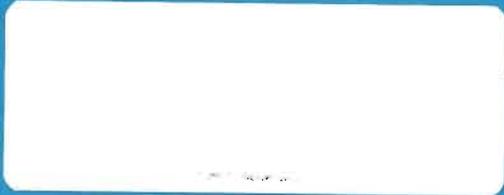


Granite Bay Flycasters
P.O. Box 1107
Roseville, CA 95678-8107



The Leader



FEDERATION OF
FLY FISHERS



CALIFORNIA TROUT



KEEPER OF THE STREAMS

Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat and promoting fly fishing skills and good sportsmanship.

Meetings: Granite Bay Flycasters general meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay clubhouse located in the Granite Bay Group Picnic Area at Folsom Lake. For directions call Drake Johnson at (916) 783-0343.

The doors open between 6:30 and 7:00 PM for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 followed by a quick refreshment break after which the main program begins, which usually consists of a slide-show talk and/or demonstration. A dynamite raffle follows the show.

Membership: To become a member of Granite Bay Flycasters, a nominal fee is required: \$35 for a family; \$30 single; and youth (under 18), \$10. There is a \$7 initiation fee for new members. The cost of membership is pro-rated throughout the year. For membership information, call Jim Ferguson at (916) 781-2358.

Voice of
GRANITE BAY
Flycasters
Since 1986



November 2000

Visit us at: www.gbflycasters.org

November at a Glance

2000

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|-----------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 General Meeting Mike Denzga | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Board Meeting 7:00 pm | 17 Eagle Lake Fish Out | 18 Eagle Lake Fish Out |
| 19 Eagle Lake Fish Out | 20 Nymph Tying with Bill C.-7-9pm | 21 Fly Tying Jam Session-6:30-7 | 22 | 23 Thanksgiving | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Officers

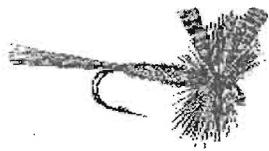
| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President | Drake Johnson | 916-783-0343 |
| V.P. Membership | Jim Ferguson | 916-781-2358 |
| V.P. Conservation | Dave Baker | 916-315-0715 |
| Secretary | Chris Ronshausen | 916-638-5615 |
| Treasurer | Rod Leggett | 916-791-4710 |

Directors

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Through 2000 | Jeremy Gray | 916-797-3312 |
| Through 2000 | Gray Allen | 916-783-4334 |
| Through 2001 | Denny Welch | 530-268-3453 |
| Through 2001 | Nathan Joyner | 916-984-2025 |
| Through 2002 | John Bergman | 916-966-7032 |
| Through 2002 | Jeff Medina | 916-353-1992 |
| At Large | Christine Johnston | 530-644-4061 |
| Past President | Rob Ferrogiaro | 916-791-0887 |

Committees

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Advertising | Robert Tamson | 916-967-0176 |
| Annual Dinner | Jeremy Gray | 916-797-3312 |
| Bear River Project | Jim Coleman | 530-885-4128 |
| Casting | John Hogg | 916-663-2051 |
| Casting Pond Project | Tom Klinefelter | 916-363-6634 |
| Leader Editor | Chris Ronshausen | 916-638-5615 |
| Salmon & Steelhead | Rick Radoff & | 916-624-2107 |
| Education Program | Frank Srolten | 916-725-6894 |
| Fishmaster | Arno Dietzler | 916-483-8711 |
| Fly Tying | Bill Carnazzo | 916-663-2604 |
| Gatekeeper | John Bergman | 916-966-7032 |
| Golden Trout | Jeff Medina | 916-353-1992 |
| Historian | Warren Schoenmann | 916-725-2542 |
| Librarian(s) | Jim Hunter | 916-652-5057 |
| | Mac Hunter | 916-791-0359 |
| Merchandising | Mike Brune | 916-723-4524 |
| Programs | Bill Carnazzo | 916-663-2604 |
| Special Projects | Frank Stolten | 916-725-6894 |
| Raffle | | |
| Refreshments | Terry Wasserman | 530-677-7189 |
| Webmaster | Amy March | 530-333-9530 |
| Youth Counselors | Jeanne & Ron English | 530-677-7169 |



The Tail-Out Section

By Chris Ronshausen, Editor

Arno and I went to O'neill Forebay last weekend for a pre fish out. In short, we caught nothing and were beaten up badly by the wind. This fore bay (and the whole area east of the coastal mountains) is notorious for late afternoon winds; this Saturday, the whole day was late afternoon.

We sought refuge from the wind on the lee side of every land masse and were successful for about five minutes until the wind found us, ripped our anchors up and sent us adrift in to two and three foot swells—difficult to cast. And when we *did* attempt to cast, it was mildly nerve wracking. Even though the wind blew fairly consistently from the north, gusts would occasionally come in from whichever direction and confuse our lines, directing our size one hooks dangerously close to each other's head!

But despite being cast about like a cork in the ocean and leaving the water without fish, the exposure to a new fishery and the tips that I picked up along the way made it worthwhile. For instance, I learned how to cast a shooting head in the wind. It's not at all like casting a double tapered floating line. Here I was, trying to form nice loops on my back cast and false casting two or three times. Arno made it clear, after I nearly pierced his ear, that casting a shooting head in the wind ain't supposed to be pretty. With the whole shooting head outside the guides, it takes simply a pick up, one false cast and letting er' fly. And he proved his point with 70 and 80 ft. casts, using the wind to his advantage.

And I learned boat etiquette. You've got to pay attention to the other person and time your casts or he's bound to get whacked. And I learned that on choppy waters, it's best to be on the aft side of the boat, not standing on the forward deck high in the wind like a weather vane. Arno took the aft position, and I wasn't going to fight him for it—for obvious reasons. Which leads me to the other etiquette lesson I learned. Don't mess with around with a guy twice your size in choppy seas. In other words, don't rock the boat or he may rock yours!

There *were* fish in there though; I could feel it with every 40 to 50 ft. cast that I made before we were forced in. And I would like to go back soon...when the wind dies down a bit.

November Program @ The Clubhouse

Mike Denega: Fishing Montana

Planning a trip to Montana and tired of web-surfing and relying on "contact" numbers that often misdirect? Come to the November General Meeting and listen and talk to someone who has spent the bulk of his fishing life (which is extensive) wielding graphite and slinging fur and feathers along some of the most beloved rivers that you've heard of in Montana lore; expect to leave the clubhouse with valuable information to use on *your* next trip. **Mike Denega**, Biologist and environmental educator, will provide members with fly fishing insights to such rivers as Clark's Fork, Yellowstone, Missouri and Big Hole, among others, while describing the natural and man-induced stresses that these waters currently endure.

A little over a year ago, Mike presented to the club a fantastic slide-show of his fishing experiences in British Columbia. Through the presentation, he wove an environmental message that continues to reverberate throughout the fly fishing community: "fish without lead." **Denega's** life is dedicated to spreading this and other equally important messages to the fly fishing community and to wider audiences. Mike will weave another equally critical message into his discussion of Montana's waters on Thursday: "take care of the waters that you fish." Come to the General Meeting Thursday night and hear this message while being meticulously informed of where and how to fish some of Montana's most valued waters.

Editor's note: Along with his discussion, Mike will have materials available for you to take home detailing fishing opportunities in Montana and some numbers that you can call to prepare.

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| 4...Announcements | 17...Local Fishing <i>Bill Carnazzo</i> |
| 5...Board News | 20...Fishing the Lower Yuba <i>Jeremy Gray</i> |
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President's Message

Drake Johnson

We are now officially into the last quarter of the year. The end of a year and the beginning of the next year is the busiest time for our club. In December we have the Tackle Swap/Chili Cook-Off and of course the Christmas get-together with all the good food; the Sportsman's show comes to Cal Expo in January; we have to plan for the next year and make ready for our Annual Dinner; we have new members joining the club and we are renewing *our* memberships. So dig in and hang on as we swing toward the new year!

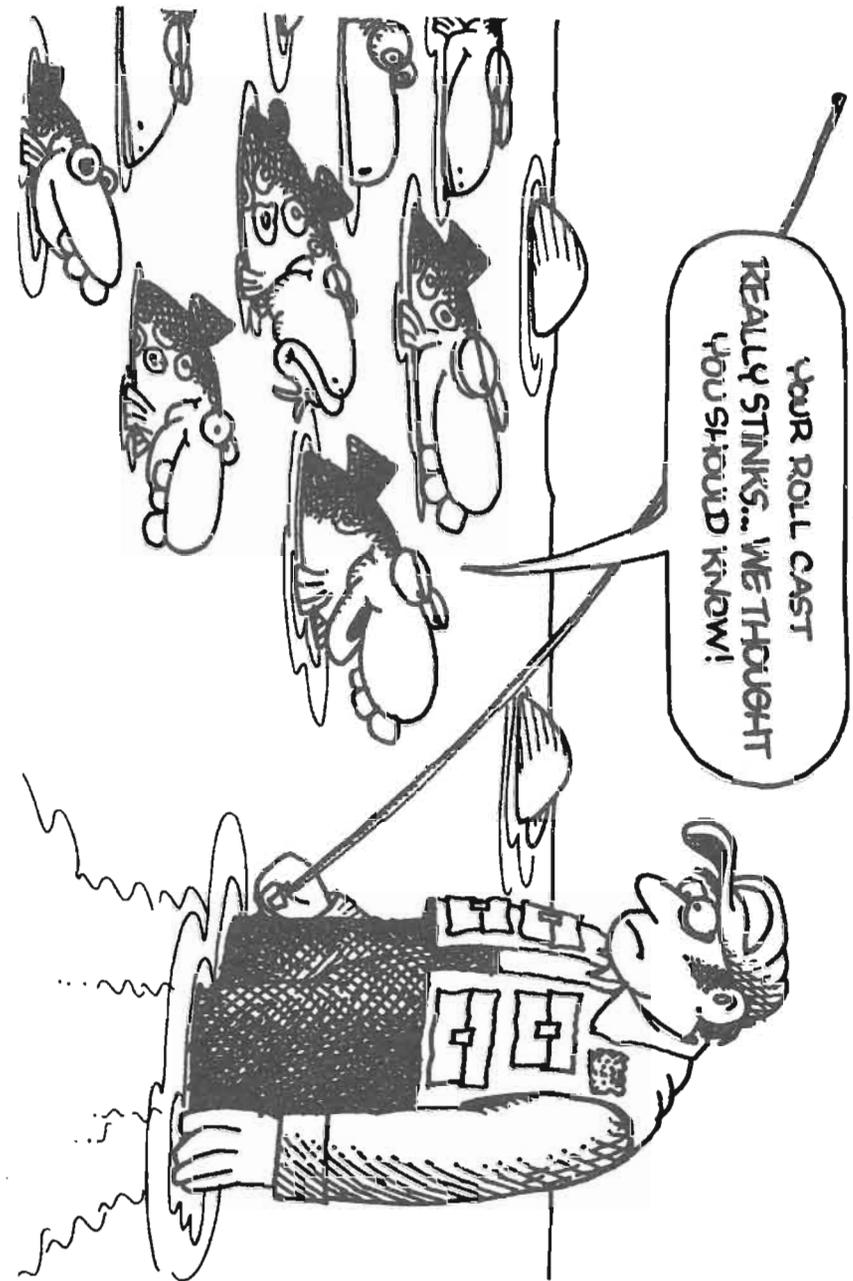
Thanks to all of you who "dug in" at the Salmon Festival. Most of all, a huge thanks to **Pete Peterson** for organizing our participation and for being there for both days, all day, to make sure it all went smoothly. There were 375 kids that visited the booth and tied flies! This was up from 250 last year! We will need to have more of you commit to help out this worthy program next year; keep it in mind. It was really a lot of fun watching and helping these kids tie, in most cases, their first fly.

And thanks to all of you who signed up to help with the Tackle Swap/Chili Cook-Off (Dec. 2nd) and the Annual Dinner (Mar. 31st). We need all the help we can get and the more people that help the easier it is on everyone that is trying to make these events special. And it was very nice to have two people--**Michael Gervais** and **Jack Peuler**--sign up to be Gate keeper. As you regular members know, the entrance gate closes at 7:00 p.m. or earlier. These two guys will share the responsibility of keeping it open before the program.

And try to keep the 17-19 of November open. It's time to head up to Eagle Lake for some potentially explosive fall fishing! Be sure to bring your thermals. **Arno**, our super Fishmaster will be there, eager to make his presence known to the fish while offering his assistance to those unacquainted with this fishery. See page 10 for more information on this popular fish out.

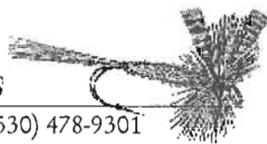
Well, November is turkey time, and I have lately spent it at Bodega Bay with my in-laws, and that is the plan again this year. I just might throw a few clousers and deceivers in the surf to see if I can fool some fishes while I am there. I expect that will be my next fishing trip unless I get away to Eagle Lake. In any case, I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving and hope you get to spend it with family and friends.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting, or on the water.



Nevada City Anglers

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Hello fellow anglers!

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Jeremy Gray

Great Holiday Buys!

- Complete outfit including IM6 graphite rod, clic-drag reel, backing, WF floating line and leader just \$149.99 These rods have an unconditional lifetime warranty--made by Temple Fork Outfitters.
- Sage Demo Sale--20% off. We have one each of the following rods: 590XP, 590SP, 590RPL+, 590VPS, and a 590DS2. These rods were used in our classes and as demos. All rods are in near mint condition and come with the warranty card and rod tube.
- All Neoprene or nylon Waders in stock 20% off.
- Patagonia waders, boots, and vests in stock are 20 % off.

Beginning Fly Fishing Class

Nevada City Anglers offers a one day Beginning Fly Fishing class. These classes are held twice a month on Saturdays. Everything is provided in class. Students meet at the shop at 9:00am. At the class, we will cover the following:

- Fly Fishing equipment, rods, and reels
- Rigging, knots, lines, and leaders
- Fly selection, insect types, and hatches
- Locating fish, reading the water, and presentations
- Mechanics of the cast
- Timing and loading the rod
- Overhead cast
- False casting and the presentation cast
- Roll Casting

**Next class:
November 18th!**

We provide all the necessary equipment, but if you have your own, feel free to bring it to class. The cost is \$85 per student. Private lessons or classes are available on request. Call or e-mail to enroll today.

*** Check out our well developed and frequently maintained web site at gofishing.com**

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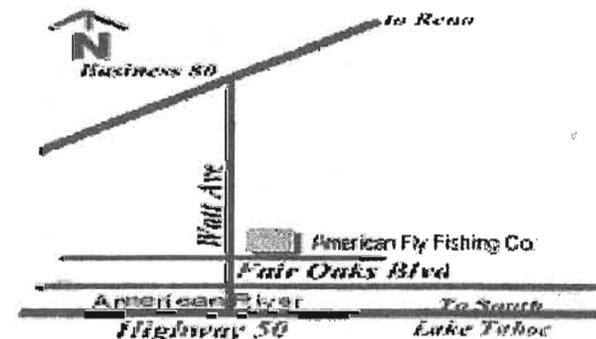
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American Fly Fishing Co. is proud and excited to announce that we are Northern California's newest Sage dealer. New products will be featured in our holiday newsletter and at our web site: www.americanfly.com. We are celebrating our new product line --Sage-- with a special Sage Demo Day and Holiday Party from **noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 2 at the shop**. Find us at 3523 Fair Oaks Blvd. (just off Watt-north exit from Highway 50—5 minutes from the American River). There will be Sage representatives to answer questions and everyone will have an opportunity to try out the rods. In addition, there will be free food, beverages and fun for all!



Announcements

Tying Booth at Salmon Festival a Success!

I thought we had a great festival last year with 242 kids being shown how to tie a wooly bugger. I guess that was just practice as we had 374 kids this year! This would not have been possible without the help of **Sturmer White, Denny Welch, Drake Johnson, Paul Trader, Jim Coleman, Ron and Jeanne English, Bill Carnazzo, Warren Schoenmann, Michael Gervais, Hank Ortman, John Carroz and Chris Ronshausen.** If I have missed anyone, I apologize. Many of these members worked extra shifts which was a tremendous help as our club was the backbone of the whole affair. I want to give special thanks to **Jim Hunter** who arrived on Sunday at 9:15 a.m. and did not leave until 4:45 p.m. Jim worked without benefit of lunch or any breaks!

Many thanks to all for a job exceptionally well done. It is people like this that make our club the best! **P. Peterson**

New Member a Key Contributor to Bear River Project!

Bear River is under a blanket of snow now. Under that snow are 25 newly planted trees waiting for next spring. Our club can thank the generosity and skills of a new member, **Colin Jackson**, for this addition to the riparian health of our project.

Colin is a trained nurseryman who has taken a strong personal interest in seeing that the right trees (Alder and Big-Leaf Maple) were planted in the right way. He donated the trees and planting materials and the time needed to finish this important work.

GBF thanks you Colin for your good work! J.Coleman

*Editor's note: The Bear River Project is a restoration project that GBF has been involved in for several years, an attempt to strengthen the wild fishery that runs through the beautiful Bear River Valley near Emigrant Gap, east along hwy. 80. Ask **Jim Coleman** for more details.*

Christmas Gifts & Holiday Planning

It's not too early to start dropping those hints for Christmas gifts. Be sure to let Santa's helpers know that Club hats, shirts and fly boxes are available from **Mike Brune.** Mike will be happy to work with any of Santa's helpers to get just the right stuff to them in time to get it under the Christmas tree. **Mike** can be contacted by phone at (916) 723-4524, or by email at mbrune@jps.net.

Lower Yuba *continued*

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 brings adult steelhead 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 a bank fishing situation. 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 Squalla stoneflies. These are best imitated with a poxy-back rubber legged stonefly, 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!

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www.tedfay.com**

**Joe Kimsey
Home
(530) 235-2872**



**Bob Grace
Home
(530) 235-4938**

Located at the Acorn Motel (formerly the Garden Hotel)

Fishing the Lower Yuba River

By Jeremy Gray

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 it's 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 8 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 in hope 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.

"If you aren't hanging up on the bottom at least every once in a while, your flies aren't getting down to the fish!"

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 flies aren't getting down to the fish!

continued next page

Board News

New Election Period Proposed

The Board has proposed that we move the elections for Directors and Officers to June with the nominations for Officers being taken at the General Meeting in May. The idea behind this is to make it much easier on the new Officers and Board members since they will not have to start their term during the club's busiest time of the year. **We will be putting this to a vote to the general membership at the November General Meeting.** The existing Officers and Board members have agreed to stay on for the additional six months to make this a smooth transition. Copies of the proposed bylaw changes will be available at the meeting.

Approval of Year 2000 Conservation Committee Spending Plan

The Conservation Committee is responsible for managing the Granite Bay Flycasters' ongoing conservation-related funds. To ensure that only appropriate organizations/causes are awarded donations, a formal procedure is followed for both identifying and evaluating candidates.

The first step in this yearly process is the Board of Directors approving the final annual budget. The Committee collects informal information on all nominated organizations (actually an ongoing effort in which you are encouraged to participate). The Conservation VP informs GBF members of the annual development of a spending plan and solicits their input. "Organization backgrounds" are written or updated on suggested organizations/causes to receive GBF funding. The Committee drafts the proposed spending plan, which is then recommended to Board. Upon Board approval, checks are written.

Highlights of GBF conservation funding strategy for year 2000 are as follows:

- Donations are at membership (\$100 baseline established) or at higher levels

continued next page

Board Action *continued*

- Membership level (baseline donations) requires only that a group’s mission and accomplishments are compatible with GBF’s published conservation goals
- Going beyond the membership level requires an organization to have an established record of effectiveness in meeting its conservation objectives
- Financial impact that GBF’s funds might have on a particular organization is also considered

After considering the Committee’s recommendation, the Board approved donations totaling \$3,200 and authorized extending this amount to \$4,600 (supplemental funding dependent on review of clarifying information from several organizations). The Board actions included a one-time donation to a special memorial scholarship fund honoring **Gary LaFontaine**, the popular biologist, fly-tier and author who has been stricken with Lou Gherig’s Disease.

Organizations/Causes
for Funding in FY2000

| | <u>Approved Funds</u> |
|---|-----------------------|
| California Sportsfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA) | \$1,000 |
| California Trout (Cal Trout) | \$500 |
| Save the American River Association (SARA) | \$250 - \$500 |
| McCloud River Preserve (Nature Conservancy) | \$150 - \$500 |
| South Yuba River Citizen’s League (SYRCL) | \$100 - \$500 |
| Casa Grande High School (United Anglers) | \$100 |
| Friends of the Trinity River (FOTR) | \$100 |
| Dry Creek Conservancy (DCC) | \$100 - \$500 |
| Upper Sacramento River Exchange | \$100 |
| Friends of the River (FOR) | \$100 |
| Trout Unlimited (TU) | \$100 |
| Local GBF Conservation Projects | \$400 |
| Gary LaFontaine Scholarship Fund | \$200 |
| | Total=\$4,600 |

Dave Baker will talk more about this process at the November General Meeting and invites any questions/comments. The *Year 2000 Conservation Spending Plan* will be available to whomever would like a copy. If you’d like it sent e-mail, Give **Dave** a call at (916) 315-0715 or e-mail him at bakerdavid@mailcity.com

which has been covered with gunite (presumably to help avoid washouts in winter), drop down to the stream. You will find a wonderful assortment of pocketwater situations, along with some cliff-side deep runs which hold some larger fish. There are miners in the upper part of this run.

Finally, let’s stop at Goodyear’s Bar (mile marker 12.3). If you cross the bridge, you’ll find the delightful little burg of Goodyear’s Bar. Park where you can, out of the way, and climb down to this pocketwater section. You’ll need to be careful in this section, which has some large boulders and somewhat tricky wading. You’ll encounter a mix of planted and wild fish here.

Back across the bridge, you will notice Goodyear’s Creek coming into the North Yuba from the North. There is a road along the easterly edge of the creek. This creek can provide some good early season fishing, so it is worth at least a stop to explore it even if only to catalogue the info for later use.

This ends what to me is the lower river. We’ll explore some of the upper regions in later articles.

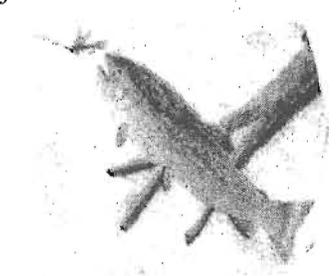
Gear, Flies, etc.

For the North Fork, a rod of 8 or 9 foot length is perfect, in a 3 or 4 weight. During the summer months, it gets hot so wet wading is in order. Bring plenty of water and snacks to keep from getting dehydrated and suffering from energy loss. A wading staff is highly advisable; it can save you from a nasty fall, and from becoming the candidate for the “Wet Fly Award.”

Good dry flies in sizes 14-18: Buzz Hackle (see tying article in this issue); Yellow or Red Humpy; Stimulator; Ant patterns (see last month’s Leader); Elk Hair Caddis; CDC Caddis; Royal Wulff; Parachute Adams. Good nymphs: Bill’s Stick Caddis, # 8 and 10; Pheasant Tail, #14 (with or without bead); LaFontaine Sparkle Pupa and Emerger, #14 & 16; Black Flashback A.P., #14; Black Bird’s Nest, #10-14; black and golden Stonefly imitations, #8-12; and, of course, bead head and regular Hare’s Ear, a couple with flashback, #14-18.

So...off the couch and onto the stream!!!

Editor’s note: The last day--this year--to fish the section covered in this article is November 15th--not a lot of time. But be sure to hold on to this issue and revisit this article come spring.



The lower river

In this article, we'll concentrate on some of the spots along the lower river. In later installments, we'll focus on other sections and a few of the more significant tributaries.

If you park at the last mentioned bridge, you will see a locked gate barring an old road into Shenanigan Flat, formerly a USFS campground, now closed for reasons which should become obvious when you get there. The hike is around 1 mile. You'll know you have arrived when you spot a collection of various shanties, old trailers, and other assorted shelters. Miners occupy these, so give them a wide berth, and watch for dogs. The river is accessible by trails at the Flat. You'll find a good collection of slots, chutes and other pocketwater situations. I suspect some poaching goes on in here, so don't expect too much in the way of productivity. It's still worth the walk, however, and the evening action can be good.

Your next stops are Indian Valley campground and Convict Flat Picnic Area. At each of these, there are good pocketwater spots. They are popular and do get fished over. There will be a lot of planted fish here, but wild fish can also be found in this stretch, especially in the Fall.

The Ramshorn Campground area also rates a spot (located at the 10.78 highway marker sign). Park in the big turnout area below the campground, and walk downstream along the road. At the end of the part of the river bank which has been covered with gunite (presumably to help avoid washouts in

continued next page



Bill's Side Guide *Bill's Old Time*

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Upcoming Events/Clinics

Tackle Swap and Chili Cook-Off Saturday, December 2

√ TACKLE SWAP

"One man's trash is another man's treasure." Perhaps that's not the best saying to use when trying to lure members to the Tackle Swap and Chili Cook-Off on December 2nd. But in a way it makes sense because at the swap meet, members are trying to unload stuff that they just can not use, have grown out of, or just plain don't like. But the cool thing is that we are all at different levels of skill, and therefore appreciation of, equipment! So expect to find a lot of treasure at this year's annual meet, gear that fits *your* need.

There's no particular limit to what you bring in terms of gear, just so it's fishing related and doesn't fill up the entire clubhouse; there's only so much space! **The event is free to members.** The only requirement for participation is that each member contribute one item for the raffle which will occur later that day.

√ CHILI COOK-OFF

On to the chili! Last year the **Englishs'** wowed members' taste buds with some fantastic homemade chili amidst many other very worthy entries. There are no particular rules for the cook-off except that the chili be homemade and not so hot that it burns the esophagus going down! And bring enough so that you think you'll end up with leftovers!

√ PHOTO CONTEST

Finally, there's an added dimension to the event this year: a photo contest. Yes, the club is looking for photos that capture some, any essence of our sport, a picture that tells a distinct story, takes the breath away, causes uncontrolled laughter—whatever. Bring in what you already have, or go out and find a shot that captures this "essence." The winner will be able to choose any item that is on the raffle table "before" the raffle begins. Sound alluring? Give **Drake Johnson** a call for details at (916) 783-0343.

Local Fishing Opportunities

Fishing the North Yuba, Part 1

By Bill Carnazzo

This is the fifth in a series of articles on "local" fishing, designed in part to address members' questions about local fishing opportunities.

In the last four installments, we explored the Middle Fork American River, and a few of its major accessible tributaries, as well as four of the upper Foresthill Divide trails down to the "Wild & Scenic" portion of the North Fork American River. We also considered one of the lower river access points, and another tributary called the "North of the North." This month we'll take a look at that wonderful gem, the North Yuba River.

If you are considering fishing this river, I recommend that you obtain a copy of "Flyfishing California's North Yuba River," by Ed Klingelhofer. I believe that GBF's library contains a copy. You should also contact Jeremy Gray at Nevada City Anglers (see ad) for the latest conditions, fly patterns, and other info. Another suggestion would be to enroll in GBF's annual North Yuba Clinic, which is always very well attended by members. One caution: I have twice encountered Rattlesnakes along the North Yuba this year; so, please look ahead to the next step you are about to take. If there is a log in your path, bang on it with your wading staff or a stick, and check the other side before stepping over it.

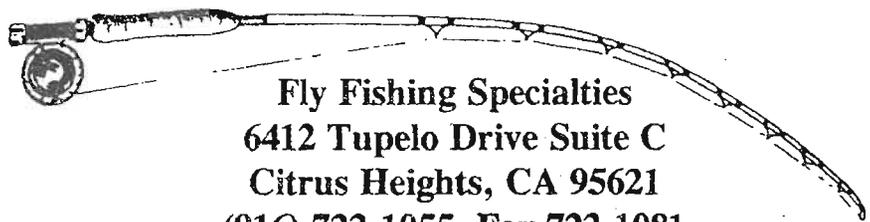
Getting There

Take I-80 to Auburn, and there take the Highway 49 exit. Follow Grass Valley signs. It takes around ½ hour to get to Nevada City, where you will see a sign for a left turn that points you to Downieville. Take that turn (you are still on Highway 49). If you are going to stop at Nevada City Anglers, turn at Broad St., which is just before the Downieville turnoff. There you can get easy directions to get back on 49.

Once past Nevada City, you will drop down into the canyon of the South Yuba, and will cross the bridge over that stream. From there Highway 49 climbs out of the canyon, only to fall again into the canyon of the Middle Yuba. After crossing this fork, once again it climbs upward, finally descending once again into the canyon of the North Yuba. At the bridge which crosses the North Yuba, you will notice a parking area on the downstream side of the bridge. That is the trail head for a nice tributary called Canyon Creek—but that's another story, as they say.

From here, the highway follows the river all the way to its headwaters along the Yuba Pass.

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Tying Better Nymphs

with Bill Carnazzo

Monday, November 20: 7-9pm



Want to tighten your nymph-tying skills? Sit down with **Bill Carnazzo** and see how you can add speed and dimension to *your* tying sessions. Bill will spend a couple of concentrated hours instructing **intermediate tyers** how to make their flies better “match the hatch.”

Bill Carnazzo is arguably among the best tyers in our club and many of you have seen him demonstrate his skill at the clubhouse before each monthly General Meeting. Attend this two hour session on November 20th and move *your* skills to a higher level. The cost is five dollars to members, and this includes materials. It is requested that you bring your own basic tying tools. **Bill will take the first ten members.** You can give him a call at (916) 663-2604 and sign up early. Otherwise, look for a sign-up sheet at the November General Meeting.

The International Sportsman’s Exposition



January 17-21

Mark these dates on your calendar. There will be a sign-up sheet at the November and December General Meeting. This is a great club event and well worth the commitment to spend a couple of hours in the booth having fun and meeting people—as well as promoting the club and its activities. There will be an instruction sheet in the booth for cash handling and other matters. The “pass” to get into the show consists of the badge which is worn at the booth (only). Those who have signed up will have their names on a list at the “will call” ticket booth at the main gate; they can pick up a badge there. There are only six badges. Those working in the booth need to return the badge to will call, so the next team can get in. Please cooperate in this regard. And don’t miss this event!!!

For information on this event, call **Bill Carnazzo** at 663-2604.

Fish Outs

Eagle Lake

With Arno Deitzler
November 17-19



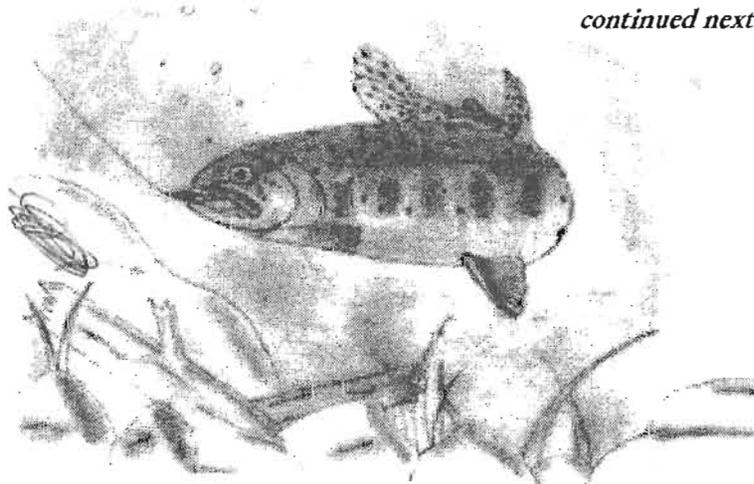
Eagle Lake closes to fishing on December 31st. Until that time, the renowned Eagle Lake trout will have their gaping mouths open, feeding continuously, gaining as many calories as they can before winter sets in and the food selection becomes sparse.

To convince you further of how hungry the fish are up there right now, consider what **Jim Holmes** has to say of a fishing trip he and a couple of friends took up to Eagle in late October:

This fishing is something to behold! Even with the rain and wind we were all able to catch at least 7 fish/day to 11 fish, the smallest of which were 2.8 pounds officially weighed on the de-liar scale. The largest fish I weighed was 4.5 lbs! Of course, this was not official.

We were fishing inside the tules in our prams/boats. We were fishing in 1 to 3 feet of water, way inside the tule line almost next to the shore! The fish were hitting a variety of flies, but primarily a size 12 hot or burnt orange kind of a bugger. We were using floating lines...fishing couldn't be simpler! These fish are hot--doing all of the things that a trout should do. If you get a chance, you should visit this wonderful fishery!

continued next page



NCCFFF Update *continued*

- * Anheuser-Busch paid \$4700 per year to graze its cattle on 100,000 acres of public land, an area the size of the City of San Jose.
- * Taxpayers pay for new fences, and the costs of federal employees monitoring stream damage from cattle.
- * In 1993 University of California researchers recommended that the Forest Service rest this area from grazing for at least 10 years to allow it to recover.

Despite all this, the Forest Service has not yet made a decision on future grazing permits in this area. If you want to weigh in on this issue, write a brief letter urging the Forest Service to adopt Alternative A, the no grazing alternative for the Templeton and Whitney allotments. Write to:

Luci McKee
Mt. Whitney District Ranger
Inyo National Forest
P.O. Box 8, Lone Pine, CA 93545



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Members!**

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NCCFFF Conservation Update

Battle With Beer Company Won But the War Isn't Over

By Rob Ferroggiaro

Some GBF members may remember the letter writing campaign our club undertook several years ago to urge Anheuser-Busch to stop grazing cattle in the Golden Trout Wilderness, a section of the Inyo National Forest near Mr. Whitney. The form letter we all received in response was terse, claiming legal rights and downplaying any possible negative impacts. (Some of you may be wondering why a beer company would be so determined to graze cattle. It turns out A/B bought a ranch in the area for its water rights. Holding a grazing permit for nearby land makes the property more valuable.)

What a difference a few years makes. With their grazing permit up for renewal, A/B has been drawing heavy fire recently from a broad range of conservation groups, including Cal Trout, Trout Unlimited and Sierra Club, objecting to their grazing operations. NCCFFF and a number of its member clubs have been active in a letter writing campaign. After years of stonewalling, A/B recently issued a brief press release announcing they were withdrawing cattle grazing from this area.

Here are some startling facts which provide an indication of how deeply the practice of the subsidized grazing of private cattle on public land is ingrained in our government agencies, regardless of impact:

- * The area being grazed by A/B is part of the last remaining habitat for the state fish, the Volcano Creek Golden Trout. The population of this fish has been so decimated that Trout Unlimited recently filed a petition to have it listed under the Endangered Species Act.
- * Scientists gone on record stating that the cattle have trampled the area to the extent that stream side habitat is destroyed, banks eroded and insect life driven away.
- * Multiple studies have shown the cattle have routinely polluted Volcano Creek, a tributary of the Kern River, a river designated as Wild and Scenic.

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Bring a tube, pram, canoe, boat etc. Bank fishing is fairly limited if the water's high (which it likely is). Bring extra cold/wet weather gear; it can rain or snow at any time. The fish should be in 2 to 6 feet of water, so a floating line is sufficient. 5 to 7 weight rods are good and 6# tippet is standard. Flies for Eagle Lake (weighted Woolly Buggers primarily) are available at all the Sacramento, Truckee and Reno fly shops. There will be examples of some good patterns and colors at the November general meeting along with road and lake maps.

The lake is about 4+ hours drive from Sacramento. There are one or two small restaurants and convenience stores (essentials only) at the lake. Otherwise Susanville is only 45 minutes away. If you don't have accommodations for this trophy trout weekend yet, call **Arno** at (916) 483-8711; he may be able to hook you up with someone who's already got reservations. On the other hand, if you have a place to stay and can squeeze in another club member or two, call **Arno** as well.

This is an excellent time to fish Eagle Lake. The fish are feeding voraciously, the weather has cooled down (perhaps considerably), and there'll be few people crowding the shores. Sign up for this trip at the November General Meeting or give **Arno** a call and go catch fish!

Below: Arno releasing a nice trout on the Merced earlier this year.

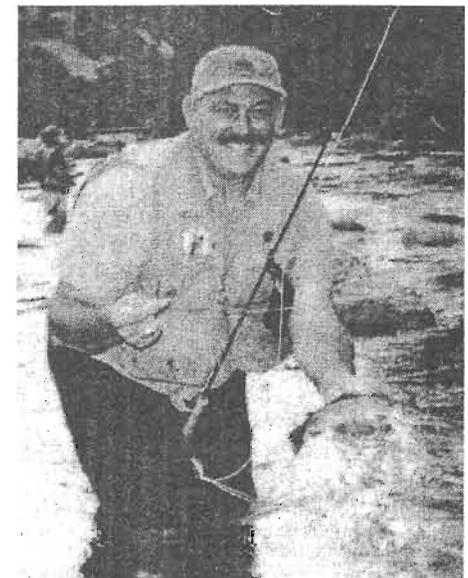
Arno Deitzler Licensed Guide

A few of the rivers and lakes Arno is equipped to guide...

- * The Merced
- * The Sacramento
- * The Yuba
- * New Melones Lake
- * Oroville Lake

*Give Arno a Call and...
hook up!*

(916) 483-8711
deitzler@csus.edu



Flytyer's Corner

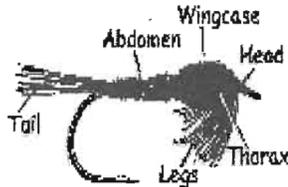
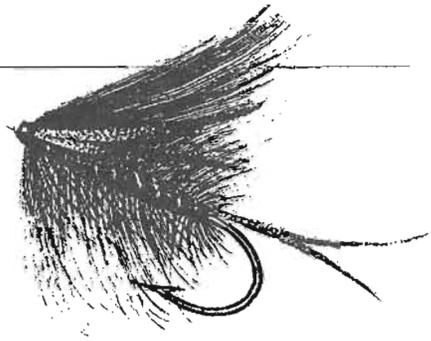
BY
BILL CARNAZZO

Buzz Hackle

Since the "Local Fishing" article for this month features that gem of a stream, the North Yuba River, it seemed appropriate to feature a North Yuba fly. The Buzz Hackle is one of those flies whose origin is murky at best. It may even be a different name for another pattern. In some respects it resembles the old standard "Renegade", with its "fore & aft" hackle technique. I suppose it's someone's adaptation, found to be successful on the North Yuba. I found it in Ed Klingelhofer's book on the North Yuba (mentioned in the local fishing article). And, I might add, it does work—but don't ask me why. When guiding on this gem, if things aren't going too well I'll tie one of these little bugs on; it sometimes will coax fish up when other imitations fail. It fits our general criterion of being simple to tie, so let's build one.

Materials

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Hook | Standard dry fly hook, sizes 14-18 |
| Thread | Black 6/0 or 8/0 |
| Tag | Fine silver flat tinsel |
| Tail | Red quill or hackle fibers |
| Hackle (rear) | Grizzly dry fly quality |
| Body | Peacock herl |
| Hackle (front) | Brown dry fly quality |



Instructions

1. Smash hook barb and cover back half of hook with layer of thread. Run thread past beginning of bend about 10 winds.
2. Tie on fine silver tinsel; crystal flash is a good substitute.
3. Tie on a tail of red quill fibers or red hackle; length should be equal to shank length.

4. Tie in the grizzly hackle and take 3 or 4 close winds; tie off and clip. This should cover no more than rear 1/3 of the hook
5. Tie in a piece of black thread, and then the peacock herl, both right in front of the grizzly hackle. Use 2 or 3 strands of herl, depending on hook size.
6. Twist the herl together with the thread; this strengthens it against the razor teeth of Godzilla The Trout. Wrap this "chenille" forward, covering the center 1/3 of the hook. Tie off.
7. Tie in a brown hackle. Wrap it forward with 3 or 4 wraps, covering the front 1/3 of the hook. Leave room for a small, neat head. Build the tapered head, whip finish and admire the result.

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

