

THE LEADER

VOICE OF THE

GRANITE BAY
Flycasters

JULY 1989

GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS
P.O. BOX 1107
ROSEVILLE, CA 95661



GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

OFFICERS

President	Frank Stolten	725-6894
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Keith Haviland, Jr.	885-9092
Treasurer	Mel Hurtt	725-6310

DIRECTORS

Marge Vingom	through 1991	645-1742
Chris Impens	through 1991	722-7640
Marie Stull	through 1990	663-2414
Nathan Sheffler	through 1990	645-7292
Warren Schoenmann	through 1989	752-2542
Ken Winkleblack	through 1989	988-7129
Dave Terrill	at large	725-8247
Jim Victorine	Past President	652-0408

COMMITTEES/CHAIRPERSONS

Conservation	Jim Pratt	966-0136
Gatekeeper	Ed Stull	663-2414
Librarian	Warren Schoenmann	752-2542
Editor (odd months)	John Hardin	966-8174
Editor (even months)	Vacant	
Raffle	Chris Impens	722-7640
Technical Services	Terry Eggleston	
Fishmaster	Mike Glasson	885-0848
Programs	Ken Winkleblack	988-7129
Refreshments	Dave & Marge Vingom	645-1742
FFF Membership	Jim Victorine	652-0408
Northern CA FFF	Frank Stolten	725-6894
Annual Dinner	Chris Impens	722-7640
Public Relations		
Golden Trout Program	Marie Stull and Warren Schoenmann	663-2414 752-2542

ROD FOR SALE

No, not a hot rod, a fly rod! Marie Stull has a fine Winston rod for sale. Its a 7 weight, 9 foot with an IM of 6. It has a removable fighting butt. Its only been used once and she'll let it go for only \$250. See Marie at the meeting or call her at 663-2414

BYLAWS SPECIAL ELECTION

The board has authorized a special election to be held at the next monthly meeting, July 13th, to vote on a proposed bylaws revision concerning the manner in which officer vacancies are filled. As this directly effects the selection of club officers, it should be of interest to all club members. Please try to attend, be informed and vote on this proposed change.

WOOLY BUGGER FEVER SPREADS!

by Bill Stobbe

After 25 years of dry fly fishing only, something happened. Jim Pratt's incessant manic ravings about the Wooly Bugger as the ONLY way to fish finally got to me. There I was on fathers day fishing the Silver Fork at China Flat campground with a dry caddis, having a great time but no fish for hours. "Well, what the heck," I thought. "Jim keeps going on and on about it; I might as well try a Wooly Bugger." I changed to a quick sink line (given to me 22 years ago and never used) and a Wooly Bugger (also given to me), and WHAM, in three casts I had a beautiful 10 inch brook trout! I guess there is something to wet fly fishing and Wooly Buggers! Thanks Jim!

UPCOMING FISHOUTS

August 26 - Lake Clementine for bass

September 23 & 24 - Tuolumne River for trout

October 14 & 15 - McCloud River for trout

November 18 - Yuba or American River for steelhead

December 9 & 10 - Garcia River for steelhead

MOKELUMNE RIVER FISHOUT

(Continued)

in shorts; it is not too cold during the day). Also bring food for Saturday and two meals on Sunday. If you are not an experienced backpacker, don't worry. This is a fairly easy trip if you concentrate on packing light. Also if you do not have some of the gear mentioned above, give me a call and I may be able to lend it to you or tell you where you can get it without spending much money.

Everyone should come prepared to be independent in terms of food, but what typically happens is that there is a lot of sharing that goes on for at least the Saturday night meal. I plan to stop at a fast food place on Friday and Sunday nights.

In terms of flies, I have always done well using goddard caddis in an assortment of sizes. There are many large deep pools that might be productive if you are good with a nymph.

What to expect:

The river is one of the larger Sierra streams and is fed by the snow fields around Carson Pass. It flows over granite outcroppings and boulders for all its length prior to reaching the reservoir. This makes the water very clear with a slight touch of green, creating one of the most beautiful streams in the Sierras. The water ranges from big pools (some well over a hundred feet long) to nice pocket water and riffles. It is wide enough so that in most places partners can fish in parallel up opposite sides of the river. The trail extends for a mile or two beyond the reservoir, but after that it is rock hopping and some scrambling over short cliff sections. The area is not heavily used or fished, but you will see signs that people have been there (occasional fire rings, etc.) The river is at the bottom of an impressive canyon that is forested with both pine and oak trees. The elevation will be about 4000 feet. For topo map buffs, Big Meadow and Silver Lake are the maps to get in the 15 minute series of the USGS maps. Both rainbows and browns are present in the river. The largest I have ever landed out of the Mokelumne was 2 1/2 pounds, but 8 to 12 inches is typical.

LEADER'S LINE

This is the time of year when we have some tough decisions to make. Deciding, that is, where to go fishing next from a range of attractive choices. If we really stop to think about it the list of choices is phenomenal. Whether its for trout (lake or stream), bass, shad or even stripers, there's a lot to choose from.

This month our club will give you even more alternatives by hosting two fishouts. The first one is on July 15th & 16th at Gerle Creek Reservoir, a small, pretty mountain lake ideal for float tubing and family camping. The second one on July 29th and 30th is a back packing walk-in to a little fished section of the Mokelumne River populated by wild rainbows and browns.

Depending on your interests, both offer the opportunity for an enjoyable fishing experience with other club members. These are always a lot of fun, even when the fishing isn't great. So pick one, or both, and come join us.

-Frank Stolten
President

JULY PROGRAM by Ken Winkleblack

*"All You Ever Wanted to Know About Cal Trout"
with Bob Beck*

Bob Beck, a Granite Bay club member, and a member of the California Trout Board of Governors, will be presenting his program on "All You Ever Wanted to Know About Cal Trout". Cal Trout is one of the most active statewide groups focused on preservation of our lakes and streams. Unlike CSPA which concentrates on political lobbying and public embarrassment of individuals and organizations that violate "the rights of the fish" (as presented at our last meeting by Jim Crenshaw), Cal Trout uses legal challenges that quite often have led them into some heavy duty court battles. So come hear of some of Bob's past successes, and current threats and battles that you may be able to help him win.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 13 GENERAL MEETING, General meetings are always the second Thursday of each month, at 7:30 P.M. at the Granite Bay Activity Center (GBF Clubhouse). Bring a friend!
- July 15-16 GERLE GREEK RESERVOIR FISHOUT with Frank Stolten. See announcement in this issue.
- July 20 BOARD MEETING, 7:00 P.M. at the GBF Clubhouse. All members are invited, so come lend an opinion.
- July 29-30 MOKELUMNE RIVER FISHOUT with Ken Winkleblack. See announcement in this issue.
- August 10 GENERAL MEETING, 7:30 P.M. at the GBF Clubhouse
- August 24 BOARD MEETING, 7:00 P.M. at the GBF Clubhouse
- August 26 LAKE CLEMENTINE BASS FISHOUT with Jim Victorine

NEW EDITOR NEEDED!

by Bill Stobbe

Due to pressing commitments at work, this is unfortunately the last issue for which I will be able to act as editor. John Hardin has been pitching in, doing more than half of the newsletters this last year. I know that he is already donating more time than he has as well. Therefore, we need a new editor to take my place - immediately for the next month's issue. If you would like to take it on or talk to someone about it, call Frank Stolten at 725-6894. Articles and news should be submitted by members within a day or two after the month's board meeting and be back from the printers about a week before the next month's general meeting. For submittals for the August newsletter send them to Frank Stolten.

MOKELUMNE RIVER FISHOUT

JULY 29TH AND 30TH

by Ken Winkleblack

This will be our first weekend long backpacking/backcountry fishout. I will attempt to give all the information you need to know for this trip in the following article, but should you have any additional questions feel free to call me at home (988-07129) or at work (785-4420).

First, an overall description of the trip. We will drive to the trail head by the dam at Salt Springs reservoir on Friday night, July 28th. We will sleep in our vehicles or throw sleeping bags on the ground by the parking area. On Saturday morning about day break, we will begin hiking in (about 5 to 6 miles) around the reservoir. The trail is reasonably flat with only moderate ups and downs [editor's note: not too many switchbacks!] We will continue a little way up the river on the far side of the reservoir and find a good spot to camp. From then until about 2PM on Sunday is up to you, the river, and the fish. At about 2PM, we will begin to hike out.

Directions to the Trail Head:

Drive to Jackson at the intersection of highway 49 and 88 (south of Placerville). Proceed east on 88 (toward Carson Pass) for about 25 to 30 miles till you reach the Beaver Ellis Road. Turn right and follow the signs to Salt Springs Reservoir. Beaver Ellis road is past Cooks Station and Hams Station. (If you get to the Bear River Road to Bear River Reservoir you have gone too far.) Go all the way to the end of Beaver Ellis Road (where it dead ends into the Dam at Salt Springs reservoir). If you want to ride with me, I will be leaving my house at about 6:00 PM on Friday and have plenty of room in the van.

What to Bring:

You will need a backpack, sleeping bag, foam pad, lightweight tent, cooking and eating utensils, matches, flashlight, water bottle, plate, cup, TP, mosquito repellent, first aid kit (including moleskin!), sun glasses, etc. Be prepared for cool weather at night (low 40s) and possible rain. You may want to bring lightweight waders unless you are brave enough to wade

THE PROPER WAY TO INTRODUCE YOUR KIDS TO FISHING

by Bill Stobbe

Late last summer for our family vacation we packed up the van and headed north. We ended up on a small fork of the Feather River near Chester; a perfect place to teach the kids the wily craft of catching wild trout. Our two kids, Greg and Meghan, were seven and eight years old and perhaps were now old enough to have the required patience. We found an old wooden automobile bridge that was only about 7 feet off the water. "Great," I thought, "first we'll try and spot the fish and get the kids all excited." Sure enough, we could see them in the pool below. And the excitement knew no bounds. Meghan and Greg could already see those fish chomping down of their hooks! We went back to the car and got our tackle ready. Heading back down to the pool under the bridge, a fly fisherman somberly informed us that those were no ordinary fish; they were wild and refused to be caught. That may have slowed the kids down but it didn't stop them. We got positioned under the bridge. In went the casts. Excitement abounded, but no immediate strikes. After a just few minutes the kids started demanding some action. They were supposed to catch some fish! After all, that's why we were here, wasn't it? Moments later we heard a vehicle stop above us on the bridge. And then it started raining fish. Literally, thousands of 9 to 11 inch rainbows came plummeting down in a torrent! A DFG tank truck had pulled up and seemed to be dumping its load of hatchery fish. For some reason Meghan and Greg thought it was only natural. After all, they had come here to fish.

The rest of the day was rather incredible. They couldn't not catch fish. The pool was like a hatchery raceway full of mature rainbows. The kids didn't seem to have a problem with patience. Finally after about three hours, they started to get bored so we stopped. The next day we started upstream about a mile. We found a dirt road that lead to a beautiful spot with pools and riffles. We hiked down only to find the pools crammed with dozens of rainbows. The DFG truck had beat us to the spot. My kids just thought that this was what fishing was all about: catch fish, play in the water, see if you can get the trout to swim between your legs. Streams are fun places! Fishing is fun!

Ever since school got out a few weeks ago, my kids have been asking, "When are we going fishing again?" Do we dare go out into the wilds again? What experience awaits them this time?

GERLE CREEK RESERVOIR FISHOUT

JULY 15TH AND 16TH

by Frank Stolten

Our fishout on July 15th & 16th will be at Gerle Creek Reservoir, a small pretty mountain lake set in the Crystal Basin Recreation Area. The lake is at an elevation of 5,300 feet with 50 campsites which will accommodate a tent or small trailer. A few (very few) are large enough for a fifth wheel or larger trailer. There are no reservations and space is available on a first come basis. No motors of any kind are allowed but the lake is small enough that it can be easily covered from a canoe, pram or float tube. While there is no beach, there are shallow areas where the kids can enjoy the water. As is typical of these snow fed mountain lakes, the water is crystal clear.

Where to fish: The lake has naturally reproducing German browns and rainbows and is not stocked. Nearby creeks such as Gerle, Rubicon, Jones Fork and Angel Creek offer mostly rainbows.

What to use: Dry flies - caddis, hoppers, ants
Wet flies - leeches, wooly buffers, sculpins,
damsel fly nymphs, sheep creeks
Bring a variety of sizes.

Fee: \$7.00 daily

Miscellaneous: Bring your own firewood or cut from the many trees cut down to fight a beetle infestation. Chain saws are not allowed on weekends. Burning permits are not required in the campground. Bring a rain jacket for those sudden Sierra showers. The evenings should be cool but pleasant. I'd suggest bringing a jacket or sweatshirt. Also, plan to bring a dish to share for the Saturday evening meal.

Directions: Take Highway 50 east past Placerville approximately 34 miles and turn left at a road marked "Ice House Reservoir, Crystal Basin Recreation Area". Proceed north toward Ice House and Loon Lake and watch for signs to Gerle

GERLE CREEK RESERVOIR FISHOUT (Continued)

Creek. The road is well marked. At the turn off to Loon Lake keep to the left and continue on a few more miles to Gerle Creek. The ranger station on the main road in from Highway 50 has a number of useful information sheets as well as topographic maps of the area.

If you are planning to attend, sign-up at the general meeting on July 13th and we will try to have those going early reserve campsites for those arriving later. The campsite fee must be paid to hold a spot. If you have any questions or need further information, you can reach me at 725-6894 evenings.

CONSERVATION REPORT

I don't know about you, but I sure enjoyed Jim Crenshaw's talk last meeting. There are so many factions eroding fish habitat these days that it is important that we individually take the time to do what we can to protect our vanishing legacy. Help organizations like Jim's California Sport Fishing Alliance or others like Cal Trout. (This month Bob Beck will talk about Cal Trout.) When you see articles in the newspaper about things you don't like, take just a few minutes to call or write your congressman, senator or other responsible party, including the DFG, the Water Resources Control Board, the Bureau of Reclamation, FERC, etc. These people and organizations are not necessarily your enemy. They have a lot of competing interests pressing upon them, usually not motivated by fish habitat protection. So its up to you to let them know that we do care, and that they are in responsible positions to do what is best for generations to come, not just for today's political or economic gain. The environment is fragile. It can be easily developed over. The population of California is projected to grow by 20% in just the next 11 years. The money and pressure to be put upon our water resources and water environment will be tremendous. Please help!

- the editor

JIM PRATT's THOUGHTS TO PONDER

We generate our own environment. We can sit back and let someone else determine our world or we can get involved and make a difference. Take charge of your life today. Do something to benefit you, your family, your environment or your group!



AMERICAN RIVER SHAD FISHOUT REPORT

Last month's fishout for Shad on the American River was led by Dave Howard. Here Frank Stolten reports on what happened.

There's nothing sure about shad fishing a this fishout proved. Dave Howard, who probably know as much about shad fishing on the American River as anyone, was our fishmaster and coach for the day. We assembled early at 7:00 at Sailor Bar Park where we met Dave; he'd been in the water since before 6:00. He greeted us by saying the fishing was slow and suggested we start the day somewhere else. He'd only caught three fish in an hour and was disappointed, which was an indication of his standards for good shad fishing.

We moved to a location just north of Sunrise Avenue where Dave gave a brief streamside seminar on technique. He then positioned us in several promising locations and gave individual coaching and in-water demonstrations. He consistently made every effort to get us into fish, even rotating us into the apparent hot spot whenever a few fish were caught.

With all this intense coaching it was clear the shad would be in trouble today. Overmatched. No contest, right? Hoo boy! Instead, we learned another lesson in frustration and fishing unpredictability. Despite faithfully using and modifying the correct techniques, it turned out to be a slow day marked only by brief periods of activity. The fish were there, lots of them. We could see them swim between us and, curiously enough, follow a hooked fish as it was being fought. But we just didn't have the magic that day.

Shad are great fun. They hit hard and fight gamely till the end, just like the saltwater fish they are for most of their lives. Just ask anyone who participated in the fishout: Ken Winkleblack, Jim Pratt, Tom Richie, Dale Wahl, Brad Boustead, Rick Radoff, Mike Radoff, John Hardin and myself.

If you're interested, the fish are still in the river with Sailor Bar Park a good bet.