

GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

P.O. Box 1107
Roseville, CA 95678

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STEVE BERTRAND 369-8809

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 3	Indian Creek Fishout - One fly - (Terry Eggleston)
7	Advanced Casting Clinic - (John Hogg)
8	Club Meeting - Clubhouse 7:30
10	Hat Creek Fishout - (Bill Carnazzo)
15	Board Meeting - Clubhouse 7:00
16	Youth Meeting - Fishout - See Below*
July 13	Club Meeting - Clubhouse 7:30
15	Umpqua Fishout - (John Lewis)
20	Board Meeting - Clubhouse 7:00
21	Youth Meeting - Clubhouse 6:30
29	North Yuba Fishout - (Bill Carnazzo) Rucker Lake Bass Fishout - (Roccofortes)

Note; Youth meeting is planning a fishout for this month - Place to be selected. Call Ron or Jeanne English (677-7169) Tuesday the 13th or later for details.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

GBF FISHOUT SCHEDULE Including Fly of the Month

- June 7 Rubber Legs Kaufmann Stonefly
Indian Creek -- One fly contest
Terry Eggleston - leader
- 10 Hat Creek -- Stonefly hatch
Bill Camazzo - leader
- July 15 Bead Head Hares Ear
Umpqua River -- Smallmouth
John Lewis - leader
- 29 Rucker lake - Bass
Roccofortes - leaders
- 29 North Yuba
Bill Camazzo - leader
- August 19 Zaug Bug
Sierra Golden Trout
- September 23 Rabbit Leach
Robinson Creek
Terry Eggleston - leader
- October 21 Upper Sacramento
- November 18 O'Neil Forebay
- December 1 Yuba River Steelhead

Greetings fellow flyfishers! Can it be that spring/summer has finally made an appearance? I am hard pressed to say yes, considering the amount of hail that is dropping in Cameron Park as I compose this month's message, but I'm confident that it will soon pass. I do remember having some 80+ degree days here recently.

I hope that everyone who attended the Club Picnic had as much fun as I did. The Picnic was again a great success and we even managed to get a couple hours of no rain/sun in the afternoon. We had fantastic food highlighted by the chili cook-off and barbecued pig and lots of fun with the tying and casting games and raffle. I'm still at a loss to understand how my crayfish rendition failed to garner the top spot in the scavenger tying. New judges will definitely be needed next year! A big thank you goes out to Terry Burkes and his crew of helpers. This was Terry's first picnic chairmanship and he did a wonderful job. In fact the Board was so grateful to Terry that we asked him to fill Ed Stull's vacant Director position. We he must have enjoyed the hard work of putting the picnic together because he accepted! Welcome to he Board Terry and thanks for a job well done!

Well lets talk some fishing. The early reports on the Upper Sac from our crew of diehards who ventured up in mid-May was, the river is still very high (almost blown out) and that access was difficult. They ended up fishing the McCloud and everyone caught "a few". Seems as though everyone had a good time and enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Jim Coleman for leading this outing. I'm starting to hear rumors of shad moving into the upper American and with the decrease in flows it should turn on at any time. Call a fishing buddy and go out and give it a try. I'm looking forward to hearing lots of good stories at the June 8th meeting.

With the late (and extended) winter we've had, those favorite trout spots are going to take awhile to open up. This may cause some changes to our proposed fishout schedule so read your Leader and note any changes. Also, if there are places you would like to see the Club have an outing don't be shy, bring it up at a meeting or call one of your Board members or the Fishmaster. Hope to see all of you at the next meeting and remember to "let 'em go alive".

Michael Wasserman
President

FLYTYER'S CORNER

by

BILL CARNAZZO

RUBBER LEGGS KAUFMANN STONEFLY

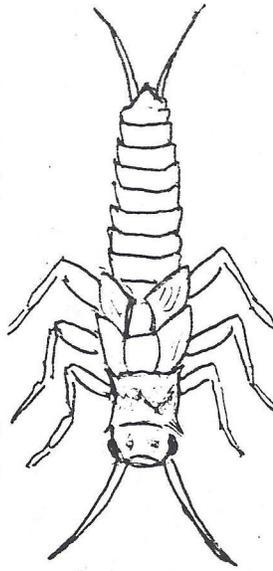
June, 1995

Note: The Pattern for the June Fly Tying Contest will be the Madam X featured in the May Leader. Bring your best version to the June General Meeting. Remember -- The winner gets a free GBF flybox, and each person entering a fly gets a ticket to be deposited for the drawing at next year's picnic Bring those flies in -- Don't be shy!!

Another Note: [See next article for a rundown on the rules and incentives for the contest]

Randall Kaufmann has a number of books in print. Two of the most recent ones are called "Tying Dry Flies" and "Tying Nymphs". Randall is one of the most inventive and productive tyers of fish catching flies I have had the pleasure of meeting.

The following pattern is one of my favorites. I have taken a bit of liberty in changing the materials in the interest of simplicity. The original pattern calls for a blend of about ten different colors. I have reduced that to one -- of your choice. For purposes of the contest, and this article, I have selected black.



This fly needs to be right on the bottom when fished. Consequently, I have included weight in the materials list.

CONSERVATION AND THE BEAR RIVER PROJECT

JIM COLEMAN - CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN

Bear River Project: If your not planning on joining Bill and the rest on the Hat Creek fishout June 10th we invite you to come up and check out our Bear River Project. We want everyone to get a chance to see our project at the beginning so we will have an **orientation day** complete with a walk-around of the entire project. The way the water level is falling it appears that, by then we will be able to have access to the whole area. If all goes well we will have a work party busy that day installing the first of the logs for the down stream brush traps. At the present a majority of the large logs and poles have been cut. Plans are for a work party each Wednesday so there will be some visible progress to check out.

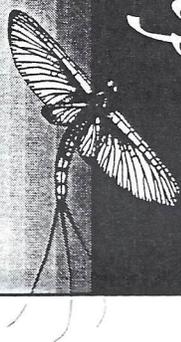
This should be an interesting and educational outing for the whole family (you could even do a little work if you so desire). Before you leave for the day be sure to go upstream about a mile to the Sierra Discovery Trail recently completed by PG&E. This is a great trail for the youngsters as well as some of us that are not so young. PG&E has done a beautiful job putting in a nice trail and numerous informative signs. The kiosk at the beginning is an education all buy itself. Don't miss it.

Upper Sacramento River: As I mentioned in last months Leader the Department of Fish and Game is reviewing the regulations for the Upper Sac and Yuba rivers (upstream of Hiway 20 Bridge). There are some active voices out there that are pushing to open these areas to all fishing, which would soon wipe out the wild trout and leave this beautiful area as just another place to find stockers. Send your letters stating that you support the existing regulations to:

CA Dept. of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth St.
Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Give me a call if you would like to discuss this or the Bear River Project.
Jim Coleman 885-4128

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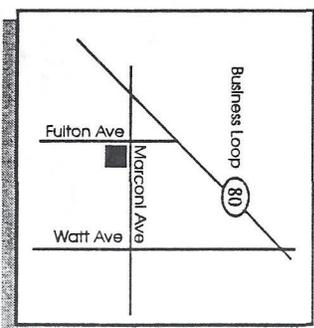
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RUBBER LEGGS KAUFMANN STONEFLY (cont)

Materials:

- Hook TMC 5263; Mustad 79580. #2-12
- Thread 6.0 Black prewaxed
- Tail Black goose biots
- Rib Fine black swannundaze
- Body Fine black dubbing
- Legs Black rubber hackle
- Wingcase 3 sections lacquered turkey tail
- Thorax Same as body
- Head Same as body
- Antennae Black goose biots

Tying Instructions:

1. Cover hook with thread, apply weight.
2. Make small ball of dubbing just above back of barb on hook shank, to provide easy separation of biots. Mount one biot on each side of this ball.
3. Tie in swannundaze ribbing, and begin dubbing a cigar-shaped abdomen over rear 2/3 of the hook.
4. Wrap ribbing over abdomen, using 3 or 4 wraps, and tie off in front of abdomen. Tease some of the dubbing fibers out from between the ribs along the side of the fly.
5. Tie in rubber hackle. Use the technique set out in the May Leader for mounting and cutting the rubber hackle. Leave it long; if cutting it is necessary, it can be done at the stream.
6. Cut three small sections of turkey tail into this shape:



DUBBING BALL



TURKEY

7. Mount the first section as indicated. Now wrap small amount of dubbing over the butt and apply the second section. repeat process for the third section. This forms the thorax and wing case at the same time. There should be about two eye lengths of bare hook left behind the eye at this point.

8. Tie in a goose biot on each side of the hook in front of the thorax, with the tips pointing out in front of the hook left behind the eye at this point.

9. Tie in a goose biot on each side of the hook in front of the thorax, with the tips pointing out in front of the hook, but at about a 45 degree angle to the shank.

Dub in a small amount of black material for the head, and whip finish.

- See ya on the creek!!!!



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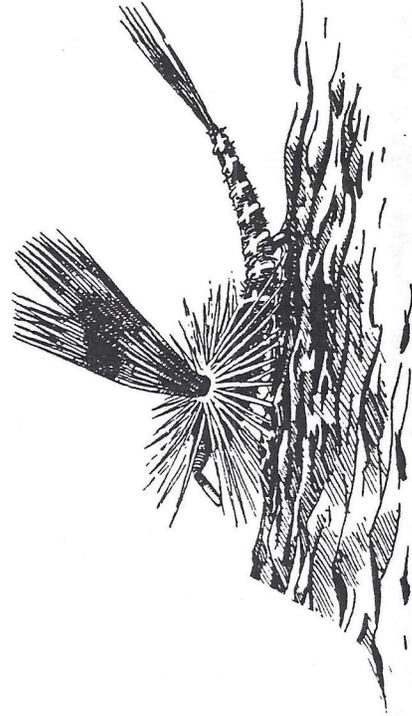
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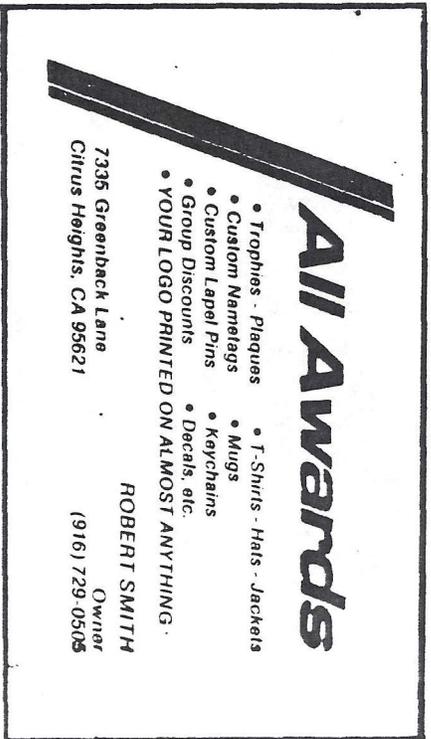
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FISHMASTER'S REPORT

June, 1995
Bill Carnazzo, Fishmaster

UPCOMING OUTINGS. For June, we have the Indian Creek outing, which will be the "one Fly Contest", at which everyone had a lot of fun last year. Terry Eggleston in leading this one. It was in last month's Leader, and discussed at the May meeting. Call Terry (331-5258) for details. We also have the Hat Creek outing on June 10th, I will be leading that one. There will be a sign-up sheet and information at the June 8th club meeting.

PAST OUTINGS: In May, we had the bass outing at Gordon's Pond in Cool. It was attended by about 25 members, and most caught some fish. The weather was not overly cooperative, but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. A big thanks to Gordon Evans for his generosity and helpfulness in heading this one up. Also, by the time you read this, we will have had the Upper Sac outing, headed up by Jim Coleman. The May Leader had all of the information on this outing, and Jim announced it at the May meeting. Thanks to Jim for heading this one up.

Contact the Fishmaster. If you have questions on any of the outings, or want information, please call me. (264-5346 work or 663-2604 home)

FLY TYING CONTEST RULES

Don't be reluctant to submit your entry ... ask for a critique if you want help, or to know what the winning fly has that yours doesn't. Here's the rules:

- Rules:
- Judging will be during the meeting
 - Winner announced just before program
 - Winner still gets a fly box
 - Judge(s) will stay after meeting to give critique, if requested.
 - Each member entering a fly gets a free ticket, on which name and phone number is placed.
 - Tickets are deposited in a sealed box each meeting
 - Drawing held at annual picnic
 - Winner gets \$100 gift certificate at fly shop of choice.
- As you know, certain of the tyers in the club have voluntarily kept themselves out of the contest, that will continue to be the case. So, enter your flies, folks ... don't be shy!!!

Note: Last month's winner was **Ron English** who tied the best Water Boatman pattern, although the competition was intense. We'd like at least 15 for each meeting in the contest. Don't be shy, folks !!!!! The \$100 gift certificate will be there for the taking -- you'll get one chance at that prize for each month you enter a fly in the contest.

Note: The fly must be tied in accordance with the instructions from the Leader (right or wrong, and irrespective of whether you find another version of the pattern in a book somewhere). In order to keep the playing field level. The judges need to make a choice based on a single pattern. THANKS.



First Aid for Snakebite by Carol McAllister, RN

There are some 45,000 snakebites every year in the United States with fewer than one-sixth of them involving poisonous snakes. (That works out to 7500 bites, divided by 50 states equals 150 per state). The average person has about as much chance of dying from a snakebite as of getting struck by lightning. (We, however, stretch the odds a little by venturing into the same territory as snakes and lightning). A significant number of bites from poisonous snakes are "dry bites" where the snake doesn't deposit any venom into the bite wound or deposits such a small amount that you probably won't become seriously ill from it. (I certainly felt better when I learned that!)

In any case, never take snakebites lightly - seek Medical attention. If possible, try to get a good look at the snake - and be able to describe it - so your doctor has a better idea of whether it's poisonous. Here are the latest emergency treatment tips to tide you over until you get to a hospital or doctor's office: (I spoke with an ER physician at UCD Med Center who said basically "Immobilize the site, immobilize the patient".)

Don't play TV medic!!! Forget that old advice about cutting "X"s with razor blades and sucking the venom out. You can do more harm and really hurt yourself in the bargain. Keep the wound away from ice - since viper venom makes tissues very temperature-sensitive, icing can lead to serious damage - even loss of an otherwise salvageable limb. Stay calm and stay put - Fear is the biggest thing to worry about. Stay calm and send someone for help. If you are alone and do move, do it slowly. Walk, don't run for help. The more quickly you move, the harder your muscles work and as a result the venom will get into your circulation more rapidly. Keep the bite area below heart level when you are seated.

Splint the bitten area - this prevents muscle contractions from spreading the poison any faster. Forget about tourniquets - they can cause very serious damage and should not be used. If you have an Ace elastic bandage, fasten over the splint, wrapping only toward the heart (fingers toward shoulder). Check fingers (toes) frequently to be sure bandage is not too tight.

JUNE MEETING SPEAKER

by Robert Tamson
Program Chairman

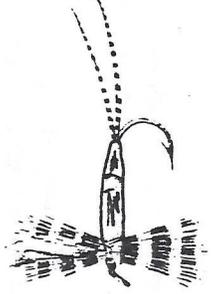
"Fly fishing Still Water For Trophy Trout"

A new and easy approach to still water? Impossible you say? Not according to our June speaker Denny Rickards! For the last 30 years, Denny has had the opportunity to fish and guide flyfishers on some of the most challenging trophy trout waters in the Western United States. His simplistic approach and techniques on presentation have accounted for countless browns and rainbows, many in excess of 14 pounds!

Today, Denny, Owner of Crystal Creek Anglers in Klamath Falls Oregon, is a full time guide and instructor in the Northern California, Southern Oregon area, that includes such famous fisheries as Upper Klamath Lake, and the Williamson River. He spends over 250 days a year doing what he loves the most: guiding, writing, tying flies, and conducting Fly Fishing schools.

During our June 8th program, Denny will spend about 30 minutes showing us mouth watering slides of large fish and breathtaking scenery. Also, in the second 30 minutes segment of the program he will discuss and demonstrate first hand some of his various techniques!

This will be a great show! See you there !!



HUH?

Having read in the May Leader, Jim Bennett's well-written, humorous article on fishing with a "non-fly", where the action ends with the trout's rise (or the indicator's movement), I am reminded that there are indeed flyfishers who seriously advocate limiting oneself to "uncatching" so that they can "nonrelease"? That, fellow flyfishers, is scary.

Catch and release has been an ethic for me for more than 25 years. But that ethic is one which allows for other views, and which is tempered with reason. There are clearly situations where taking a fish or two is warranted and even beneficial to the resource. The point here is that catch and release is, except where regulations otherwise dictate, my personal choice... a choice based upon a set of principles, beliefs and values which I practice of my own volition, for my own reasons, and entirely independent of what path anyone else may wish to follow.

But I must draw a line in the sand. I refuse to accept blame for the state of our fisheries... not even one iota. The "hangdog", hand-wringing, woe-is-me articles we read in popular magazines, where admonitions that catch and release is a must and potential deviants are viewed as outcasts and traitors, are in my view hypocritical and intellectually unsupported. Why? Because they are based upon the premise of "guilt" -- i.e. that somehow we flyfishers are among the causes for the dismal (and worsening) condition of many of our formerly prized fisheries. And so, this line of reasoning continues, we should always practice catch and release as atonement for our transgressions. Where catch and release ethics are founded on this false premise, I submit that no ethic exists at all. Disguised intellectually snobbery, not ethics, is what is at work here.

Now enter "uncatch" so that one can "nonrelease". If personal ethics form the basis for this approach, and not someone else's attempt to goad compliance through guilt, such individual decisions should be respected. To the extent that guilt precipitates the decision, it hurts all of us. Can you imagine the government imposing "uncatch" as a regulation? Get ready for it, flyfishers; there are advocates who blame us for fishery declines, and who would love to see us restricted to such pathetic tactics. We only feed this fire by advocating them.



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TILL WE MEET AGAIN

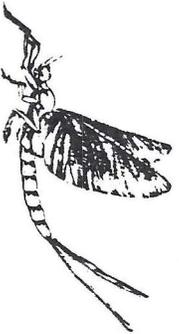
We want to thank everyone for the lovely going away gifts, they were great and we were totally surprised, as you know.

We have mixed emotions about leaving all of our wonderful friends, but I'm sure our paths will cross again through the years. If any of you ever have the wonderful pleasure of going to the Gallatin Gateway area look us up. Who knows, we may even have a good spot to go fishing.

Will be looking forward to getting the newsletter each month, seeing what's going on. Keep up the good work, but most important, have fun with the club.

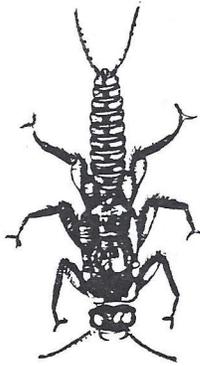
Tight Lines

Ed & Marie



There are also those (truly guilty parties) who would attempt to hide their own environmental depredations by pointing to others (such as fly fishers and other anglers) as the source of the problem (example: the State Water Project and Central Valley Project users association denying that the delta pumps have anything to do with the tragedy of Striped Bass and other delta species). And because the later are always more well-heeled in terms of funding, and in terms of their labyrinthine connections with politicians, we find ourselves in a "business as usual" situation, just fighting to maintain status quo and our right to continue to determine whether and when we can exercise our right to fish the stream of our choice in the manner we choose. Why, then, do we choose to fight with one hand behind our back, and to deliberately handicap ourselves by advocating limiting our sport to nothing more than glorified wading and casting?

In other words, it all sounds a bit Orwellian. So let's not further the process by aiding further encroachment on our right to do what we wish -- whether that be catch and release, or uncatch and nonrelease. I apologize if these words of reality make others feel uncomfortable. The words, and what they intend, are mine -- they do not reflect what GBF or any of its members may believe.



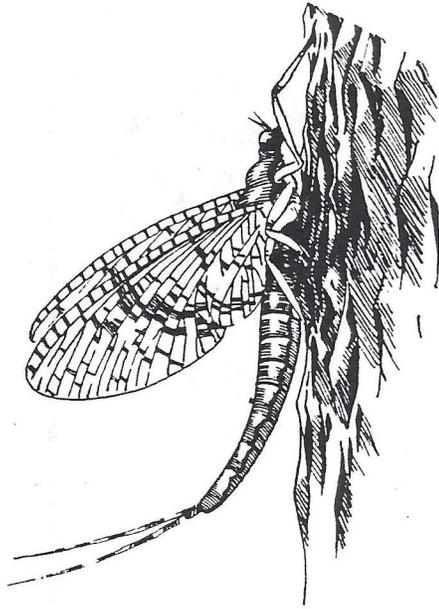
Bill Carnazzo

GORDON'S POND FISHOUT

Sunday, May 7th

Even though the weather wasn't the greatest on the 7th Gordon Evans had about 30 GBF members out to visit. We were especially pleased to see so many new members taking advantage of this neat little pond. Everyone had a good time, learned some, and most even caught some fish. I have an idea we could convince Gordon to invite us out again toward the end of the season if we were real nice to him. Let Gordon or the Fishmaster know if your interested.

THANK YOU AGAIN GORDON - WE REALLY DO APPRECIATE YOUR HOSPITALITY.



...GBF PROMOTER...

Our search for someone to be responsible for all the GBF merchandise has come to an end. Don Hopkins has volunteered to make sure we have fly boxes, T-shirts, caps and etc. when we need them. Remember these items make great gifts. Its also nice to advertise our club when we are out and about. So, see Don at the general meetings or give him a call (677-1805) if you need something for that birthday present for your favorite fisherperson.

(Fathers day is coming up this month)

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WILLY WILLY AT BEAR RIVER

By Vern Stubbs

On the morning of May 24 1995, 5 hardy souls traversed the highways and byways to reach the meadow area of the once beautiful and pristine Bear River. Their objective was the wily trout. Upon arrival at the target area, the fearsome 5 found the river in a state of great disrepair. Broken down banks, wide areas with no banks, no willows to protect the "wily trout" and test the intrepid fisherman and additional deplorable conditions better defined by the California Department of Fish & Game.

Upon observing these conditions, the brave leader of the group ordered the members to cut four foot, six foot, and eight foot poles from the nearby forest areas to be used as dams, break waters, and debris catchers. All this was in conformance with and pursuant to a grand design envisioned to return the river to its original condition and perhaps create a wildlife area similar to what must have existed 100 years ago before the white man and his cattle came.

When the weary fisherman left the area for home late that afternoon, several hundred poles had been cut and stacked. The fearless 5 swore on their beer cans and crossed chain saws to return and proceed with the grand design on Wed. and weekends as scheduled by their brave and ruthless leader, until the job was done.

Editors note: The fearless five, Jim (the other) Bennett, Vern Stubbs, Marshall Smith, Tom Klinefelter, and Jim Coleman.
Check the Leader or call Jim Coleman for schedule information.



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JUNE 24, 1995

"FISH FOR SCIENCE" DAY

Set aside Saturday June 24 for the annual Fish for Science Day sponsored by the Sierra Chapter of Trout Unlimited in coordination with the Department of Fish and Game. Not only will you have a fun day fishing, but you will be helping monitor conservation efforts also.

Fish Martis Lake (near Truckee) from shore, a float tube, canoe or pram for Eagle Lake trout, rainbows, browns, and cutthroats. Record the species, size and whether they have been finclipped, and then return them to the water. This survey helps DFG determine how well the fish are succeeding in the lake and match it with data the Truckee Flyfishers regularly conduct on environmental conditions.

Several GBF members have participated in this event in past years and can attest to the camaraderie that exists that day. This year the Sierra Chapter of TU will provide lunch. If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to Van U'Ren so he knows how much food to buy. Van's phone number (with answering machine) is 731-4926.

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

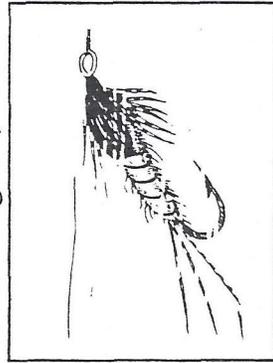
by
J. P. Gildone

A WARNING TO US ALL

Dear reader, you've heard the old question: Is it genetic or environmental? Is it nature or nurture? Are people who flyfish born or made. Do some people have a genetic predisposition to become fly fishers or are there certain environmental factors that finally turn them hopelessly toward the dark side of the angler's art? The shocking truth of what I have learned lately makes these questions hopelessly naive and irrelevant. Last month in this column your intrepid reporter exposed the obsessive-compulsive aspect of fly fishing and faithfully reported to you the true nature of flyfishing addiction. As alarming and shocking as that discovery was it is not to be compared with what this investigative reporter has discovered lately. This month as I traveled deeper into fly fishing's heart of darkness I discovered something so horrific, something so insidiously evil that I must now be concerned for my own safety. But all must be told.

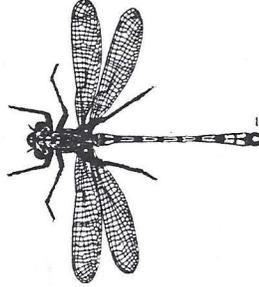
Flyfishing's dark secret has been hidden from public view for centuries, and flyfishing master's have carefully kept this secret hidden from new students until these novices were themselves hopelessly trapped in flyfishing's dark web of evil. These students then, having mastered this ancient art, have carried on this tradition of evil and secrecy generation after generation, passing it on to their sons and daughters, and even entrapping friends and acquaintances.

They have expanded on old traditions and ancient formulas, and they have insinuated themselves and this form of angling far beyond its traditional boundaries. But it is all part of an ancient evil plan. "What's he talking about?" you ask? I will not keep my faithful reader wondering any longer, lest your patience be tested beyond endurance. I will tell you plainly: Flyfishing is Voodoo. It is witchcraft!



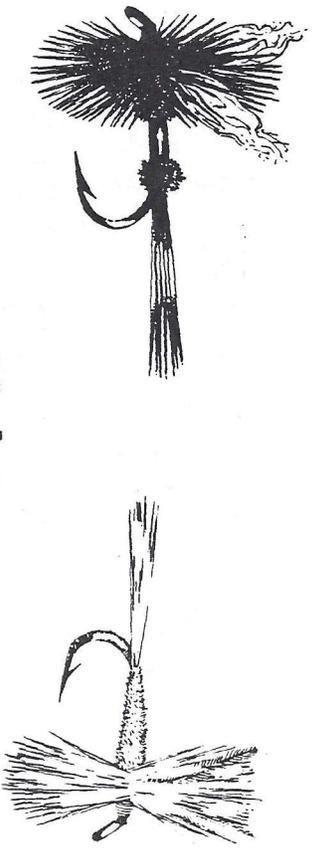
FIRST AID CLASS

Wow! Carole Hopkins is some first aid instructor. We just thought we had finished her class by about 1:30 pm Sunday the 30th of April. What we didn't know was that she had planned a special real live test for a pair of us picked at random. It turned out that **Roy Bloxham and Mark Neice** were the two selected. Later that afternoon they were called to the scene where Roy's daughter had fallen off her horse and broken her wrist. It was reported that both of our well trained first aid students did a great job with the splint and sling they put on, and the patient is recuperating well. In fact she was at the picnic sporting her nice new cast. Thanks guys - I'm not sure, but I think Carole would have flunked us all if you had botched this one up. And, thanks to you too Carole - it was a great class!



-- CAUTION --

This is a dynamic club in more ways than one. One of our dynamic habits is changing the schedule periodically. It is just not possible to call everyone of our one hundred forty odd (maybe a poor choice or words, at least for a few of us) members. I advise you watch closely and double check everything. If in doubt call before you venture out. Most events have a designated leader or any of the officers or board members are willing to help out. Don't be bashful - pick up the phone.



GBT ANNUAL PICNIC

1995 REVIEW

The 1995 picnic was an event to be remembered. The Niece Brothers, and Terry Eggleston roasted up a monster pig to mouth-watering delight. The Chili Cook Off entries were delicious, Mark Lutz was the cook of winner. The salads and deserts were delectable. The picnic was truly a gastronomic extravaganza. I would like to thank all the people who helped me put the picnic together and Frank Stollen, Marie Stull, Jeanne English, and Joe Gildone for running all the events. I would also like to give a special thanks to Paul Roccoforte for helping me wrestle that monster pig into the refrigerator for without his help I would have been literally up the creek with a busted fly rod. Also, we need to congratulate the winners of our contests. Bus Gehring won the fly rod. Walt Dombrowski won the fly tying \$100 gift certificate. Jim Bennett won the casting contest. Rick Radoff won the scavenger and practical part of the blind folded fly tying contest and Beth Jappay won the creative section of the blind folded fly tying contest. The kids section of scavenger tying went to Nick English.

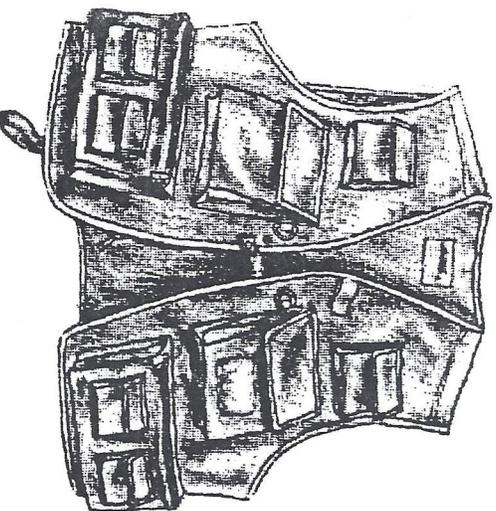
Thanks again and congratulations
Terry Burkes

WARNING TO US ALL (CON'T)

It's black magic! It is an insidious international, cross-cultural, and multigenerational conspiracy to enslave the heart, mind and soul of every sportsman, and ultimately to conquer the world.

Now before you write me off as just another raving paranoid conspiracy freak with a few wraps short on his clinch knot let me present irrefutable evidence that will convince you beyond any reasonable doubt.

Let me give you a few tidbits to chew on this month. More evidence will be presented in next month's column. Flyfishing has long been considered, in the popular mind, the domain of literary types, tweedy curmudgeons, poets and iconoclasts. But that is just the deceptive public relations job of a more subversive reality. How do you explain the conversion of southern redneck bass fishermen like Dave Whitlock and Lefty Kreh to flyfishing unless some dark supernatural power is at work? And what about the



WARNING TO US ALL (CON'T)

constant references to voodoo-like animal blood sacrifices. Nearly every fly pattern used by anglers is constructed from the various parts of animals whose lives have been taken in bloodletting rituals performed for the sole purpose of catching and then **RELEASING** fish. Some ghoulish patterns developed over generations seem to have great power and command reverence and awe in the minds of many angler's. Imbued with the supernatural and worshipped for their effectiveness the Adam's dry fly and Hare's ear nymph are powerful incantations. Armed with these voodoo concoctions the master angler knows that he's got his mojo working.

New and even more powerful combinations of fur and feather are being cooked up all the time at secret gatherings of master anglers. A warning to us all. I've got to go now before they discover where I am. More from the angling frontier next month if they don't catch me first.



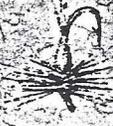

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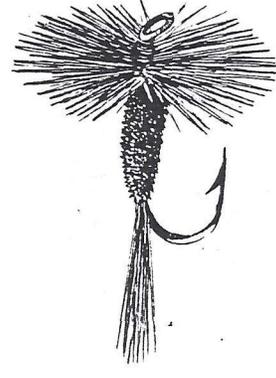
AMERICAN FLY FISHING ADVENTURES



PETER BLACKMAN

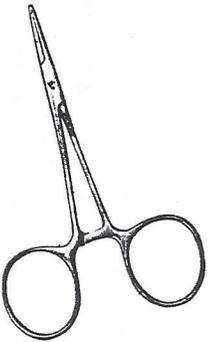
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Fishing Report

You have noticed by now that we have the latest Fishing Report reprinted here for everyone again. Make sure you let the good people at FISH FIRST know how much we appreciate this. They are kind enough to fax this to us about two times a month on their nickel. If you get a chance stop in and say hello and Thanks. They are at 1404 Solono Ave. in Albany, (N. Berkeley) or just give them a call at 510-526-1937. Maybe you have some information that would fit in the next report.



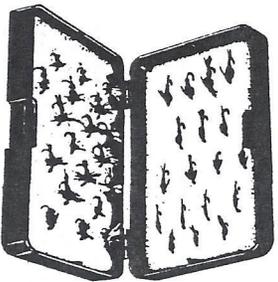
Welcome to New Members

Let's all extend a big GBF welcome to the new members to our club.

This month we welcome:

Peter Reedy

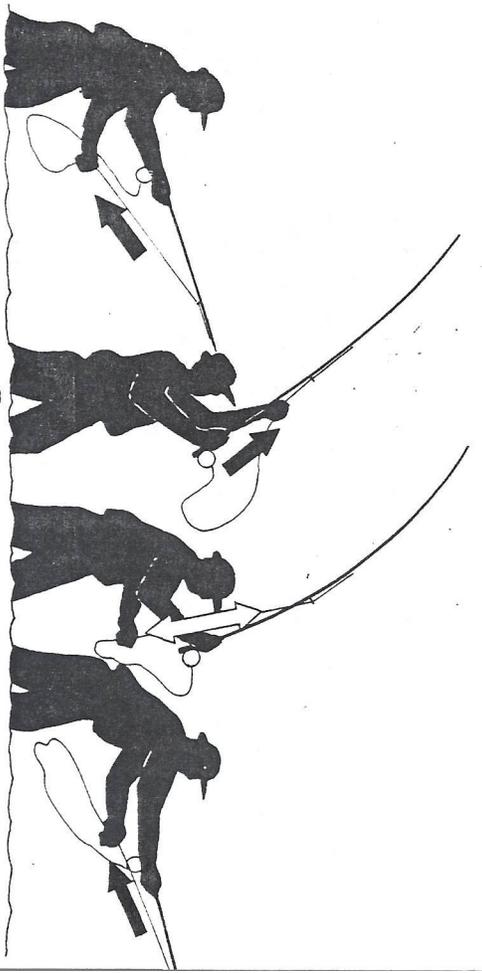
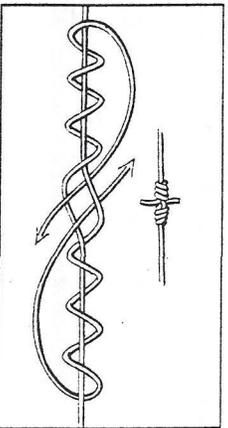
David Diacono



TREASURER'S REPORT

No, I mean, REPORT ON THE TREASURER

As some of you know our Treasurer, Walt Dombrowski, was out for a little while getting his ticker fixed. Wait we just want you to know that we missed you and are glad to see you back and looking so good.



YOUR FIRST SERIOUS FLY ROD

by John Hogg
Education and Training

What's the difference between a fishin' pole and a fly rod. The newly anointed to the gentle sport soon learns the answer ... about \$300. And of course, we know what the word "serious" means in the title -- it means, expensive!

So if you haven't stepped up to the line and made that first heavy investment in a flyrod, read on! And if you have, read on also, because I'm sure you'll find at least a few points of disagreement.

To narrow the field a bit, I'm going to restrict my thoughts to the purchase of that fly rod intended to serve its master in a highly versatile manner: Good for lake or stream, for trout or bass, for floating or sinking line, for wind or calm, for woman or man. And I'm going to lead with my chin by suggesting a fast action, 6 weight, two piece, graphite rod, 9 feet in length. Knowing that each of these descriptive elements can stir controversy, let's look at the pros and cons of each.

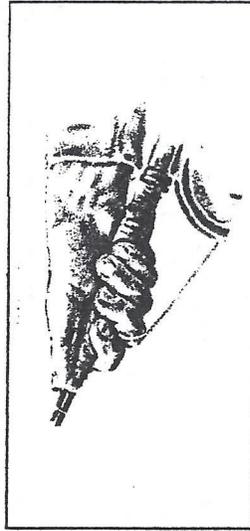
Fast action puts the bend or loading of the rod closer to the rod tip as opposed to the butt section. Quite simply, when casting the rod loads quicker which makes timing an easier affair. Your false cast timing will be

YOUR FIRST SERIOUS FLY ROD (CON'T)

faster, line speed will be faster, and all in all the rod will be more forgiving of bad timing and easier to cast. Faster line speed will also allow you to throw heavier than normal flies such as streamers and bass bugs. The drawback arises in the hooking and playing of a fish. The less flexible, fast action rod will cost you more lost fish as it cannot absorb sharp pulls and tugs, as well as a softer, (slower) action rod, and thus more fish will break off.

Why a 6 weight? The line is heavy enough to drive leader and fly into the wind, and this weight also makes longer distance casts easier. Yet, handled properly, a delicate cast can also be achieved. On the other hand, I find the light weight of 3 or 4 weight rods much too specialized for the limited advantage they offer. (Take a three weight out on a windy day and see how much fun you have!). As to 1 and 2 weights, they must be joking!

Now here's some controversy, a two piece rod versus the currently popular 4 piece pack rods? It doesn't take a real genius to figure this one out, more joints alter a rod's action making it stiffer, and less responsive. Simple test. Go to your favorite fly shop and throw the same model and size rod in a two piece and four piece version. Their actions will be nowhere near the same. What are you paying for anyway, the rod's performance and action as you cast it hundreds of times each day that you use it, or the convenience of putting it in a suitcase for those occasional exotic trips. A pack rod is great for a backup, but it is a special purpose rod, and should not be your first serious rod.



Nine feet long? Well, what if I'm short, or don't have the strength? Nope, stick with a nine footer. Even my son when he was 8 or 9 years of age could cast better with a full size 9 footer, than with the scaled down junior rods I purchased for him. That nine footer will lift more line off the water for a longer roll cast; and it will generate more line speed making your casts much easier.

And graphite, versus bamboo, or metal, or fiberglass. In today's market, if you're buying new you probably won't have much choice other than graphite. Bamboo is horrendously expensive, and notoriously fragile. There are some great fiberglass rods in other folk's closets, and many of them cost a pretty penny when new. As a group, fiberglass rods are heavier in weight and tend to be slower in action, but I have found many of them to have a much smoother action than graphite, a feel that tells you almost exactly the size of your loop and the position of your fly at any time during the cast. Graphite rods are light, and the fast action rod you are seeking will only be available in graphite.

And now that I've convinced you about what to buy, where do you buy it, and how do you choose the best rod for you from all the available models? We'll save that for another issue, it the editor allows it.

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