the wrong colors are there, as long as the right colors are present." Maybe, this is why that old tattered fly that you feel you should replace, but don't want to, as for some reason it continues to catch fish, is still catching fish. The few remaining threads are just the right colors to attract the fish.

Just as all this theory of color is all starting to make sense, Mr. Cutter decides to throw a curveball, or more appropriately, a curve cast, and calls it mostly "bunk." He says we should concentrate on the "shade of gray that the fly would appear if seen in a black and white photograph." The following provides more basic understanding and application of this concept.

- Dark fly: Early and late-in-the-season bugs tend to be dark to absorb heat.
- Light flies: Midseason bugs tend to be lighter to reflect heat and stay cool.
- Black Fly: Evening skies are a great time to fish a black fly. From underwater, the evening sky looks silver, and the contrast of the "dark body hovering in a puddle of sliver light can prove irresistible." Think...black E.C. Caddis.
- Goblin in dim light or murky water: A good fly for this time of year when the water is discolored from runoff. *"As it pulses through light water, the black strip stands out like a beetle on a snow bank. When the Goblin darts into the shadows, or swims against a dark background, the bright orange or white strip almost glows in contrast. Into the shadows and out again, the streamer literally turns on and off like something alive. Trout like that in a fly, regardless of color."*

Think "contrast," and put some of these simple concepts into practice to make your fly color choices; and maybe, you will have a banner year of catching trout.

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

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.

The Pheasant Tail Fly (*Installment No. 2 on the essential flies*)

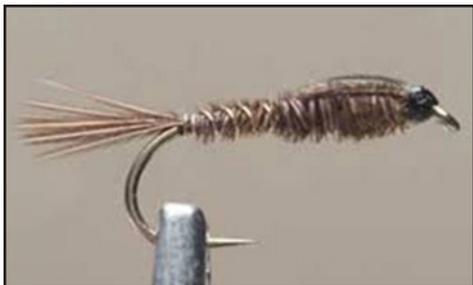
by Eric Palmer

One of the fascinating things for me about fly fishing is that each of us can make the sport as complex or simple as we may choose. If you feel that you need a fly box full of *Jeroen Smit Rooster Sphincters* ([Dec. 2015 Leader](#), Upper Sac write-up) from size 6 to 34 to hook fish on your favorite water, and have access to the scrotum hair of a Tibetan Yak, knock yourself out. If, on the other hand, you have minimalist leanings, you will find there's a modest collection of standard, generic and easily identifiable flies that do an excellent job of matching almost every form of fish food we're concerned with. One such fly that's a must-have in every fly box is the Pheasant Tail (PT). General rule of thumb: If it's all brown, it's probably a PT.

This simple fly was conceived in 1958 for the Hampshire Avon in the U.K. by River Keeper **Frank Sawyer** (1906-1980), who, by that time had over fifty years of experience on the river. Meandering its way some sixty miles out to the coast at Christ Church, the Avon has one of the richest diversity of life forms in Britain, especially in mayflies. With over 600 species of mayfly in the U.S., almost all small and brown as nymphs, it's easy to see why this fly has become a favorite of American fly fishers.

Frank Sawyer designed his fly with its small head and tapering body contour to imitate a drifting and emerging baetis mayfly, "olive" to the Brits, or blue wing olive, or simply "BWO" to us. Sawyer conceived this fly after an "Ah-ha!" moment when he observed that the much older *Pheasant Tail Red Spinner* dry fly would still take fish once it was submerged.

The beauty of the Pheasant Tail is both its simplicity and its versatility as a trout magnet on almost all California streams or lakes. Besides the **baetis mayfly**, aka **blue wing olive** (BWO), it's also a proxy for a wide range of bugs that trout crave including the **pale morning dun** (PMD), **march browns**, the **callibaetis** nymph in lakes, **stoneflies**, and even the good 'ol **stick caddis** or *brachicentrus* on the Upper Sacramento and elsewhere. So, don't despair after losing your last and much coveted *Bill's Stick Caddis*; after muttering the requisite swear word, just tie on a suitably sized and weighted PT, and press on without skipping a beat.



*Frank Sawyer's original
Pheasant Tail*

Now, about the fly's construction: An interesting thing about how Sawyer tied the original may resonate with the minimalists among us for its paucity of ingredients; there were only two! Very thin copper wire and cock pheasant tail fibers. That's it; not even thread. The wire binds it together and serves to fatten up the thorax while adding some weight along with a little brightness to an otherwise drab fly. Sawyer twisted the wire and pheasant tail fibers around one another, and wrapped them forward together, forming the thorax and abdomen.

Frank Sawyer's book, *Nymphs and the Trout*, first published in 1958, describes his method of tying and fishing the fly. Here's [a rather dated video](#) showing Frank Sawyer himself tying his fly. And, another [modern video](#) in living color with sound showing how to tie the original.

As with most everything, over time the fly has evolved considerably as American tiers added their own creative spin and the *American Pheasant Tail* emerged. Thread replaced the copper wire for all but the ribbing, and Al Troth (of Elk Hair Caddis fame) is credited with adding lead wraps for weight, a peacock herl thorax, and pheasant tail fibers for legs. Then came the bead head, a flash back (FB) for the wing case using either epoxy (PB for "poxy back") or Mylar or crystal braid, and there are many more augmentations involving crystal flash, hare's ear dubbing, fluorescent hotspots, and died pheasant tail feathers in olive and yellow. The near infinite variations of this fly in color and size have allowed it to be a stand in for everything from a midge pupa to the largest stonefly nymph.

But when you strip away the flash and glitter that adds what fly shops call "bin appeal"—and who

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The Pheasant Tail Fly - Continued from Page 8



The Modern American Pheasant Tail

knows if the fish really care?—it's still Sawyer's elegantly simple, and devastatingly effective nymph that has become a staple of most every fly box worldwide.

When studying the list of suggested flies for a given stream on a fly shop's website, you might see mention of a "BH PT" for bead head Pheasant Tail, or perhaps "FB PT" for flash back PT, invoking the shorthand notation for the eye catching enhancements. Now you know the secret codes of guides.

So how do you fish a Pheasant Tail? In a stream or river the fly can be fished just sub surface if desired, but it's best fished on the bottom in a dead drift, and then gently raised with the rod tip to imitate an emerging nymph using the method referred to as the [Leisenring Lift](#) (after James Leisenring). This method can trigger an "induced take" or grab, much like dangling a string in front of a semi-conscious napping cat will get his immediate attention as instinctive reflexes passed down from his ancient ancestors, and well beyond his conscious control, jolt kitty from his stupor. You can also "short-line" nymph the PT, and at the end of the drift you will also have, in effect, an automatic Leisenring Lift as the line goes taut and your fly(s) rise to the surface. A little gentle twitching at this time may also be in order.

In a lake, the Pheasant Tail becomes an excellent proxy for the Callibaetis nymph as it rises to the surface from the weed bed. With a floating rig, Ralph Cutter in his *Fish Food* instructs us to tie the fly to the end of a 6x tippet one-and-a-half times the water depth. Fish the fly just off the bottom with slow long retrieves that mimic the bug tentatively leaving the weed bed and then retreating for cover as fish approach. For more detail on this method and fishing the Pheasant Tail in stream and lake, see chapter 19 of Ralph Cutter's must-read *Fish Food* (also check the GBF library).

Another highly recommended book for the fly fisher—particularly the beginner—is *The History of Fly-Fishing in Fifty Flies*, by Ian Whitelaw, Abrams Publications, pub. 2015. This book was the inspiration for the on-going articles on the history of flies, and, along with Ralph Cutter, the source of much of the material you have just read.

Thanks for your time, and see you on the water ...

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in June 2012)

Fly Patterns - Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle (modified)



Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle (modified)

Materials:

Hook:	Tiemco 2488, sizes 14 - 18
Thread:	70 denier flat nylon, olive
Beads:	Small copper bead to match hook size (e.g. 2mm for #16 and smaller)
Tail:	Wood duck flank
Abdomen:	Chartreuse wire, extra small
Ribbing:	None
Legs:	Wood duck flank
Wing:	None
Thorax:	Fine, small peacock herl
Weight:	None
Head:	Thread

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 9

Description

This fly was featured in the August, 2009 *Leader*. So why do a re-run? Well, because: (a) I can; but (b) in fact it works so well on the North Yuba River and we have an outing there in June; and (c) I've made a few modifications to the bug and the tying techniques that make it work even better and make it a little easier to tie. The modifications are simple: For materials, I've substituted wood duck flank for the partridge and now use a somewhat different hook; and in the tying instructions, I use a slightly different technique for tying in the soft hackle—one I learned while reading a good book I recently purchased called "*Tying and Fishing Soft Hackle Flies*," by Allan McGee.

The fly's name is not a typo. I named it "Peatridge" because two of the main ingredients are partridge and peacock. The "hotwire" part comes from the type of wire used for the abdomen. I am partial to the soft hackle configuration because it can also serve as a nymph—in effect, because the wire body makes it heavy, it's a soft hackle nymph, a two-for-one fly. The soft, wavy hackle appears to be enticing to fish, especially on the swing when the fly rises up in the water column, making it resemble a swimming nymph on the way to emergence. Of course, all of this is educated guesswork, since I've never had the pleasure of interviewing a trout. Let's face it—a good deal of the art of fly tying is more for the pleasure of the tyer/angler than anything else. That said, once in awhile we do land on a pattern that really does work. It's at that point that we tyers begin to invent reasons why the fly is effective—there's plenty of pontification out there, for sure. But we really don't know what it is that triggers a trout's instinct—and we'll likely never know.

In any event, this month's pattern is one that does indeed entice trout. Why? Quien sabe, but my guess is that it just looks buggy, and has some motion to it. Not very cerebral, but it's the best I can do. The fly can be tied on any standard nymph hook, but I prefer the "scud" type of hook which allows for a more natural shape to the bug.

Tying Instructions

For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.

1. Crimp the hook barb and place the bead on the hook. Cover the hook shank with a single, flat layer of thread; extend the thread halfway down the bend of the hook. Move the thread back to the rear of the bead.
2. For the tail, cut a small section of well marked wood duck flank feather barbules. Measure the tail fibers so that they protrude from the rear of the hook approximately 1/8". Tie the bunch in just behind the bead. Hold the bunch up above the hook as you work the thread rearward, ending at mid-bend. This technique will keep the bunch right on top of the hook. Leave the thread at the rear, and clip the excess feather behind the bead.



Steps 1 & 2



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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 10

- At the same point (i.e., at mid-bend) tie in a 4" section of wire for the abdomen, and wrap the thread forward to the back of the bead, making sure that each wrap of thread lies flat in front of the previous wrap in order to avoid build-up of thread which results in a bulky body. Wrap the wire forward in tight turns and tie it off about two hook eyes width behind the bead, thus leaving room for the hackle, the peacock herl, and the head.



Step 3



Step 4

- Cut another bunch of wood duck flank—larger than the tail bunch. Measure it with tips pointing rearward, so that the tips extend about 1/2" beyond the bend of the hook. Reverse the tips and place the barbules on the hook just ahead of where the wire was tied off, with the tips of the feather protruding out over the hook eye and tie in the butts of the barbules using two loose wraps. Slowly pull the thread tight; that should distribute the hackle evenly around the hook. If it looks too sparse, add another bunch, but don't over-do it. Sparse is good. Leave the tips extending out over the hook eye for now.

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"They have the largest selection of fly tying materials in California!" - Andy Burk

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 11



Steps 5 & 6

5. Cut two pieces of peacock herl from the eye area of the feather; this part of the feather contains colorful, very small barbules. Tie these two pieces in by their tips and take 3 or 4 wraps and tie it off. Clip the excess herl.
6. Sweep the barbules of the wood duck rearward and place a few thread wraps ahead of them so that they remain in that position. Don't attempt to flatten the barbules against the shank; rather, use only enough wraps to make them stand upright with a slight curve to the rear. Whip finish, trim the thread, place a tiny drop of superglue on the end of your bodkin, and cement the thread.

Tying & Fishing Tips

1. Keep the fly sparse, and avoid a thick body. Mayfly nymphs and uncased caddis larvae are very slender.
2. I like to flatten the part of the wire that will be tied in so as to eliminate excessive bulk when building the body. Use flat-nosed pliers for this purpose.
3. Use your bodkin to apply superglue rather than squeezing a drop from the bottle directly onto the fly. Your placement will be much better.
4. I keep a cloth next to my vise for wiping the bodkin clean after each application of superglue to prevent glue buildup on the needle. If you do get buildup, use a lighter to burn the buildup off.

Now go crank one of these bugs, go fish it... go fish. I live by that simple philosophy.

Enjoy, and see ya on the creek...!!!

Our website is designed to be a resource for club members who want to enhance their fly fishing experience through participation in various club activities. Check often at www.gbflycasters.org for information on club fishouts, conservation projects, classes & clinics, and other activities that support our mission.

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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.

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 Ted Way at 916-761-7115, 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. 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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