GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

THE OFFICERS

President        Nicolai M. Laquaglia           783-4001
Vice President   Peter Dibble                 645-8247
Secretary        Warren Shoemman              725-2542
Treasurer        Fred Zimmerman              652-0678

THE DIRECTORS

David Davy             885-0289
Peter Dibble           645-8247
Jim Ferguson           786-2358
Nicolai M. Laquaglia   783-4001
Morris Schlesinger    Unlisted
Warren Shoemman       725-2542
Fred Zimmerman        652-0678

THE COMMITTEES/CHAIRPERSONS

Building             Ron Bigelow                645-3473
Conservation         David Davy                885-0289
Librarian            Warren Shoemman           725-2542
Editor The Leader    Jim Ferguson              786-2358
Raffle               Morris Schlesinger         Unlisted
Youth                Tom Dibble                 645-8247
Programs             Ken Winkleblack           988-7129
Often we see something in fly tying that on the surface appears to be difficult when it is really very simple. The question is often asked about dubbing for the Hare's Ear, both wet and dry, and how to obtain a more uniform coloration in the dubbing. The Hare's Ear patterns call for a body of English Hare's Mask fur. Not just fur from the ears. I am sure many of you have tried dubbing by using the very short fur from the area of the ears alone. Frustrating to say the least.

The best approach is to first purchase a complete English Hare's Mask. They run about $1.25 per mask. If you are paying more there is something wrong. If you have some grooming shears for the family pet then this operation is a breeze.

Clip or shear the entire mask. Shearing is preferred as clipping has a tendency to leave you with much shorter fibers which are harder to work with. In either event, clean the mask down to zero. Taking dark, light and all shades of fur in between. Place the clipped fur into a fruit jar or some simular container. Fill it three quarters full with warm water and a squirt of liquid detergent. Place a water tight lid on the jar and shake with vigor until the fur is thoroughly mixed. Pour through a fine meshed strainer and rinse out excess soap under the tap. Flip the fur out on several thickness of old news paper. After about one hour transfer your felted fur to fresh paper. The first paper will have wicked out most of the moisture and to leave your fur there will only prolong the drying time. One English Hare's Mask will yeild enough body material for several hundred flies. Not bad for a buck twenty-five.

Well, fasten your seat belts, we're in for a Nantucket Sleighride!

Everyone who attended our second meeting on January 9th at Roseville High School deserves a big applause. We scrutinized the charter and by-laws, so dutifully prepared by Mory Schlesinger with help from Jim Ferguson and Warren Schoenman. And in a blink of an eye we passed it and in so doing gave birth to the new "Granite Bay Flycasters."

You the membership also elected all of the individuals that were handling the offices and board chairs. A finer group of individuals you couldn't find to lead our organization into its innaugural year. And for myself I humbly thank all of you for your support. I intend to rally to your good spirit all the leadership that I can muster.

Time has come to roll up our shirt sleeves and build, together, on our foundation a strong bond of mutual goals and good times. Build our clubhouse and build our club with pride. It is important that all individuals in our membership who have the desire to help mold our future get in there and let their feelings be known. As I mentioned at our last meeting, the board of directors, as far as I know didn't know each other before December 1985 and are not a "clique" of old friends that wish to hasten the GBFC to some mutual goal. Our goal is to do one thing only, that is to guide the club to its own directives.

Any individuals who would like to work on the clubhouse please don't be discouraged if no one has reached you. We have tried. Please give Ron Bigelow a call in the evenings or myself, our numbers are located on the inside cover of this issue. Work will be going on through March, April and until we are done. I've heard talk of a barbeque and other activities in the spring. Sounds good.

Well I have more that I will share with you at the next meeting, take care, and I sincerely hope to see you there.

Nicolai M. Laquaglia
President
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

The January 1986 Board of Directors meeting was held on Friday, January 24, 1986, at 7:30 P.M. at Studio Nicolai. Accept my apology for not disseminating this notice earlier. All members of the club are welcome to attend these meetings. In the future these meetings will be announced in advance in THE LEADER.

The February 1986 general membership meeting will be held Thursday, February 13, 1986, at the Roseville High School in the Multi-purpose Room, starting promptly at 7:30 P.M.

The February 1986 Board of Directors meeting will be held Thursday, February 27, 1986, at 7:30 P.M. at Studio Nicolai, 226 Vernon Street, Roseville.

SCHEDULED EVENTS

February 1986:

General Membership Meeting
February 13, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Roseville High School Multi-purpose Room
Guest Speaker - Les Ichhorn

Board of Directors Meeting
February 27, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Studio Nicolai, 226 Vernon St, Roseville

March 1986:

General Membership Meeting
March 13, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Meeting Place Not Firm
Guest Speaker - Dick Teller

Board of Directors Meeting
March 27, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Meeting Place Not Firm

April 1986:

General Membership Meeting
April 10, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Meeting Place Not Firm
Guest Speaker - Jim Fujii

Board of Directors Meeting
April 24, 1986, 7:30 P.M.
Meeting Place Not Firm

GRAY ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 31 Gray Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine silver wire.
BODY: Dubbed gray blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Grizzly.
WING: Light elk hair.

OLIVE ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 60 Olive Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed olive blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Dark ginger.
WING: Light elk hair.

YELLOW ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 4 Maize Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed pale yellow blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Mayfly yellow.
WING: Light elk hair.

NOTE: What makes the Elk Hair Caddis such an effective fly? First off, the light elk hair wing makes it easy to follow on the water. And secondly, these flies should only have the wing dressed with a floatant. We recommend "Blip" Paste-Kote. When tying these flies you should only use the hackle of lesser quality. You want the fly to float in the surface film. This is far more natural, hence, more fish are taken than if the fly was high and dry. Try it. It works almost consistently and a real whole lot of fly fishing skill is not needed. These flies can be used to simulate a number of other hatches.
BLACK ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 100 Black Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine silver wire.
BODY: Dubbed black blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Black.
WING: Light elk hair.

BROWN ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 47 Brown Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed brown blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Brown.
WING: Light elk hair.

CREAM ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 2 Egg Shell Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed cream blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Cream.
WING: Light elk hair.

GINGER ELK HAIR CADDIS
HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 41 Beige Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed ginger blended rabbit fur.
HACKLE: Dark ginger.
WING: Light elk hair.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 1986 MEETING
The first general membership club meeting was called to order by Nicolai Laquaglia, so began the formal organization of the "Granite Bay Flycasters".

The minutes of the inaugural meeting, held December 10, 1985, were read by acting Secretary/Treasure, Fred Zimmerman.

First order of new business was discussion of the club charter. Morris Schlesinger, club parliamentarian, read each article and section and with minor changes and clarifications, the charter was unanimously ratified by the individuals present.

Next order of business was election of the club officers for 1986. A slate election of current temporary officers was called to motion and voted down. Individual officers were nominated, seconded and closed, in turn. Results are:

President          Nicolai M. Laquaglia
Vice President     Peter Dibble
Secretary          Warren Schoenmann
Treasure           Fred Zimmerman

President-elect Nicolai called for nominations to the Board of Directors. Morris Schlesinger, Jim Ferguson, and David Davy were elected to the position of Director. Elections for club positions were closed.

The President noted that suggestions for club insignia and/or logo are requested and will be accepted until and voted for adoption on the evening of the March 1986 general membership meeting.

The raffling off of a 8', 6 weight, HMG Fenwick Graphite Fly Rod, generously donated to the club by Fly Fishing Specialties, is being conducted by Morris Schlesinger. There are a total of 225 opportunities to win this rod. Each chance is selling for $1.00 with proceeds going to establish a strong club raffle fund.

Jim Ferguson auctioned off a beautiful color print of a Rainbow Trout feeding on mayflies. The print was donated by Mike McIntyre. The successful bidder was Terry Hellekson.
An announcement was made that the building committee will soon be contacting members to help with the renovation of the clubhouse at Granite Bay.

An excellent presentation on fly fishing in Alaska was made by our guest speaker, Mike McIntyre. Mike brought a slide show highlighting a float trip adventure from last summer. Thanks, Mike! Glad to have you aboard.

The general membership meeting of January 9, 1986, was adjourned.

**CLUBHOUSE STATUS**

For the benefit of you who have not been informed. We have been granted the use of a facility at Granite Bay for use as a meeting place. The agreement is that we receive this building free of charge in exchange for our efforts in renovating the existing structure. On January 6, 1986, approval was granted by the State of California. Due to the professional efforts expended by Ron Bigelow subsequent approval was granted for state funds to accomplish the renovation project. Some of features will include:

- New carpeting.
- New interior walls and T bar ceiling.
- Kitchenette.
- Locking cabinets.
- Redwood decking.
- Chemical toilets.
- Exterior lighting.
- Some interior design features (not just fresh paint.)
- Audio-visual equipment.

Thanks to the membership progress has exceeded expectations. As of Saturday, February 1, 1986, the old exterior had been removed and the structure is on the way to a fresh new look. Many organizations will never have the opportunity to have such an ideal meeting place. Get in there and give your support. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

**FLY TYING**

**STEP 3:** Wrap hackle to the rear for the body using about five turns. Tie off the hackle tip with the fine gold wire using about four turns.

**STEP 4:** Wrap your fine gold wire forward through the hackle and tie off at the head. When tying this fly, you should always wrap your thread and wire clockwise. In this case you will see that the fine gold wire crisscross over the hackle stem and results in a much stronger dressed fly.

**STEP 5:** Tie in elk hair winging material. Next whip finish the head.

**STEP 6:** Clip off hair butts. You should press your thumbnail into the base of the wing to give the finished wing a triangular shape. Insure head cement is applied to the base of the wing so it holds its shape.

Some of the more productive variations of the Elk Hair Caddis are:
FLY TYER'S BENCH
By Stan and Terry Hellekson

Some years ago we introduced to the world of fly fishing a pattern that we had found to be extremely effective in all areas of the west. It was the Elk Hair Caddis. It had been sent to us by its originator, Al Troth. He is a very creative and prolific fly tyer from Montana who has contributed significantly to our sport. Today this fly and the numerous variations must rate in the top ten in western angling.

TROTH'S ELK HAIR CADDIS

HOOK: Mustad 94840, sizes 10 thru 18.
THREAD: No. 41 Beige Flymaster.
RIBBING: Fine gold wire.
BODY: Dubbed with English Hare's Mask Fur.
HACKLE: Furnace or brown.
WING: Light elk hair.

Instruction for tying the Elk Hair Caddis flies:

STEP 1: Tie in the fine gold wire ribbing at the rear of the hook. Spin on the body material on to your tying thread.

STEP 2: Wrap dubbing material forward and complete the body. Then tie in hackle in front.

MEMBERSHIP

ARE YOU A PAID UP MEMBER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS?

Although the early response has been very good you must realize membership dues are our primary source of revenue at this point. There has been talk of granting charter memberships to the earlybirds, however, this is yet to be firmed up and have a cut off date established.

So if you want to become a part of what promises to be the most progressive fly fishing club in America, get those dues mailed in. Dues will also be collected at all general membership meetings. Membership applications are included with this issue of The Leader. At present The Leader is being sent to nonmembers in a recruiting effort, however, this practice cannot continue on an indefinite basis. Also, in the future only paid up members will have a vote at the meetings and some very important issues are still ahead.

THE LEADER

This publication is the voice of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Through input from the membership this publication can become a very valuable tool to our organization. Any suggestions and/or direct hands on assistance towards improvement is more than welcome. We want to make this a publication you will look forward to receiving each month. One you will want to file away for future reference and not just trash away after a few weeks. How about some support?
SOME THOUGHTS ON "CATCH-AND-RELEASE"

By Jim Ferguson

Prior to developing an interest in fly fishing, most of my fishing was limited to spin fishing. This past summer I was able to fish more frequently and was also far more successful than in the past. I had never heard of the term "catch-and-release." I began intentionally releasing most of the trout that I landed. I think the driving factors were that while I enjoy eating fish, something seems to be lost in hauling a stringer full home, eating some and freezing the rest. Nothing can compare with frying freshly caught trout over a campfire and then eating them.

In most instances, catch-and-release is an excellent idea. There are situations where it is not recommended, however. If a fish is injured, especially in the gills or eyes, it has a high chance of dying. A fish hooked in the gullet also has a high mortality rate, although this is uncommon in fly fishing. Another factor that works against the chances of survival for a fish is how long and hard it is played prior to being landed. A small trout has a low margin of tolerance to the build-up of lactic acid in the muscle tissue accumulated during a battle with the angler. Playing a fish until it rolls onto its side can limit the chances that it will revive even if there is no other damage.

Larger fish are somewhat less susceptible to this and anadromous fish even less so as they have a large reserve of stored energy for the swim upstream to spawn. Most of these concepts are certainly not new. I am sure that most of you are somewhat familiar with them.

Perhaps a little known reason for not releasing your catch is related to fishing pressure and the native ability of a given species to reproduce. The brook trout in most fisheries is a common example of this. It may not be advantageous to release Brookies (unless they were illegally caught). Brook trout have a tendency to overpopulate the fisheries they inhabit, are far less particular about their spawning environment, and are sexually mature at an earlier age than other trout. When planted, they can almost totally displace the wild species and increase the population density beyond the ability of the environment to support them. If you catch Brook trout and they seem to be scrawny or malformed, you may be doing everyone, including the trout population, a favor by keeping what you catch. In spite of their smaller size these fish make excellent table fare. In some locations in Oregon the kill limit was raised from 10 to 15 fish per day in a somewhat unsuccessful attempt to decrease the Brook trout population.

My early efforts at catch-and-release were somewhat crude; I'm sure the mortality rate was high, but the intent was derived from a sense of waste. A waste of a resource that is not all that fast in replacing itself and receiving pressure from many sources. Since becoming a fly fisherman I have refined my techniques as a result of information gleaned from books and magazines. I still plan on keeping a fish occasionally. I still enjoy eating fresh trout.

If you have made the decision to release all or part of your catch, some care must be taken to ensure a high chance of survival for the fish. Bass, some species of salmon, and larger fish, in general, tend to be more tolerant of mistreatment. Once the hook has been removed (barbless hooks and forceps make this quite easy), the fish should be gently cradled in the water pointing upstream and allowed to swim away under its own power. If you are lake fishing, the fish should be gently moved back and forth to facilitate the flow of water through the gills. Again, allow the fish to move away unassisted.

I have gotten a fair amount of ribbing from my wife since I started releasing my catch. She wants to know what I am really doing, since I seldom bring any fish home. Solution, take a camera and have a friend take a picture.

If you are presently not releasing your catch, I suggest you try it. There is a deep satisfaction in seeing the fish that just put up a valiant fight recover and swim away, able to provide that same exhilaration again.