

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

October 2016

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by John Hogg, GBF President



Our annual dinner is still several months away (March 18, 2017), but the GBF Dinner Committee is already hard at work to plan and execute a memorable event. Dinner and raffle tickets will begin selling at the October general meeting, and will be available as well on our website.

During the coming months, we will be asking our members for donations of items that will be appropriate for our silent auctions, and in that context I would like to mention that GBF is a non-profit organization (501-c-3), and donations are fully tax deductible. Additionally, your dues are tax deductible, and a portion of your dinner ticket will be deductible as well.

The revenue from the annual dinner is the primary financial driver for our Club, and I hope you will support the dinner with your attendance.

In the meantime, its fall—the best fishing time of the year—so let's go fishin'!

Monthly Program



Henry Hoffman

If you're a fly tyer, a new or wanna-be tyer, or just someone interested in how the development of the highest grade natural tying materials came about, you won't want to miss this presentation by legendary hackle developer, **Henry Hoffman**.

As a commercial tyer in the 1960s, he was dissatisfied with the natural materials available, and saw both a need and an opportunity to advance the art. Thus motivated, he was determined to improve the state of the art, and began a lengthy program to selectively breed chickens to produce the highest quality fly tying feathers. Natural materials that were once almost impossible to find, now became readily available. Without Henry, no one would be tying size 20 and smaller dry flies, because his

genetically engineered feathers were the first with qualities that would allow tying really small hackled flies. The guy was, in fact, a genius (translation: he found a need, found a solution, and with many years of hard work, he solved the problem).

His unique presentation will focus on the process and history of developing hackles.

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OCTOBER 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1.
2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
					Upper Sac Fishout October 6 - 9	
9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
Upper Sac Fishout October 6 - 9		Board Meeting 7:00 PM		Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM		
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.
		Fly Tying Jam Introduction to Rod Building				
23.	30.	24.	31.	25.	26.	27.
						28.
						29.

Classes and Clinics

by Gordon Tornberg, Director of Education

Below is a list of the classes and clinics that are offered to members. Some have scheduled dates, while others will be scheduled shortly. If you have suggestions for other classes or clinics, be sure to contact me to discuss your needs and ideas. Look for specific dates and times on the web site, at upcoming meetings and in future *Leader* articles.

Scheduled Classes and Clinics

Fly Tying Jam
 Short Line Nymphing Clinic
 Fishing with Floating Indicators
 Introduction to Rod Building
 All About Leaders

Dates

Third Tuesday of each month
 October 8th, Dunsmuir City Park
 Mid October w/Clay Hash
 Oct. 18th
 Nov. 15th

Upcoming Classes and Clinics

Pontoon Boat Clinic

Tentative Date

Fall, Lower Yuba River

Classes and Clinics still to be scheduled

Fly Tying Basics
 "Beyond the Basics" Fly Tying Class

Classes and Clinics for 2017

Net Building
 Fly Fishing 101
 Fly Casting Fundamentals

January – April 2017
 February 2017
 March 2017



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Introduction to Rod Building Class

by Larry Lee

There will be an "Introduction to Rod Building" class scheduled for **6:30 PM, Tuesday, October 18th** at the Folsom Lake Activity Center. This introduction class is designed to introduce GBF members as to why build your own rod, types of rods, and what is entailed in the actual rod building classes. There will be examples of various types of rods for members to examine. Also, rod building kits, availability of blanks, prices, and materials provided via **L3Rods** will be discussed. The actual Rod Building classes are then scheduled for later in October through December 2016 at **L3Rods** in Citrus Heights. Times will be setup to accommodate participants' schedules. The rod building classes do qualify for the GBF Golden Trout requirement.

The *Introduction to Rod Building* class will share the center with the fly tying night. The class will begin at 6:30 PM sharp, and last for as long as members have questions. For more information, contact Larry Lee by phone or text at 916-601-7853, or email L3rods@gmail.com.

This is a really fun and informative class. Many GBF members have already participated and caught many fish on their quality rods!!

It's Upper Sac Time!

by Eric Palmer

October approaches, and that means "Upper Sac time" is almost here! Of course, I'm talking about the 16th annual Upper Sac Fishout, short-line nymphing clinic, and all-around good time in Dunsmuir, **Oct 6-9 (Thur-Sun)**. The city of Dunsmuir has again renewed their "Big Fish program" with the planting of trophy

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

It's Upper Sac Time - Continued from Page 3



Mt. Lassen rainbows to 14 lbs. If you prefer to pursue wild trout, there are over 35 miles of river access to scratch your itch.

Due to abundant pocket water, Short-Line nymphing is the method of choice on this stream. The technique originated on the Upper Sac in the 1920s, at the hands of intrepid Wintu Indian angler, Ted Towendolly, originally "Tau'hin'dauli" as in the city park of the same name. The nymphing technique was subsequently passed on to **Ted Fay**, and later through **Ron Rabun** to **Bill Carnazzo**, who taught it to the rest of us GBF'rs, and now Ron continues the tradition. For more information on how to fish this technique, see the articles flagged in red on the GBF website [here](#).

Ron Rabun will again provide a Short-Line nymphing clinic in the Dunsmuir City Park on Saturday morning at 9 AM. This clinic will cover everything you need to know to fish the method successfully, and with ample opportunity for one-on-one coaching on the water (members only, no guests please).

If new to the river, or new to fly fishing, you will be partnered up with someone who knows the ropes, and everyone who signs-up will receive information on lodging, an agenda and directions for river access points. So, plan on joining us for 4 days of fun, good food at local restaurants, fish catching, great camaraderie and most importantly advancement of your fly fishing skills. Can't make all four days? No matter, just come when you can, or email me ejpalmer@pacbell.net.



More details of this event are posted on our Message Board [here](#), where you can post any questions, request bunk-mates, ride sharing, etc.

Thanks for your time and see you on the Upper Sac ...

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Rod Action and Weight - What Does it All Mean?

by Tony Jelinek

Fast action, slow action, medium action, no action—I have definitely used that fly rod—3-weight, 5-weight, 8-weight—Does more weight mean I will get a better workout and won't have to worry about getting 10,000 steps? What does this all mean, and why should we care?

Rod Action

The action of the rod is the amount it bends when pressure is placed on the tip. The action of the fly rod is simply a fancy measure of how flexible the fly rod is. When the rod bends only at the tip (about one-third down the length of the rod from the tip), it is considered fast action. The rod will load and unload quickly. On the backcast, the tip of the rod is slightly bent, but the rest of the rod is straight. A slow action rod bends over a much longer length of the rod. On the backcast, it will bend about three-quarters of the way down the fly rod from the tip, almost arching into a 90-degree angle. This rod will load and unload more slowly. In between the two is the medium action fly rod, which will bend about half way down the fly rod.

What action do you want?

Fast Action:

Good for...long casts, fishing on windy days, a little less work
More difficult for...beginners and short casts

Medium Action:

Good for...an all-around fly rod, that first rod, or if you just think you will be buying one rod (figure the odds)

Slow Action:

Good for...small streams, small fish, feeling the action
More difficult for...windy days and long casts

Rod Weight

The weight of the fly rod relates to the relative strength of the rod. A higher weight rod is designed for larger fish and for casting a larger fly. A fly rod is classified by the optimal weight of fly line the rod should handle. Line weight for a rod is expressed as a range that the rod is designed to support. Each weight represents a standard weight in grains for the first 30 feet of the fly line established by the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturing Association. For example, the first 30' of a 6-weight fly line should weigh between 152-168 grains, with the optimal weight being 160 grains.

The following are some suggested fly rod weights:

- 1- to 3-weight: Best for trout or sunfish on small to moderate-sized waters, for a delicate presentation with small dry flies and nymphs.
- 4- to 6-weight: Very good for trout, bream, and smallmouth bass. A 4-weight is perfect for delicacy and finesse; a 5-weight is for trout whether you want finesse on spring-fed creeks or bigger, wider rivers. A 6-weight works best on big waters or in windy conditions.

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Rod Action and Weight - Continued from Page 5

- 7- to 8-weight: Excellent for steelhead, redbfish, smallmouth bass, or light salmon fishing. A 7-weight has extra power needed to land smallmouth bass or steelhead, and bigger trout found in rivers and reservoirs. These weights also work well with bigger flies and bass bugs.
- 9- to 10-weight: Large flies for catching salmon and pike. These weights also work in saltwater for medium-sized fish.
- 11- to 15-weight and up: These heavier weights are needed for tarpon, tuna and billfish.

I guess I will still need to get those 10,000 steps in, but at least now I have a better idea of what fly rod to get, and know that a fast-action rod won't necessarily mean catching more fish more quickly, but possibly could, depending on the situation.

Conservation Corner

by Mel Odemar, VP Conservation

Putah Creek Trout

The Conservation Committee met on August 22, 2016, and was given a presentation by Steve Karr, Chairman of the Board, Putah Creek Trout, on the **Putah Creek Wild Trout Habitat Restoration Project**. This effort is sponsored by the Truckee Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Putah Creek Trout. The Granite Bay Flycasters donated \$500 towards the project in last year's budget cycle. The club members present at the meeting were: **Gordon Tornberg, Ron Fay, Dave Fujiyama, David Jones, David Sterling, Wendell Edwards, Joe Cammarano, Glenn Yoshioka, Eric Palmer, Tony Fabian, Corley Phillips**, and former member **Bill Templin**.

Putah Creek interdam reach is a designated Trophy Wild Trout Fishery. The creek is controlled by Monticello Dam. The cold nutrient-rich water released from the dam supports abundant macro invertebrate life that in turn provides for an exceptional wild trout fishery. Putah Creek rainbows grow to trophy size in a very short time. We were told that rainbow trout to 30" have been taken there.

Unfortunately, the dam also interrupts the recruitment of appropriately sized small gravels that California's native trout require. Past studies have shown that the spawning habitat is significantly limited in the 4.5 mile stretch of Putah Creek downstream from Monticello Dam. This in turn severely limits the recruitment of young trout.

This project is a partnership with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Putah Creek Trout, Solano County Water Agency, Vista Resorts, Teichert Aggregates, and Granite Bay Flycasters. The project's objective is to enhance spawning habitat in two sections of Putah Creek directly below Monticello Dam.

The spawning habitat enhancement is a two-step process beginning with the loosening/removal of weeds and silt overlying the embedded gravel. The second step involves distributing gravel by hand utilizing

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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.

Conservation Corner- Continued from Page 6

volunteers to transport gravel from the staging area in 5 gallon buckets. The 5-year goal is to increase viable spawning habitat by placing 50 cubic yards of gravel annually to two sites below Monticello Dam. Washed gravel will be sourced from local quarries. Transportation of the gravel to the creek is where a large force of volunteers is needed. As was done for the spawning improvement project that we participated in on the Little Truckee, I will be recruiting a GBF work force for this effort. This will be done this year in the October - November time period.



An electrofishing survey of Putah Creek to assess the pre-project fish populations was conducted on September 13, 2016. Club volunteers were **Dave** and **Carl Tevin, Kim Lloyd, and Wendell Edwards**. Unfortunately, I was traveling and unable to participate. Volunteers were tasked with netting stunned fish and transporting them in live cars for recording by Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists. GBF members participated in a similar Department of Fish and Wildlife electrofishing survey on the Truckee River in October, 2014. As with the Truckee River survey, the Putah Creek survey was hard work and a rewarding and meaningful contribution towards the future of California's wild trout resources. I will report on the survey findings in a later article.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

by Don Whitecar, 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.

Jim Allen
Rick Gonzalez

Jim Cook
Brian Hoffman

Gary Gale

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

Fly Patterns - Bill's Orange Treat



Bill's Orange Treat

Materials:

Hook:	Daiichi 1260 size 8
Thread:	70 denier flat nylon, burnt orange, and Black "Sheer" 14/0
Bead:	Black
Tail:	2 or 3 wisps of UV pearl dubbing
Body base:	Burnt orange dubbing
Over-body:	Dark olive or black spiky dubbing
Ribbing:	Fine gold wire
Legs:	None
Wingpads:	Ginger hen hackle
Thorax:	Fine black ostrich herl
Hackle:	Furnace hen
Weight:	5 wraps of lead free weight, behind bead
Head:	Thread

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7

Description

October Caddis hatch time is upon us fly anglers. Years ago I created a five-fly series for the life stages of the October Caddis ("Dicosmoecus"), which is the largest of the many species of caddis. Unlike the Rhyacophila which is the insect that was the inspiration for last month's pattern, the "Greenie," the October Caddis is a "cased" caddis as opposed to a free-living caddis. For more information about the life stages of this insect and its habits, I highly recommend reading the article named simply, "October Caddis" written by Phil Rowley, which you will find at <http://www.flycraftangling.com/index.asp?p=129>.

The Orange Treat is an October Caddis emerger pattern, tied in a soft-hackle style. I decided to add it to my quintuplet of October Caddis flies, and make it a sextuplet. The fly is tied in much the same style as last month's fly, the Greenie. For the Orange Treat, the abdomen is made with burnt orange colored dubbing that is overwrapped with a transparent layer of dark touch-dubbed material. It is important that the abdomen color show through the dark dubbing that is applied over it—but not so much that it predominates. Here's an apropros quote from last month's article: "The method I use to accomplish this result is to change the tying thread to black at the right step in the tying process, and employ the "touch dubbing" technique that Gary LaFontaine (rest his soul) advocated in his books on tying caddis patterns. This technique creates translucency and an impression of life, unlike what would result if the fly's abdomen was just an ordinary opaque dubbed body. The "shine through" technique, incidentally, is not new; it has been used for wet fly patterns (traditional winged wets, wingless wets, flymphs, soft hackles, and nymphs) for a very long time."

I tie this fly on a Daiichi 1260 hook because I like its curved shank and large gape. I also add a "tail" of a few strands (and I do mean few) strands of UV pearl dubbing—not the flashabou type of strands. The tail is barely visible to the eye but does catch light in the water.

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 mount the bead. Cover the hook shank with a single, flat layer of the black thread; stop immediately above the hook point and leave the bobbin there.
2. From the package remove 3 or 4 wisps of UV pearl dubbing; roll them between your fingers and tie them in at that point.



Steps 1 & 2



Step 3

3. Cut a short piece of fine gold wire and tie it in at that same point. For now, just let the black thread bobbin hang there. Start the burnt orange thread behind the bead, and wrap it rearward in tight turns. Stop at the hook point, apply orange dubbing to the thread, and then wrap the dubbing noodle forward to the back of the bead, laying down a nice smooth layer as you work forward. Whip finish the burnt orange thread there.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 8

4. Using tacky dubbing wax, wax a 2 inch piece of the black thread; be sure to get the wax right up to the hook shank. Take a pinch of dark olive or black dubbing between your thumb and forefinger, and brush it along the length of the waxed thread, back and forth several times. This will result in some of the dubbing fibers sticking to the wax. Move the thread forward using relatively tightly spaced turns, ending just behind the bead. Although the burnt orange color doesn't show through much at this point, when it gets in the water there will be a significant difference.
5. Rib the fly with the gold wire, making 5 turns, and tie the wire off at the front of the body.



Steps 4 & 5



Steps 6, 7 and 8

6. Tie in three barbules of fine black ostrich herl by their tips. It is good to snip off a bit of the tips before tying the barbules in, in order to obtain a stronger stem section. Wrap rearward over the herl tips to a point about 3 hook eye lengths behind the bead. The butts should now be pointing rearward.
7. Prepare a pair of ginger hen hackles by stripping all of the hackle from the bottom of the feather, leaving just enough to make a wing pad that extends from the back of the bead to the bend of the hook. Tie one of these on each side of the hook so that they rest alongside the body. Trim the excess.
8. Prepare a hen furnace hackle feather from the neck portion of the skin, as if you were preparing a soft hackle. See the July column for the method for accomplishing this. Tie the prepared feather in by its tip, concave side up, with the stem butt pointing forward. The feather should be tied in directly behind the bead.

9. Grab the 3 herls with your hackle plier and twist them counter-clockwise until they form a thin, uniform "rope." Wrap the rope forward to the back of the bead, using about 4 turns, and tie it off there.
10. Grab the stem of the furnace hackle feather with your hackle pliers and take two full wraps behind the bead, making sure that the convex side of the feather is up. Tie the feather off with a couple of tight turns behind the bead and clip the excess. Sweep the barbules rearward and whip finish behind the bead. Don't be tempted to wrap over the barbules because that will make them lie flat against the abdomen, which is not a desirable result because it inhibits their movement while drifting.



Steps 9 & 10

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

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

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 <http://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 <http://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, contact Don Whitecar at 916-804-5384, or visit the website at <http://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

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