FLY TYER'S BENCH

The pattern for this month is one that was developed by Jim Gill. Jim ties this pattern with dry fly hackle, but spends much of the time fishing the fly in the classic wet style. He relates that many of his strikes come in the surface film to a depth of about two inches. Even though the fly may be taken under the surface, the majority of trout strikes are still discernible to the angler. Jim will often overhackle the Hare’s Ear by using hackle that would normally be used on the next larger size of hook.

GOLD RIBBED HARE'S EAR DRY

Hook: Mustad 94840, #12-16.
Thread: Black or grey.
Tail: Moose body hair.
Ribbing: Gold tinsel.
Body: Hare’s ear. Pick out the guard hairs to give a fuzzy appearance.
Hackle: Blue Dun and grizzley.
Wing: Blue dun hackle tips.
We drove to a nearby park for the ultimate test. I would cast the rods.

I cast the rod for a 6 line first. Sheer poetry in motion. The rod for a 5 line was magical, but in a different way. Each had an action and feel all its own. I was perplexed to say the least. What rod to choose.

While pondering my dilemma, Jim cast one, then the other. All he could do was shake his head and mutter words under his breath, but I was only able to catch a "wow," and "unbelievable." It was Tony who relieved my quandry, asking why didn’t I take both? I could pay for the other at a later time.

On the drive home, both rods safely in the car's trunk, Jim told me he felt that maybe it was about time he gave some serious thought about having Tony build him a rod.

If you have never fished or cast a fine bamboo rod, you are missing a memorable experience. It is true, in recent years bamboo has gotten a reputation for snob appeal. I am sure there are many who fish it for just that reason, which is a shame. I fish bamboo strictly because I enjoy it.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Regretably, we have lost the special support of Fly Fishing Specialties. Yesterday, March 4, I was informed by Terry Helleckson that, due to pressure from our own members who want discounts on fly material and equipment, and pressure from other clubs contending that they too should be given special treatment, he and Stan will no longer give special consideration to our club. Additionally, he has withdrawn from participation in our newsletter. Further information regarding this matter will have to be secured from Terry or Stan.

Results of the survey: Thus far only 6 surveys have been received. The Board of Directors will take up the input from these surveys at its' next meeting and the will include many of the suggestions in their planning. The full results will be in the next presidents message.

MINUTES OF CLUB MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 1987

The February club meeting was called to order by the president, Morrie Schlesinger at 7:30pm.

The minutes of the January Board meeting were read by the Secretary Warren Schoenman.

The membership report was read by Marge Vingom. January and February membership renewals are
due and can be mailed to the club P.O. box or
paid in person to Marge at the club meeting.

The program report was given by Ken
Winkleblack:
1. The Babine trip was changed one day, now
scheduled for July 16-24, six reservations are
paid up so far. Contact Ken for details.

2. The annual picnic date has been changed
from May 17 to May 16. Details on the menu,
etc. will be published later.

The January treasurers report was read by David
Davy. $109.92 was paid out, $150.00 taken
in, and the ending balance is $1089.74.

A report on scheduled outings was presented by
Jim Pratt. Another fishout at Pyramid Lake is
planned for Feb. 28, a swap meet is set for the
April 9th club meeting, and a two day casting
clinic by Chuck Ecet will be held on April
11-12. A pre-clinic meeting is scheduled for 2
weeks in advance of the clinic. The date and
details will be published in the newsletter.

The President reported on club jackets, pins,
patches, etc. Brown has been selected as the
club color for jackets. If you have not
already ordered yours contact Morrie for
details.

Nominations for the vacant Board of Directors
position were opened. Ken Winkleblack was
nominated and elected.

I picked up fellow club member and close
friend Jim Peters at his home that next
Saturday morning at exactly 9 a.m. We arrived
at the shop shortly before 10. Tony was wait­
ing. It was cold outside, but warm and snug
inside the old building. Of all the numerous
times I have stepped through that door, I
always seem to have the feeling I am stepping
back in time. Even though it was Jim’s first
visit I think he had the same feeling. After
introductions, Tony gave Jim a tour of the
premises. I could tell he was deeply impressed.

Tony must have sensed my feeling of eagerness,
because he said smiling “ok pard, (a term he
uses a lot) I guess you want to have a look at
the rods.” He walked over to a table where
the two were lying encased in their cloth bags.
Putting one together, he handed it to me saying,
"this is the heavier of the two and should
handle a No. 6 line very nicely." Reverently,
I took the rod from his hand and flexed it
several times. "Magnificent," I managed to
reply. Next he handed me the other, stating
it was lighter and would, without a doubt, be
more suited for a No.5 line, even though its
action was stiffer. It was equally as ma
nificent.
Unlike glass or graphite, each bamboo rod has a personality all its own. Each is an individual.

I am not condemning glass or graphite. I own and fish several graphite rods. My bamboo rods, unlike those I own of other materials, become close friends and companions. I do not fish a single bamboo rod that I do not consider a friend. Many have helped me through considerably on the stream trials and tribulations. On blank days, I still have had the pleasure of casting one of them. If I caught a fish or two, so much the better. To the uninitiated, this may sound a trifle weird, but not to those who love bamboo rods.

The first good fly rod I ever owned was made of bamboo. It was a birthday gift from my parents. I used that rod for many years. A couple of years later, they gave me another rod for my birthday. This one was made from the, then relatively new, material for rods called fiber glass. Unfortunately, the rod met a quick end. We were on our annual summer trip to the Mammoth Lakes region of the Sierra. It was my first evening fishing. The wind was blowing hard down the meadow on Mammoth Creek. I hadn't made many false casts into the wind when there was a loud snap. The rod broke just above the handle. That incident probably unjustly prejudiced me against glass for many years. Luckily, I had my trusty bamboo rod as a backup. This rod, in all the years I fished it, never once let me down.

While writing this piece, I received a call from my old friend Tony Maslan up in Marys-

The evening program was an excellent presentation by Dennis Lee of the Inland Fisheries department of California Fish and Game.

NOTICE - to all who provide material or articles for the Newsletter. The 20th of the month is now the deadline for all newsletter items. That's, in the P.O. or in the editors hands.

The raffle was held by Marie Stull. If you have some ideas for prizes that you haven't seen before let Marie know.

Visitors were: Lori Furst of Roseville, Art Reed of Rocklin Mike Classon of Auburn and Eric Baer of Folsom (who became a member)

Refreshments were served by Stan Helleckson. Don't forget to drop some coinage in the kitty folks, the fund is supposed to support itself.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm (approx)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you are not sure when your membership expires, check the upper right corner of the address label on your newsletter. It indicates the month and year and type of membership you hold: R- regular, F-family, Y-youth.

A notice will be sent in advance of your expiration date.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Lew Palmer will be our featured speaker for our March 12 meeting. He will speak on "Jump fishing" and get us dreaming about our local waters when the thread fin shad become active again. Our second feature will be the second half of "The Kings River Story" concentrating on the upper Kings river and the hike in portion. Future months we will have Rod Gray on "South West Alaska" and Ralph Cutter on "Wild Trout Waters of California".

Coming attractions include:

April 9 - Club mtg. and swap meet.(fishing gear only)
   11-12 Beginning flyfishing clinic.
       Chuck Ekert - instructor (more info at March mtg.)

(date TBA) Bass fishout with Leo Gueteras

May 2    Finnin Res. Fishout for bass (more info at Apr. mtg.)
May 16   Club Picnic and BIG raffle

FLY FISHERS ARE PACK RATS
by Jack L. Parker

   Basically, I think all fly fishers are pack rats. By that I mean we not only collect, but seem to hoard as well. How many of us own more equipment than we will ever use? I would venture to say most of us. Flies for example. I personally have enough to last a lifetime. I could probably get along with about six dry fly, four or five nymph and a couple of streamer patterns for most of my trout fishing. As it is, I must have at least a zillion dries, a million or two nymphs and half a million streamers. A little exaggeration in my figures, but not by much.

   The love of my life though (other than my wife, of course) is bamboo fly rods. I love to handle them. I love to fish them. I love everything about them. During those bleak winter days, I love to take them out of their cases and fondle them. I am not going to admit to how many I really own because my wife will be reading this and doesn't know.

PLACES TO FISH

KIRMAN LAKE (Mono County)

CalTrout believes that DFG picked a brook trout winner here. It’s your chance for a 3-5 pound brookie, which is a trophy by California standards for this species (which really is a
lake pretty enough to make a sane person pause and drink in its beauty or a fisherman vibrate with anticipation, I choose the latter. I hurried to a large rock and cast my fly into a likely spot, and cast, and cast, and cast. After two hours of casting without a single take, I cast my Wet Cel I again and set it down to allow me time to take off my hiking boots and soak my feet and finally enjoy the beauty of my surroundings. After about 10 minutes, I picked up my rod, stripped twice and hooked a beautiful Eastern Brook Trout. I had found the technique, although 10 minutes is a long time to wait between casts, it worked several more times.

On a recent trip to Pardee with Nicolai, I became frustrated as Nicolai picked up five nice trout while I, using the same Eggleston tied fly was fishless. He said he would make a couple of sandwiches and set his rod down, I quickly picked it up, and asked if I could use it, of course I was already into a full backcast. I cast his line, allowed it to sink, stripped twice, and was into a nice trout. The only difference, was the type of lines we were using, I was using a Wet Cel I designed to sink slowly while Nicolai was using an intermediate line designed to stay very near the surface.

This hard learned lesson is to watch the depth at which you're fishing which probably means to watch the temperature at which you're fishing. A smart fisherperson will probably take the temperature at different levels and fish at the level nearest the 58 to 64 degree ideal temperature range.

char, not a trout). For decades this little known secret spot (also known as Carmen Lake and various other spellings) was protected from angling pressure by the required three-mile hike-in, so a simple 2 fish bag limit was thought restrictive enough. But pressure is building due to increasing popularity and growing numbers of people using trail bikes and the like, so this may have to be tightened to assure the presence of trophy fish. The lake is absolutely alive with shrimp-like scuds, and the fish - all stocked - are obese. (best angling is just after ice-out, and again in October. Be sure to pack in a float tube. Olive-colored streamers work well, but probably so will anything else. The flesh of the Kirman critters is a deep bright orange, and the eating is delicious.)

BABINE LAKE RESORT BARGAIN

For those of you that may have missed our announcements, Ken Winkleblack is excepting $100 deposits for our Babine Lake trip in British Columbia. Bob Brown, owner of the lodge, is trying to explore some new water around his lodge for the promoting of fly fishing at the lake. He has offered our club this great deal to get us up there so he can take pictures of us landing lots of rainbow and maybe some cutthroats on flys. He is just covering his costs with the following charges:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Persons</th>
<th>Cost/person</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 - 6</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<td>7 -10</td>
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Transportation to and from the lodge is up to you.

The roster is filling up and it looks as though we will get down to the $250 price for the full weeks lodging, all meals, and the use of boats and motors. The date has changed. We will be arriving on July 17 and depart on July 24. It is first come first serve so get you money to Ken. Home: 988-7129 or work: 786-8000 ext 4420.

SWAP CORNER

This is a space reserved for members who want to swap or sell fishing or camping gear, only.

BASIC FLYFISHING CLINIC

THIS IS IT! This is what you've been waiting for. An all-inclusive, basic clinic designed to help you have more fun and catch more fish.

The instructor, Chuck Echer, is a dedicated flyfisherman and experienced instructor. His easy-going, relaxed style of teaching will help each student progress at his or her own pace and gain confidence and experience in the art of flyfishing.

Topics covered:
- equipment selection, including rods, reels, lines, leaders and tippets.
- Knot tying. Each student will tie all knots needed for most fishing situations.
- Casting, will include theory and practice. Each student will learn and cast the different methods needed to fish drys, nymphs and streamers in both still and moving water.

WHEN: Thursday, March 19th, 7 to 10pm.

Subject: Selection of Equipment.

(If you already have equipment, please bring it with you.)

Saturday and Sunday, April 11/12, 8:30 to 5:30pm

Recommended equipment:
- 8 to 9.5 foot rod, of 5 to 8 weight.
- Medium to fast action. Hi-viz weight forward floating line with a 4 foot 20 lb. butt section.

COST: Only $50. Club members receive a $20 discount. *LIMITED TO 30 STUDENTS*

FLYFISHING EXPO

The trip to the San Mateo fairgrounds is definitely worthwhile for any fishing enthusiast. The event is being held from March 11 thru the 15th. Take highway 92, just across 101, turn under the freeway and follow the signs. It is next door to Bay Meadows Racetrack.

AN EASY LESSON LEARNED THE HARD WAY

by Jim Pratt

A two hour walk into the rugged terrain of the Sierras ended with a view of a mountain