

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

February 2014

www.gbflycasters.org

Leader's Line

by Mike Howes, GBF President

The Annual Dinner is just around the corner, buy your tickets at the February meeting or on line at www.gbfc.eventbrite.com before the dinner is sold out. The dinner is on March 15th at the Rocklin Event Center. Tickets are \$40. This is our major fundraiser; the revenues from the dinner enable us to operate the club and give support to other organizations that focus on watershed quality.

I am really excited about how the dinner is coming together. Thanks to the various donations, we are going to have several rods and reels in the silent auction and raffle. There will be wine tasting. A BBQ buffet is on order. This year sodas and water are free. We will also be selling beer and wine. Our speaker will be Mikey Wier, the founder of Burl productions. The club is pledging 10% of net proceeds to Casting for Recovery. CFR is a nonprofit organization that helps women in various stages of breast cancer through the "Art of Fly Fishing." The evening is a casual affair—blue jeans are welcome. So, if you haven't gotten your dinner tickets, hurry up and do so. If you would like to donate an item or cash, please contact Rick Radoff at radoffcnst@jps.net.



If you are a fly tier and have time, it would help the club if you would donate a dozen or more flies to the annual dinner. Contact Frank Stolten at fstolten@comcast.net.

Send in your nominees for the Wet Fly Award. Give your nomination to a Board of Directors member (the members with blue name badges) at the February general meeting, or email me at lifeisreel@aol.com. Provide a small write-up on the incident—pictures are always welcome.

Don't forget to pay your 2014 membership dues. Mike Baker won the membership "Early Bird" prize of 100 dinner raffle tickets at the January general meeting.

Time flies when you are having fun. It is already time to start thinking about if you would like to be part of the decision making process in running the club. In June, the elections for 2014-2015 Board of Directors will be taking place. Nominees' names should be in by the May general meeting. Being on the Board is a great way to meet club members and to make a difference. We welcome fresh ideas. Consider throwing your name in the hat. Contact me at lifeisreel@aol.com if you have any questions.

IN THIS ISSUE

Annual Dinner Event is Almost Here	7
Calendar of Events	2
Classified Ads	3
Conservation Corner	7 - 8
Fishmaster's Corner	4 - 6
Fly Casting Clinics Announced	6
Fly Fishing Knots Workshop	10
Fly Tyer's Corner	10 - 12
Great Raffle Prizes Available	8 - 9
History of Fly Fishing, Issue #2	9 - 10
Leader's Line	1
Lines and Leaders Workshop Report	8
Membership Renewals are Due	9
Monthly Program	2
Officers	13
Wet Fly Still Up For Grabs	1 - 2

Wet Fly Still Up For Grabs!

We're still accepting nominations for the club's infamous Wet Fly Award. This annual recognition is bestowed on the club member that has demonstrated the highest level of "oneness" with the waters we fish...who has taken that fateful extra step leading to an intimate bonding with the environment of our quarry...who has gone above and beyond the limit of mere waders to immerse him/herself in the world of our noble nemesis...who, in other words, has fallen in the water while fishing!

Continued on Page 2

F E B R U A R Y 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1. Yuba River Fishout
2.	3. Beginner Fly Tying	4.	5. Conservation Committee Meeting	6.	7.	8.
9.	10. Beginner Fly Tying	11.	12.	13. Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM	14.	15.
16.	17.	18. Fly Tying Jam	19.	20. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	21.	22.
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	

Wet Fly Still Up For Grabs - Continued from Page 1

Who do you know who's slipped, tripped, stumbled, fallen, crashed, capsized, or otherwise gotten soaked while fishing—and won't mind having the story recounted aloud at our annual dinner next month? If you have someone in mind, just contact Rick Radoff at (916) 870-9637 to relay the deserving story. And remember... think wet!

Monthly Program



Our speaker this month is [Doug Ouelette](#), a well known guide in both California and Nevada, who has over 45 years of fly fishing experience. His program will provide a comprehensive look at one of the most outstanding stillwaters in the west, Five Dot Reservoir. This 400-acre reservoir is located in the upper elevations of [Five Dot Ranch](#) in a secluded basin. There, Triploid Rainbow Trout grow fast and strong in this fertile environment, and can be commonly caught in the 2 to 5 pound range, along with some larger fish up to ten pounds.

Unlike other private stillwater fisheries these Triploid Rainbows grow up on natural food sources and are not overfed at a hatchery only to decrease in size once they are released into the wild. Leaping rainbow trout taking trips into your backing even with heavy tippet is common at Five Dot. The Ranch is located only a few miles from Eagle Lake and close enough to Susanville for anglers to have plenty of options for lodging and camping while fishing this remarkable fishery.

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.

For Sale:

Aluminum Boat and Motor

12' aluminum Starcraft boat and 6 HP Evinrude outboard motor for sale. Boat registration expires at the end of the year. \$600 OBO. Contact: Kim Lloyd kclloyd@comcast.net or (916) 425-7680 - mobile.



For Sale:

Pontoon Boat, Buck's Bags "Bronco"

7/8 ft. length. Comes with oars, 4 tackle bags and anchor lift. Asking \$400. Contact: Ron Van Sant at 916-991-0720 (home), or 916-335-0203 (cell).



AmericanFlyFishing.com

Save gas shop online!

- All store items available online
- No order too big or too small
- FREE Shipping on all orders *
- Most Items, shipped same day
- 30 day money back guarantee!
- Shop from the comfort of your own home
- Most California orders delivered in 1-2 business days

*Continental USA only



Store Hours:
M - F: 9am - 6pm
Sat: 7:30am - 5pm
Sun: 9am - 3pm

1-800-410-1222

Fishmaster's Corner

by Eric Palmer, Fishmaster

The Minimalist

He was standing in the middle of the river casting downstream in my direction, probably 150 feet above the bridge I was crossing. It was an early December morning and steelhead time on the San Lorenzo River in Felton. The river parallels Highway 9 through Felton in the Santa Cruz Mountains, then hugs *Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park* as it leaves town heading south to its outlet in Santa Cruz. In the prime of our coastal steelhead streams, this small river was teeming with fall salmon and winter steelhead. In the 50's and 60's when the fish were in, the Santa Cruz fire whistle would blow, shops would close and all so inclined would grab their rods or poles and head to the river's mouth in the heart of town where they'd pack themselves cheek-to-jowl for an easy limit of salmon or steelhead. Tragically, those days are long gone, but there remains the same short 3-month season of weekends and Wednesdays—barbless hooks with artificial lures, and now a zero limit.

It was a Wednesday, as the thrill of playing hooky to fish on a hectic work day along with missing the weekend regulars was too much to resist. With no traffic behind me on the bridge, I slowed, then paused briefly to take in the serene and poetic sight of the lone angler skillfully working the riffle in the morning mist. I immediately realized that there was something incongruous about the scene: With ample beard and floppy broad brimmed hat, he was standing knee deep in the icy current with long pants but no waders. From his casting form he exuded an air of purpose and confidence; this fellow clearly knew what he was doing, but no waders? Must have forgotten them at home in the garage. Being relatively new to fly fishing as well as the San Lorenzo—a mere 45 minutes from home, I briefly considered parking and climbing down there to interrogate him on how to fish the river, but decided against interrupting such focus; plus, he was standing in the middle of the river; maybe I'd be lucky enough run into him later.

I continued over the bridge deciding to attack this challenging stream from the State Park side rather than taking the usual hike from the Highway 9 turnout down into the steep and lush green gorge half a mile downstream with the cardiac stress-test climb back out. The gorge area of the river easily rivals the McCloud Conservancy in its lush beauty, but access and negotiating the bank is problematic, something else it shares with the McCloud. I fished for several hours with nary a grab nor fish even spotted. On my departure, as I drove towards the bridge, there appeared a form up on the roadway leaning against the weathered lichen encrusted concrete railing facing the warm afternoon sun. As I drew closer, I thought, could it be him? It is him...the sodden denims as exhibit "A." At first I hesitated to stop, not being that gregarious in approaching strangers in spite of my intense thirst for any nugget of intel on that river, but, something about his body language as he leaned against the railing, cigarette in hand, said: *"I have all day and no place else to be—why not stop and chat?"* So, stop I did.

Continued on Page 5



ORVIS
SPORTING TRADITIONS
Since 1856

ROSEVILLE

Before you get on the water, gear up at Sacramento's only full-service Orvis fly shop and lifestyle store. Here, you'll find the newest Helios fly rods, reels, waders, and more fly-fishing gear; plus a full line of luggage and men's and ladies apparel. Stop in and say hello today, and find exactly what you need.

1009 Galleria Blvd. | The Fountains | Roseville, CA 95678 | 916 783 9400 | orvis.com/roseville

Fishmaster's Corner - Continued from Page 4

I parked at the near bridge abutment and walked over to him at mid-span. A smile and the requisite "How's the fishing?" was all it took to kick things off. On closer inspection, the incongruences grew. He was short and lean, face well weathered with the full beard, probably early 50's but no fishing gear in sight beyond his rod resting against the bridge railing. It was a well-used glass fly rod, probably 8' and fitted with the tiniest spinning reel I'd ever seen. His "wading boots" were thoroughly broken-in athletic shoes, and he was soaking wet from mid-thigh down. He was quite chatty and generous with information, volunteering that he was in construction and "between jobs," so had plenty of free of time to fish the river. There was no vehicle in sight, so I took him to be a local and on foot. He said he's fished the river for years, and claimed to know every nook and cranny. He claimed to typically catch all the steelhead he wanted if they were in the river, and in fact, said he'd caught the largest steelhead on record in the town of Felton. I believed him. Somehow his somewhat less than *Orvis Fly Shop* deportment and presentation seemed to boost his credibility.

As we chatted, he asked if I'd like to see his fishing tackle. Seeing no evidence of any gear whatsoever besides the rod, I was a bit puzzled. He reached into an inside pocket of his tattered jacket with a long tear on one sleeve and removed a small Altoids mints tin box. Opening it revealed a vast collection of every style of shinny steel or copper trout lure imaginable; all in size small to smaller. Spinners and spoons and everything in between. That was apparently it; the sum total of his tackle; The Altoids tin box, and the fiberglass rod with the miniature spinning reel. No waders forgotten in the garage (likely no garage), no felt wading boots, no vest, no wading staff, no sun glasses, just the tattered stained floppy felt wide brimmed hat. My admiration for this fellow soared, because along with apparently having this river and the steelhead thoroughly dialed in, he seemed to have his priorities in order, even if largely forced on him by circumstances. I was in the early stages of something like what John Gierach calls his "tweed-and-cane" period in *The Trout Bum* (Chap. 3)—absent the cane—falling prey to the fly shop's siren call for ever more gear, mistakenly equating the quantity and diversity of gear with the number of fish to be caught.

Continued on Page 6



WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...

OUR FLY TYING STAFF

BRETT DRURY
Fly Tying Instructor
Renowned Fly Tyer, Sacramento Area

RICK ANDERSON
Contract Fly Tyer
Montana Fly Company

RON SPERONI
Contract Fly Tyer
Pacific Fly Group

MORGAN THALKEN
Contract Fly Tyer
Umpqua Feather Merchants

CONNECT WITH US ON:

   

WWW.FLYFISHINGSPECIALTIES.COM

...COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF - IF YOU NEED IT, WE HAVE IT!

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

6360 TUPELO DRIVE, CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA 95621 (916) 722-1055 HOURS: MON-FRI 10-6, SAT 9-5, SUN 10-3

Fishmaster's Corner - Continued from Page 5

Back in the real world the following day, it just so happened that I had an Altoids mints box on my desk. Although not especially fond of mints (it was a gift), I redoubled my efforts to empty the box, then took it home and lined the bottom with a layer of foam. For years I used it for the small subset of flies du jour for my next outing until the vest pocket it occupied was commandeered by yet another but much larger standard fly box packed with flies. However, I still often carry the Altoids tin with 3 or 4 flies when wet wading the N. Yuba in July when it's 98, and a \$10 fanny pack replaces the hot vest.

So why tell this story? First, I'd always thought it at least semi-interesting. Secondly, I thought just perhaps there might be others like me laboring under a 20 lb. fly vest that jingle-jangles, clangs and rattles as we hike to the water, and who may share my growing suspicions that just possibly there is little correlation between the acquisition of gear and the acquisition of actual fish to the net. And that just perhaps there might be something to the old maxim that "less is more." Fortunately for the fly shops, but unfortunately for our wallets, much of the fun of fly fishing for many of us is in acquiring, examining, organizing, and showing off our gear. However, perhaps we would be well served to occasionally consider the intrepid and effective San Lorenzo steal header of modest means, and focus less on the gear and more on understanding our wily prey and his world. Just an idea.

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

Fly Casting Clinics Announced

by John Hogg

This is to announce GBF's annual Fly Casting clinics. These clinics are appropriate for all skill levels of casters. If you are a novice, we will get you going, and if you are experienced we will make you better. The clinics are conducted over two consecutive Saturdays – each day will offer new material.

Dates and times:

Saturday, March 22, 10 AM to 2:00 PM

Saturday, March 29, 10 AM to 2:00 PM

The agenda will include a 30 minute break for lunch. We recommend you bring a sack lunch, as the lunch time period will be insufficient to drive to a restaurant.

All classes will be held at Gibson Ranch Regional Park. There is a car pass charge of \$5.00 to enter the park.

We will address the following casts, topics, and techniques:

The 6 essential elements of a fly cast.

Why most fly casters can never throw more than 50 feet.

Roll cast

Pickup – Laydown forward cast

False casting

Shooting line to add distance

Introduction to the double haul

Maximizing your distance cast

Specialty casts

Signups will be at the next general meeting or email me at johnhogg@sbcglobal.net.



Our HUGE Annual Dinner Event is Almost Here!

The famous Granite Bay Flycasters Annual Dinner is coming next month. This is our club's biggest bash of the year—and is absolutely the best way for you to show your support in 2014. Here are all the details on this important, yet super-fun event:

- **Who:** Club members, friends, families, neighbors, co-workers...anyone who'd enjoy an evening out with good food, a great speaker, and an incredible raffle & silent auction.
- **What:** Delicious BBQ dinner, huge raffle and silent auction, and special guest speaker, Mikey Wier, a famous fishing videographer who will amaze and inspire us!
- **When:** Saturday, March 15th, 2014. Bar opens at 4:30; dinner starts around 6:00.
- **Where:** The dinner, raffle, auction will be held at the Rocklin Event Center in Rocklin. The facility address is 2650 Sunset Blvd—and there's plenty of free parking.
- **Why:** Because you want an evening of fun, fellowship, and fishing stories—along with the chance to win thousands of dollars in fishing gear, guided trips, and other prizes.
- **How:** Buy your tickets (only \$40/ea.) at this month's club meeting, or online (gbfc.eventbrite.com), or by calling Henry Sandigo at 916-434-7792. Hurry—we usually sell out!
- **Lastly:** If you can't attend the dinner, please consider making a donation for the raffle or auction. If you can help in any possible way, just call Rick Radoff at (916) 870-9637.

Conservation Corner

by Tim Billingsley, VP Conservation

On a clear and calm Christmas Eve, I drove down the Sacramento River to pick up a prime rib roast at the Courtland Market that has been a family tradition for decades now. Traveling along the levee road parallel to the calmest stretch of river I think I've ever seen, I couldn't help but notice the abundant "Stop the Tunnels" signs posted with regularity along the meandering roadside. The signs, of course, refer to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BCDP), a massive proposal ostensibly designed to increase declining populations of historic native fish species, improve water quality and improve the overall habitat of the largest delta region in the western United States. This issue is clearly heating up, and there was little doubt about how land owners in the area of the proposed tunnel intakes felt about the plan.

A few weeks later at the annual ISE show, I dropped by the Friends of the River booth, and chatted with a gentleman who was absolutely convinced that if the current plan was implemented, the entire delta region was doomed. But how can this be? Was the BCDP not the product of some of the best minds we have in their respective fields? Disciplines such as Conservation, Biology, Hydrology, Habitat Restoration and Civil Engineering worked on the plan for over seven years. Would these people really design a system that would ultimately destroy what is left of the Bay Delta? At over 15,000 pages, the current draft of the BCDP is larger than any one person can analyze in a timely manner. One thing, however, is perfectly clear. Doing nothing, especially in the face of increased demand for water resources during low water years, will also spell the doom of the Delta region. I don't yet have the answers I need to form an educated opinion of the proposal, but I intend to learn more. I welcome all input on this issue from club members, and intend to promote dialog for the next several months.

Low water alert!! In case you haven't noticed, the entire western United States is in the grip of a rather serious drought. A petition has been circulating at club meetings and was offered at our booth during the annual ISE show to close the American River from Nimbus dam to Hoffman Park due to low water. Regardless

Continued on Page 8

Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 7

of your position on this issue, please use extreme caution when wading in low water conditions, especially where anadromous fish are native, due to high potential for destruction of the remaining Redds which are still submerged. In addition to high mortality rates to fish, low water conditions cause drastically reduced populations of many aquatic invertebrate species. If the water gets very low and remains that way, it may be years before our rivers and streams recover completely.

In other news, members of the Truckee chapter of Trout Unlimited have informed me they have received permits to improve habitat on a large stretch of the little Truckee River. After determining a large stretch of river did not hold adult fish, their plan includes bringing in trees killed by Bark Beetle and excavating a few long deep runs. The work is planned for a large stretch flowing through the middle portion of the meadow region which should reduce fishing pressure in the known productive reaches. This project may be one that our club supports, so I will be keeping a close eye on developments and keep our members posted.

I had tentatively scheduled a cleanup/inspection of our adopted section of the Dry Creek Watershed for March 15, but was reminded that is the date of our annual dinner. After checking again, I would like to re-schedule this outing for March 29, unless high water (we can hope) prevents safe access. Depending on turnout, this effort should only take 3-4 hours, and I will post a sign-up sheet at the Feb. general meeting.

And finally, I remind all, there is a Conservation Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 5 at 6:30PM to be held at the Round Table Pizza on Sierra College Blvd. just south of Douglas. We will be discussing annual conservation grants and donations, and welcome all club members.

Lines and Leaders Workshop Report

by John Hogg

Upwards of 30 members met at the clubhouse recently to attend a Lines and Leaders Clinic. The presentation included a variety of ways to rig flies for both floating and sub-surface presentations, key aspects of fishing success. This is another in a series of workshops dealing with lines, leaders, casting, fly presentation, knots, etc...basically everything between you and the fish! If you missed it or would like a copy of the presentation materials, please send a request to johnhogg@sbcglobal.net.



Great Raffle Prizes Available

Here are some examples of the amazing prizes you'll find at our Annual Dinner next month: We have 10 fly rods, including spey and tenkara styles, custom-made models, and big name-brands (like Sage, etc)... we have numerous fly reels—for trout to marlin-size, plus...this year's non-fishing prizes are looking to be bigger and better than ever!

Each year at this event, club member contributions make a HUGE difference—whether it's donated merchandise or services, or just pitching in some extra funds to help the raffle committee buy more prizes (usually at 'wholesale' or other discounted prices).

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

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

- New, unused merchandise—fishing-related or otherwise.
- Flies you tied (favorite or specialty pattern?) in a flybox.

Continued on Page 9

Great Raffle Prizes Available - Continued from Page 8

- Other handcrafted goods—fishing-related or otherwise.
- Professional services—in gift certificate or coupon form.
- Funds specifically designated for the purchase of prizes.

Getting any ideas? If you can help, please call Rick Radoff at (916) 870-9637. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donators are duly acknowledged at the dinner.

Membership Renewals are Due

by Ted Way, VP Membership

Just a reminder that it's membership renewal time again!

Membership fees are \$30 for individual members and \$35 for family memberships. There are several payment options: cash, check, or credit card at the general meetings, OR, you can make your payment to PayPal through the email link sent by the Club.

If you prefer to mail your renewal, please send your check made payable to Granite Bay Flycasters to the following address:

Ted Way
113 Carmody Circle
Folsom, CA 95630
916-761-7115
tedway@comcast.net

Membership fees and our annual dinner are the major sources of the funds needed to operate our club. As the best fly-fishing club around the timely payment by our members is an important element in balancing our expenses and income each year.

Thank you in advance for supporting your club, and we look forward to your continued participation in 2014.



L³ Rods
Custom Fishing Rods
Supplies and Classes

Larry L. Lee
5645 St. Claire Way
Citrus Heights, CA 95621

web: www.L3rods.com
email: LLLEE@L3rods.com
(916) 962-0616 O
(916) 601-7853 C

History of Fly Fishing, Issue #2

by Ed Lloyd, Monthly Program Chairman

In last month's issue you were introduced to possibly the earliest recorded beginnings of the sport of Fly Fishing. A poet named Martial in one of his 1561 poems referred to musco (which means "moss") or maybe even musca (means "fly"). This caused much speculation as to whether or not Martial was in fact referring to an artificial fly. Here again was the poem which gave rise to this speculation:

"Namque quis nesita avidum vorata decipi scarum musca"
("Who has not seen the scarus rise decoyed and killed by fraudulent flies")

The real speculation here is whether or not Martial was referring to a live insect which was on a hook, or if he was referring to a real artificial fly. One thing that was evident is that the water Martial was referring to was in all likelihood salt water. Now it seems unlikely that in ancient times anyone would have used dapping, or putting an artificial fly in order to really attract fish. However, the one evident thing I've found in conducting research for this article is that logic does not play a role, nor does it play a role in the development of Fly Fishing. Now, hundreds of years later, with no person left to agree or disagree, it may be believed that fly fishing might have its origins in salt water, using lures.

Continued on Page 10

History of Fly Fishing, Issue #2 - Continued from Page 9

There was not another writer to even have any writings on even the slightest hint of fly fishing for at least a century later, when in about the year AD 200, along came a writer named Claudius Aelianus. As soon as he could, Claudius began studying the great authors of the day, such as Democritus, Herodotus, Plutarch, and Aristophanes, just to name a few. In one of his books, *On the Nature of Animals*, Claudius refers to a Macedonian way of catching fish, in which he says, "These fish feed upon a fly peculiar to the country, which hovers on the river". He said this fly didn't resemble a wasp, midge, or even a bee, yet it seemed to have characteristics of all three. He later learned that the natives of Macedonia called this fly the "Hippouros". He later referred to this fly as one who was in search of their food over the river, and also one that did not get away from the watchful eye of the fish swimming below them. What started to become known though, was the fact that these fishermen of Macedonia did not use the actual flies in order to lure the fish to the surface, because upon being touched by a human hand, they would lose their natural color, and therefore become an unfit source of food for the fish, yet they did have a plan of action. They would "fasten red (crimson) around a hook, and fix onto the wool two feathers which grow under a cock's wattles, and which in color are like wax." As far as what else in terms of equipment, they had a rod of about six foot, with line approximately the same length. Now this might be the first real evidence of our sport, and there is little doubt that Claudius was indeed talking about the sport of fly fishing. Even though it is widely believe that.

Claudius himself may not have actually observed fly fishing, as evidence by his "I have heard" phrase, he surely met up with people who have been to Macedonia and observed the sport, which we now refer to as fly fishing. The above statement is referred to as "the first conclusive evidence of the sport of fly fishing" that we know of. It also means the indeed, fishing is an ancient art.

Fly Fishing Knots Workshop

by John Hogg

Another in a series of workshops offered to help improve basic skills was held on Jan. 21 at the Activity Center. Dennis Baker showed a group of 11 members the key knots to rig a fly rod from fly to reel, including the improved clinch knot, surgeon's knot, blood knot, perfection loop, nail knot, and arbor knot. All are important knots to master, and essential to fishing success. Now there's plenty of time to practice knot tying before the fishing season picks up in a few months.



Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner (Taken from the Article Written in February 2009)

Fly Patterns - Micro Caddis Fuzzball



Micro Caddis Fuzzball

Materials:

- Hook:** Daiichi 1140 or similar scud-style straight-eye hook, #20-24
- Thread:** 8/0 (70 denier) tan
- Abdomen:** Extra fine tan dubbing such as rabbit
- Wing:** First tan CDC, then natural deer hair (try to select hair that has color right down to the tips rather than black tips, because the wing is so tiny that the wrong hair will show up as an undesirable black shade)

Continued on Page 11

Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 10

Description

If you've spent a lot of time prowling around trout streams, you'll have noticed frustratingly tiny caddis adults bouncing about, particularly in the evenings—and I do mean T-I-N-Y, as in size 20 or smaller (down to 24). Here's what noted entomologist Rick Haefle has to say about these miniscule beasts: "Adult emergence can begin as early as June for a number of species, but peak activity generally occurs in July and August with many species continuing hatch activity into September. Because of their small size emergence activity goes unnoticed by most anglers. The best place to spot adults is on shoreline vegetation or boulders, where they run and flit with a nervous energy. When adults are observed along the stream and fish seem to be rising to some mysterious, unseen surface food, start thinking micro-caddis patterns.

"The time of day emergence and egg laying activity takes place is not well documented for most species. In general mid-afternoon to evening is the best time to look for them on the water and available to fish. I have found it difficult to tell if fish are taking pupae rising to the surface or adults returning to lay eggs. In such cases I first try a pupa pattern. If that doesn't work, I then put on an adult pattern. The type of water one fishes for pupae or adults is the same; moderate riffles and runs or the slow gentle currents of weedy flats." (See Rick's full article at <http://www.laughingrivers.com/rick-microcaddis.html>)

Maybe because I'm contrarian by nature, I tend to fish tiny nymphs and pupae patterns during the hatch. If I don't catch fish on these, then I'll switch to an adult pattern. My go-to selection is what I call the "Micro-Caddis Fuzzball". The name refers to its appearance on the water, at least to those of us who are a bit challenged in the distance vision category. The fly's design is all about being able to see it—something—out there on the water. I'll tie them as small as 22, but that's where I draw the line (mainly because my tired eyes have a hard time focusing on anything smaller), using short shank scud-type light wire hooks because they have an increased gape for hooking purposes. Obviously one doesn't get much material on a hook of that size—but that's a good thing, because when tying small, the tyer must think "sparse, sparse, sparse." In the "tips" section below I'll provide some suggestions for improving your small-fly tying prowess. For now, let's tackle a Fuzzball, using a size 20 hook.

Tying Instructions



Steps 1 & 2

1. De-barb the hook, and cover the shank down to mid-bend with a single layer of thread. This is important in order to achieve a nice smooth tapered abdomen. Ugly underbody, ugly body—that's the watchword.

2. Dub a sparse, tapered abdomen, leaving the front third of the hook open.

3. Lay two CDC feathers on the tying bench and place one over the top of the other, taking care that their curvature matches. Cut the hearts out of the two feathers and bunch up the tips.

4. At the front of the abdomen, tie in the bunched up CDC tips as an under-wing. The under-wing's length should not extend beyond the bend of the hook.

5. Cut and thoroughly clean a small bunch of deer hair, and place the hair into a hair stacker to even up the tips. Measure the hair



Steps 3 & 4

Continued on Page 12

Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 12



Steps 5, 6, & 7

to the length of the under-wing and clip the butts, leaving a 1/16" butt remaining.

6. Tie in the deer hair wing just ahead of the CDC under-wing; don't crowd the head as it will make finishing the fly very difficult. Be sure that the hair stays directly on top of the hook.

7. Once the deer hair wing is secure, push the butts upward and to the rear; this will create a nice head profile. Whip finish directly in front of the butts, and carefully place a tiny drop of super glue on the bottom of the head.

Tying & Fishing Tips

1. It is much easier to de-barb the hook at the vise than on the stream. If you drop the tiny hook at the bench you have a fighting chance to find it; not so if you drop your fly while on the stream either when you are trying to extract it from the fly box or while tying it on.
2. When dubbing the Fuzzball, use the tiniest pinch of dubbing that you can pull out. A good rule of thumb is to tease out a tiny amount and then cut it in half.
3. After using super glue to finish the fly, use a piece of fine copper wire to ream out the eye. It will be hard enough to tie a Fuzzball to your leader, but you'll become totally frustrated if you discover the tiny eye clogged as you try to poke the leader into the eye.

Accept my challenge to tie a tiny critter; be patient and tie at least a half dozen and you'll begin to get the hang of tying small.

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

Denny Welch Attorney at Law

114 N. Sunrise Avenue,
Suite B-2
Roseville, CA 95661

TRUSTS

WILLS

PROBATE

ESTATE PLANNING

916-786-2070

www.dennywelch.com

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 Taylor Yates at 916-608-4560, 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

President - Mike Howes
916-863-6795 lifeisreel@aol.com
VP Membership - Ted Way
916-761-7115 tedway@comcast.net
VP Conservation - Tim Billingsley
530-633-2631 timothy.billingsley@gmail.com
Secretary - Don Lounsbury
916-612-5385 don.lounsbury@gmail.com
Treasurer - John Hogg
916-663-2051 johnhogg@sbcglobal.net

Directors:

Through June, 2016 - Ed Lloyd
916-939-0540 edlloyd@att.net
Through June, 2016 - Ron Ellis
916-728-2417 ellis3rd@yahoo.com
Through June, 2015 - David Jones
916-474-4986 djj6451@yahoo.com
Through June, 2015 - Scott Vaughn
916-933-6844 scott.vaughn68@gmail.com
Through June, 2014 - Tony Fabian
916-415-9095 meritage@starstream.net
Through June, 2014 - Don Van Sant
916-927-9824 donvansant@pacbell.net
Director at Large, 1 year term - Wendell Edwards
wendelledwards@mac.com
Past President - Dennis Baker
916-580-7639 Baker0707@aol.com

Committees:

Annual Dinner
Rick Radoff 916-870-9637
Annual Picnic
Don Van Sant 916-927-9824

Casting Instruction
John Hogg 916-663-2051
Rick Radoff 916-870-9637
Classroom Egg Prog.
Doug Groshong 916-771-0248
Rick Radoff 916-870-9637
Frank Stolten 916-725-6894
Education
John Hogg 916-663-2051
Fishmaster
Eric Palmer 916-987-1359
Fly Tying
Jim Holmes 916-967-6709
Fly Tying Jam
Jim Holmes 916-967-6709
Golden Trout Program
Chuck Honeycutt 916-203-6092
Leader Editor
Frank Stolten 916-725-6894
Leader Layout
Vivian Mevorah 916-408-0678
Librarian
Kim Lloyd 916-988-3828
Don Lounsbury 916-612-5385
Merchandising
Ron Ellis 916-728-2417
Monthly Programs
Ed Lloyd 916-939-0540
Webmaster
Kent Ripley 916-797-6940
Youth Program
Position Open

www.gbflycasters.org