

# THE LEADER

VOICE OF

GRANITE BAY  
*Flycasters*

MAY 1995

GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

P.O. Box 1107

Roseville, CA 95678-8107



FEDERATION of  
FLY FISHERS



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Vice President	Wayne Dahl	726-1584
Secretary	Danielle Hickman	961-1664
Treasurer	Walt Dombrowski	652-5204

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Through 1995	Paul Orcutt	878-9131
Through 1995	Steve Hand	662-6373
Through 1996	Paul Roccoforte	989-7331
Through 1996	Ed Stull	663-2414
Through 1997	Bruce Cline	985-6745
Through 1997	Kim Roccoforte	989-7331
At Large	Vern Stubbs	663-2801
Past President	Terry Eggleston	331-5258

**COMMITTEES**

Annual Dinner	Marie Stull	663-2414
Conservation	Jim Coleman	885-4128
Editor	Wayne Dahl	726-1584
Egg-Raising Project	Rick Radoff & Mark Neice	624-2107 624-1837
Events Coordinator	Scott Ensor	331-1827
Fishmaster	Bill Camazzo	663-2604
Gatekeeper	Steve Bertrand	369-8809
Golden Trout	Ron English & Bill Camazzo	677-7169 663-2604
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	725-2542
Librarian	Kim Roccoforte	989-7331
Programs	Robert Tamson	967-3317
Public Relations	Frank Stolten	725-6894
Raffle	Joe Gildone	786-0457
Refreshments	Terry Wasserman	677-7189
Training & Education	John Hogg	823-9744
Youth Counselors	Jeanne & Ron English	677-7169

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

May 7	On Gordons Pond Fishout
11	Club Meeting - Clubhouse 7:30
13	Annual Picnic - Golden Trout Workshop
18	Board Meeting - Clubhouse 7:00
19	Youth Meeting - Clubhouse 6:30
20	Upper Sac Fishout
24	Advance Casting Clinic
31	Advance Casting Clinic
June 3	Indian Creek Fishout - One Fly
7	Advanced Casting Clinic
8	Club Meeting - Clubhouse 7:30
10	Hot Creek Fishout
15	Board Meeting - Clubhouse 7:00
16	Youth Meeting - Clubhouse 6:30





## CONSERVATION REPORT

by: Jim Coleman  
Conservation Chairman

**R**ecent review of the Bear River restoration project revealed that all the snow is gone from the valley and that the work that was done last fall has weathered the winter very well. All or at least a vast majority of the plantings that were put in place have survived and are starting to sprout and bloom. The valley floor is very wet though and it looks as if we probably won't be able to get in there to do any work for quite some time. The PG&E folks will soon start clearing up by the road and for the power lines. This will produce some very good timber and branches that we can use on the River. That means that we will be able to get some crews in there to clean and move this timber so it will be ready when we are. For those of you who have volunteered, don't go too far from that phone, I'll be calling for help in the next few weeks.

You may remember the request from last month, I am still looking for any members with access to the following items to please contact me:

Tractor mounted post-hole digger  
Portable generator to handle a large power drill  
16-18" chain saws  
Come-a-longs

If we can obtain the use of any of these items for this project it will greatly help our budget and aid in the swift completion of the task. Although we have applied for some of the grants we believe are available for this type of work, these processes are very slow, so we are proceeding on our own and your help will be appreciated.

Jim Coleman



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**I**s that the aroma of barbecue pig or am I just dreaming? Yes indeed it's picnic time at the old clubhouse! Make sure you keep May 13th open on your calendar because we have a great day planned with activities for all. There will be casting and tying games, youth activities, games for young children, and excellent raffle, and of course food and drink! Picnic chairman, Terry Burkes has put together a real feast which will be highlighted by chili and the famous barbecued pig. Hope to see everyone there.

By the time everyone reads this edition of the leader the general trout season will have opened. I'm sure that we've all been getting our gear ready and have tied up our favorite early season flies. I hope to hear a lot of good fish stories (yes, some may even be true) at the next meeting. Just a reminder - with this year's big winter expect flows to be cold and high so be careful out there, use a wading staff and take a buddy with you. Lower elevation small streams will probably be the best bet early with some of the more traditional spots taking a little more time to stabilize.

The Club had an encouraging meeting with the State Parks folks regarding the possibility of building casting ponds at a site adjacent to the clubhouse. Although this project will most likely take some time to see to fruition, the initial response from the State was very favorable. The State immediately recognized the potential revenue from various activities the ponds could accommodate which made our sales pitch all that much easier. We will keep you informed as things develop.

At the upcoming general meeting (May 11th) we will be bidding a reluctant good by to Ed and Marie Stull. The Stull's have sold their home and will be moving to Big Sky country in June. These folks will be sorely missed. To recap their years of hard work and contributions to the Club would take a special extra edition of the Leader. Please plan on attending the meeting and wishing the Stull's the best. We plan on having some surprise refreshments and hope you can make it. If you are not able to attend give them a call and wish them well.

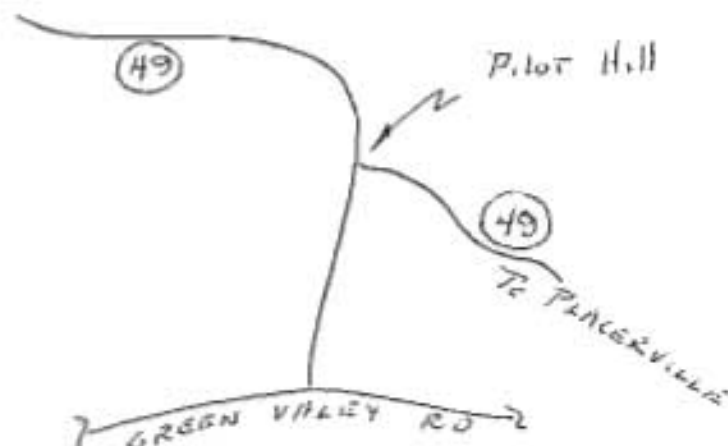
Michael Wasserman  
President GBF

## GORDON'S POND FISHOUT

Sunday, May 7

This is one of our biggest family fishouts of the year, so pack up grandma and the kids and lets go fishing. We want all the beginners to come out too. If you have some extra waders, flippers, float tubes and etc. bring them along to so some of us that have not had an opportunity to fish this way can see what its like. If you've never tried tubing, or are just wanting to learn more about fly fishing, don't miss this one!

We'll meet at the Pilot Hill Store (see map below) at 9:00 AM on Sunday, May 7th and caravan/carpool from there on. There is not a lot of room for cars at the pond so, lets help Gordon keep peace with his neighbors. Bring picnic lunch, tables, chairs, and water to drink and plan on a good ol family fishout



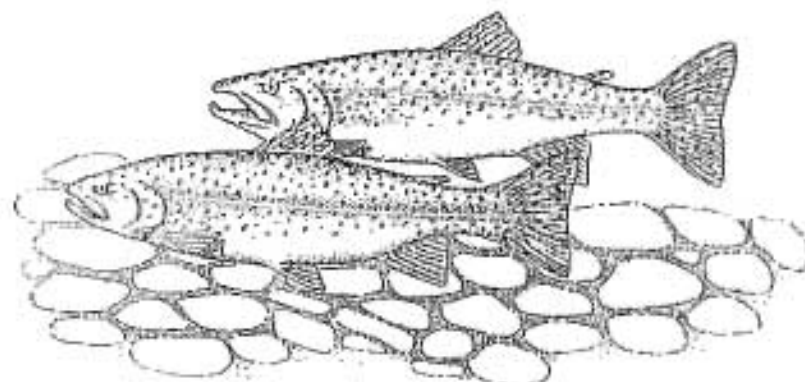
## CPR AND FIRST AID CLASSES

Carole Hopkins had her hands full Sunday the 23rd of the month trying to teach a group of Granite Bay Flycasters the intricacies of CPR. Actually we only had one trouble maker in the group. The rest of us promised not to say who that was, but she knows. I think we all learned a lot that I hope we will never have to use. If we do though, I feel confident that we will be able to do the right thing. By the time you get this we will also have completed the first aid course. For safety sake you will all want to invite at least one us on your special fishing trip to that secret place.

Thanks Carole !!!!

## Golden Trout Workshop

Remember the Golden Trout Workshop will be conducted in conjunction with the Picnic. This will give everyone a chance to finish up more than one step toward their Golden Trout. Bring all the necessary equipment for your particular step or steps needed. There will be plenty of people there to work with you. I know there are a number of you that have been working on this for some time and are very close. Lets finish up, so we can have a big ceremony at the June meeting.



## Fishing Report

"FISH FIRST, in the neighborhood of North Berkeley just off Interstate 80 has been kind enough to provide the fishing report you see in this issue again. Let them know how much The Granite Bay Flycasters appreciates the time and effort they put into this for us each month.

**GBF Fishout Schedule**  
**Including Fly of the Month**

<b>May</b>	<b>Madame X</b>
7	Gordons Pond Gordon Evans (phone 887-8227)
20	Upper Sacramento Jim Coleman - leader (phone 885-4128)
<b>June</b>	<b>Rubber Legs Kaufmann Stonefly</b>
3	Indian Creek -- One fly contest Terry Eggleston - leader
10	Hat Creek -- Stonefly hatch
<b>July</b>	<b>Bead Head Hares Ear</b>
15	Unipqua River -- Smallmouth John Lewis leader - leader (phone 791-1053)
29	Rucker Lake - Bass Kim and Paul Roccoforte - leaders
29	North Yuba
<b>August</b>	<b>Zug Bug</b>
19	Sierra Golden Trout
<b>September</b>	<b>Rabbit Leach</b>
23	Robinson Creek Terry Eggleston - leader
<b>October</b>	
21	Upper Sacramento
<b>November</b>	
18	O'Neil Forebay
<b>December</b>	
1	Yuba River Steelhead

**GBF Promoter Wanted**

Last month I asked for a "Salesperson" to step forward but, apparently salespersons are not volunteers, because we didn't have one offer. This month we have decided to change the title in lieu of raising the pay. We need a GBF Promoter. This is the person that would have the honor and responsibility to take care of all of our club merchandise. That is the visors, T-shirts, shirts, hats, fly boxes and badges. This includes both buying the merchandise and then bringing it to meetings for sale to the members. It does not require a lot of time but it is a very important and rewarding position. Give one of the board members or one of your club officers a call if you can help. If you need a little more information. I'm sure a call to Marie Stull 663-2414 will get you the information you need.

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**---WANTED---**

OK, who has that reel that Vern Stubbs wants? Seems that he has a new 12 wt. rod that dosen't have a reel on it. One of you must have just what Vern is looking for so give him a call at 663-2801. I think he has real cash.

## CATCH AND RELEASE, The Next Generation by Jim D. Bennett

Catch and release, letting a fish go unharmed, is today as much a part of fly fishing as, well, as flies themselves. It is absolutely the rule for members of clubs such as ours; clubs which have a strong conservation bent to them; at least as far as wild fish go. Now as for the lowly hatchery fish, kill all you want. You see, right there is a good example of how things; these days you don't "keep" a fish, you "kill" it. The concept of catch and release is not new however, it has been around as long as fishing has, but it is only in the last forty or so years that it has been practiced intentionally. Prior to that time you didn't "release" the fish, he just "got away". There were always some conservation minded people who would release their fish, at least some of them, especially the small ones, usually after yanking them out of the water, grabbing them with a dry hand,



squeezing them around the middle so they would quit wiggling so much, (you ever notice how when you squeeze them like that they would make a funny little noise), and then, using their best slow pitch form, tossing them through the air and back into the water with a satisfying kersplash. As a final gesture of goodwill the fisherman would shout some

helpful advice like "Go tell you big old daddy to come over here so I can establish some rapport with him too." Then there were those law abiding citizens who also happened to be successful fishermen. While releasing their fish they would generally say, "Well this is your lucky day Mr. Fish, because I already caught my limit. Perhaps we'll meet again tomorrow."

The practice of catch and release has come a long way since then. Today our goal is to release the fish unharmed (or with as little damage as possible) back into their watery environment to be caught (and released) another day; and to reproduce so that we and future generations will have fish to catch. It is no longer enough to simply "let the fish go". The fish must be handled with utmost respect and care. If you have to handle the fish, you never use a dry hand. If the fish is winded, you carefully revive



### Granite Bay Flycasters 10th Anniversary

Time is running out to get your design in for consideration for the pin or patch we will be making for our 10th anniversary. We have one very good design submitted but there is still time for some competition. Put your innovation cap on and let us see your originality. You don't have to be an artist or draw a perfect picture. We're looking for the idea. When you get it figured out get in touch with any of your club officers.

### AMERICAN FLY FISHING ADVENTURES



PETER BLACKMAN

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916 / 974-0903

FAX 916 / 974-0904

### Heres a great way to start off the new season!

**R**on English has a brand new pair of Simms Gortex Waders and he just doesn't know what to do with them. Remember, he always wades wet.

He tells me that he would let them go for \$225. They list for \$275. Not Bad! They still have complete warrantee and he's already paid the tax. Give Ron a call at 677-7189 and start the season of in class.

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Sunday 12 - 5

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him before release. Last year I picked up a pamphlet on the Upper Sacramento River where they described how to turn the fish upside down in the water while removing your hook, so that the fish need never had to leave the water. Barbless hooks are used so that they can be slipped out with minimal tissue damage (to your thumb?). What is next? Are we doing enough, can we do more?

Of course we can do more. You can always do more if you are so inclined. Using our current methods the fish is returned to the water alive and swimming and in pretty good shape. It would be dishonest, however, to say that the fish is "unharmful". Sticking that hook in his mouth can't be a pleasant experience. The idea for the next improvement in the catch and release concept comes from our sporting brothers and sisters in the hunting world, a group not generally associated with the idea of catch and release. A few hunters realized that bullets tend to do irreparable harm to the animal which receives them, so they put down their rifles and picked up their cameras. The idea was, if they could get close enough to the animal to snap a good picture, they also could have shot it. To do the same thing in fly fishing we simply move beyond barbless hooks to hookless hooks. You still get all the fun of going out, casting, reading the water and so on. When the fish strikes your hookless fly, you have won. You have deceived the fish into thinking that your fly was something edible, you have once again established man's superiority over animals, and you don't have to worry about how to



release the fish because he releases himself. For obvious reasons this method is best used for dry fly fishing. Lefty Kreh stated that you catch more fish on barbless hooks. Well let me tell you, you catch way more fish on hookless hooks because every splash within about two feet of your fly can be counted. The big advantage to this method is that you eliminate physical damage to the fish. The disadvantage is that you increase psychological damage to both the fish and the fisherman. The fisherman suffers due to the fact that he never knows how big the fish was, and thus loses some of his bragging rights. This could greatly shorten the time spent in meetings on fishing reports. The fish suffers for a somewhat different reason. Recent studies have shown that fish have rather simple minds, and are only capable of having one thought in their head at a time.

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When the fish strikes the hookless fly and then spits it out, the thought in the fishes mind is "I was tricked! I was deceived! I thought that a bunch of old chicken feathers was an insect. What a fool I am." The fishes self esteem is lowered, his self confidence shattered. He often loses his place at the best seat in the restaurant. This problem does not occur in the traditional method of barbless hooks because when the fish is released by the fisherman the one thought in his little one-thought mind is, "Whew, I'm still alive!", and he swims away a happy fish with a sore lip.

With this problem of psychological damage to the fish in mind, this year I have moved on to the next level of catch and release. This method is completely non-damaging to the fish, and easy to do. I have successfully moved beyond barbless, beyond hookless, to my newest, conservationally perfect method, catchless. If you never catch the fish, you can't damage him in any way. So far this year I have succeeded in not-catching steelhead, trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, crappie and bluegill. On one occasion, while not-catching steelhead, I did accidentally catch a sucker, but other than that my record is perfect. The down side to this method is the severe damage to the angler's ego, very severe damage. Ask my therapist, ask my basket weaving instructor, ask my dog. In fact, I've gotten so good at the catchless method, that I'm seriously thinking about the final pinnacle of catch and release methods, and just staying home. Anyone want to buy a bunch of fishing equipment; ... cheap, ... real cheap.



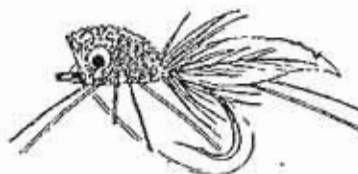
May Meeting Speaker  
by Robert Tamson  
Programs Chairman

**A**LASKA ANYONE? Can we ever get enough of those fabulous pictures of massive fish and the awe-inspiring beauty of Alaska? If you haven't made it to this flyfishers "died and gone to heaven" place... GO! there is no other place like it on earth!

Well, I bet you have a pretty good idea what our program will be this month.... ALASKA!!

Gary Eblin of American Flyfishing and Peter Blackman of American Flyfishing Adventures will be here with some fantastic slides of the Bristol Bay area as well as the Karluk River on Kodiak Island!

See you there !!



## ALERT

You will see a few changes to the yearly calendar from what we had last month. We are attempting to plan well in advance and coordinate things as much as possible but there will be times when things have to change. Some times, people having to work or other trivial reasons, force us to move things around. We apologize if we cause you any hardship, but there are times when change just can not be avoided. Please check only the latest calendar and then call the appropriate event leader for final confirmation. Stay loose.





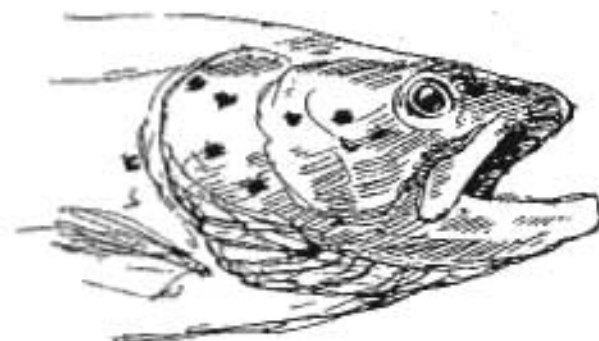
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### Library Report by: Kim Roccoforte

A big Thank You goes out again to the following club members for their generous donations to the GBF Library during the April general meeting.

**Sturmer White**, donated a video by Joseph Gordon Batorac, Steelhead Guide

**Vern Stubbs**, donated a box of Kiwi flies beautifully tied for the raffle on behalf of the library, and **Bus Gehring**, donated a new video - The Essence of Fly Casting, by Mel Krieger.

Thank you on behalf of all of the GBF members that use the library!

Reminder -- books and videos are due back at the General Meeting following checkout or a fine is due of \$5.00 per item. This fine may be waived in exchange for a donation of flies, materials, etc. to the raffle.

Kim M. Roccoforte, Librarian

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## ***Trials, Tribulations and Tech Tips***

by Vera Stubbs

I submit this article for publication in the Leader in hope that some beginning fly casters and fly tyers might benefit, and old Timers and experienced fly tyers might get a chuckle.

In My struggle to learn casting and tying, the following became evident after certain periods of frustration.

### Casting:

Practice - lots of times, for 15 minute periods repeated at intervals of doing other tasks or relaxing. Practice all types of casts, especially over your left shoulder when the wind is from the right. Roll casts - because you rarely find fisheries free of impediments such as bushes trees high banks etc. Be careful about bringing the line back directly overhead. I have observed that most people position their rod at about 15 degrees. Comments??? Regardless, wear glasses for protection at all times.

### Fly Tying:

One should tie a variety of patterns, four of each size then throw the first three away. Do you have that much self discipline? Tie the small hook sizes. It seems that our experts use 14's and 16's and the expert experts use 18's and 22's. Also if you ask the Old Pros what bug they recommend, they will gladly tell you something but it won't be the one they have on. They will have a Terry or Bill Special with a bead head on a strange looking hook. Oh well. Live and learn. Seriously - take a class and pay attention when the instructor says "stay away from the eye". Also beg, borrow or steal a fly tying video. I found Jack Dennis's to be excellent. You will enjoy developing your techniques, innovating aids and materials. These are some I've found useful:

## **FISHOUT**

**MAY 20 - 21**

**UPPER SACRAMENTO at DUNSMUIR**

**Jim Coleman - leader**

**A** 220 mile drive up I-5 from Sacramento to Dunsmuir will bring you to some of the best wading stream trout fishing in California.

Short-line nymphing is the most productive. Good dry-fly action during hatches. The recommended patterns are:

nymphs: (weighted), size 10 - 16, beadheads, Prince, AP black, Hare's Ear, Zug-bug, etc.  
drys: ParaAdams, Humpy, Wulffs, etc.

There are good sites at Castle Crags State Park for camping, RV sites at Railroad Park RV and motels at several good locations in Dunsmuir and Mt. Shasta City.

We'll meet Saturday at the Railroad Park RV at my "Terry Resort" 5th-wheel for orientation. Lets all be there by 9:00 AM. I'll be there Friday afternoon so drop by Friday anytime.

Sign up at the May regular meeting or call me for more information.

Speaking as one who loves the Upper Sacramento, the fishmaster for this trip and your conservation chairman I recommend that we support the present regulations for the upper Sacramento. To do that, a letter to Fish & Game stating that you support the current regulations on the upper Sacramento and Yuba Rivers (upstream of Highway 20 bridge) would be in order. You can send these to:

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

**Jim Coleman - 885-4128**

• **Try Baking Soda** - apply a paste made with water for 15 to 20 minutes

Kitchen items like ammonia or a raw onion slice have been reported to give relief. There are also some commercial products like "Sting-Kill" or "After-Bite" that have good reports.

Relief can be achieved with mild pain medication like aspirin, ibuprofen (Advil) or acetaminophen (Tylenol). An antihistamine like Benadryl or other commercial product will ease the swelling. An antihistamine-containing cough syrup works best for children. (Be mindful that they may make you sleepy).

#### When to See your Doctor

Allergic reactions to bee stings can be life-threatening. As many as 100 people a year die from bee stings. That's more than the number who die from the bites or stings of all other animals combined. If you experience any of these symptoms, seek emergency care immediately: difficulty breathing, tightness in the throat or chest, dizziness, nausea or other symptoms of serious allergic reaction. If swelling spreads to a large area -- for example, your entire arm swells, or a large section of the trunk puffs up, if pain or swelling continues for more than 72 hours without any relief. Whenever they're outdoors, people who know they're allergic should always carry a bee sting kit recommended by their physician.

- **Weighting flies** - Use lead core, nylon covered, colored trolling line instead of lead wire. It cements well to the hook. Some patterns can use the line color as is. Use a color preservative. Or it can be painted. Can be flattened where called for.
- **Threading bobbins** - use EEZ-THRU dental floss threader. Procure at a drug store.
- **Reaming cement from eyes of small hooks** - The reamer included on available clippers doesn't work very well. I use a dental root canal reamer size 30 or 40. Ask your friendly Dentist for one the next time you have a root canal procedure... (or ask me - I have some spares).
- **Painting eyes etc.** - Use the torn end of a book match trimmed and fluffed as required. Use and throw away. Painters repair chips on cars this way.
- **Fly boxes** - It's a little work, but you can make fly storage boxes from audio tape boxes by cutting off the lid of one box and gluing it over the open space of a second box. Use foam sheet or felt for the inside bottom.  
**Dropped hooks** - To recover hooks dropped on the floor or your fly tying area, drag an old radio speaker over the suspect area. It will pick up hooks you can't see. Or walk over the area with your bare feet.



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## Picnic Update

Saturday, May 13, 9:30 to 4:00

The Pig is ordered!! This could be the best picnic yet. Mark Neice and Terry Eggleston are going to Bar-B-Que a 150 pounder. We are going to have a great Chili Cook-off with such entries as The Flame, BHR, Supremo, Colon Cleanser. We still have plenty of room if you would like to enter with mom's old recipe or one of your own. The picnic is for club members and families, and is a great way to meet other members. Joe Gildone is getting some fantastic raffle prizes. There will be a two-dollar family attendance fee that will be reimbursed in raffle tickets. I will be trying to contact all members by phone for volunteers for setup and cleanup and to give you my personal invitation. If you don't hear from me, give me a call at home. My number is 363-7990.

Terry Burkes  
Picnic Chairman



## FIRST AID for BEE STINGS

by Carol McAllister, RN

Most of us were told as children "if you don't bother them, they won't bother you". Unfortunately, the bees didn't get the same lecture and sometimes do sting. Most bee stings cause little pain, usually lasting from a few hours to a few days - unless you are allergic - see "When to See a Doctor" below. There are a few precautions to take to try to head off this confrontation: Dress in plain light colored clothes. Avoid bright and floral prints or dark colors. Avoid perfume, hairspray or after-shave. In other words, try not to look or smell like a flower! Some people have increased their intake of zinc (check with your physician) and seem to be less attractive to bees.

No matter the species of bee, the spot it stings will feel red and swollen. But all bees are not the same, and neither is their method of stinging. *Honeybees* which have a fuzzy golden brown body sting only once and then die. That's because their stingers remain embedded in your skin. *Wasps and Hornets* can sting repeatedly because they have smooth stingers that can exit pierced skin easily. Wasps and hornets are shiny and their thorax (middle section) is characteristically slim. *Yellow jackets* resemble wasps and can also easily sting repeatedly. Don't smash them, because when destroyed, their venom sac releases a chemical that incites other yellow jackets to attack. By knowing which type of insect sting you're dealing with, you will know which treatment to use.

One of the best ways to Remove a Stinger - and avoid additional pain is to "scrape" it out of the skin with a credit card, knife, etc. The biggest mistake people make is trying to pull the stinger out. In doing that, you squeeze the tiny venom sac attached to the stinger and accidentally release more venom into your skin. Scraping the stinger leaves this sac undisturbed.

Rub a wet aspirin on the sting (unless you are allergic to aspirin!)

**Rub on Meat Tenderizer** - make a paste with water and apply to area of sting - use one containing Papain. Adolph's or McCormick works fine, but don't try highly spiced Ac'cent. The reason tenderizer works is because papain breaks down the protein contained in the venom.

So advance your casting skills and join our clinic. There will be two 3 hour sessions, the first on Wednesday, May 31 at 6:00 PM, the second session will be the following Wednesday, June 7 at 6:00 PM. The fee for the Clinic is \$10, and location will be announced at the May meeting. Please call John Hogg at 916-823-9744 for further information.

## **YES IT'S "ONE FLY" TIME**

### **GET OUT YOUR STAINLESS STEEL TIPPETS AND YOUR BEST FLY**

One of the highlights of the year is always the "One-Fly" contest and this year is shaping up to be one of the most exciting yet. Terry Eggleston is your leader for this trip on the 3rd of June and Indian Creek is filling up with fish just special for us.

The group campground is rented and has room for 40 people so we should all be able to stay in one place. Don't wait too long though, space will go on a first come first served basis and we might be pushing the 40 person limit. They have room for both tent campers and RVs. Terry will have a sign up sheet at the May general meeting and it is important you get signed up so, if you can't make the meeting give Terry a call.

The one fly contest will be on Saturday starting at 8:00 AM for sign-up. Fishing will start at 9:00, with a 12:00 to 1:00 break and everyone out of the water by 3:00. We will fish in 4 man teams chosen by drawing and the entry fee will be \$10 per person. There are some nice prizes for the winning team, 1st to loose their fly and a special raffle for participants only.

Get the full written rules, map, sign-up sheet and more info at general meeting then pick your best fly, strongest tippet and **GOOD LUCK!**

(Tip: I hear belly boats are a lot faster if you coat them with Vaseline)

## **PILGRIMS PROGRESS**

**by Joe Gildone**

### **MORE ABOUT FLY FISHING ADDICTION**

Most of us have been unwilling to admit we were real Fly Fishing Addicts. No person likes to think he is bodily and mentally different from his fellows. Therefore, it is not surprising that our fishing careers have been characterized by countless vain attempts to prove we could fish like other people. The persistence of this illusion is astonishing. Many peruse it into the gates of insanity or death.

We learned that we had to fully concede to our innermost selves that we were addicted to fly fishing. This is the first step in recovery. The delusion that we are like other people has to be smashed.

We fly fishing addicts are men and women who have lost the ability to control our fishing. We know that no real fly fishing addict ever recovers control. All of us felt at times that we were regaining control, but such intervals -- usually brief -- were inevitably followed by still less control, which led in time to pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization. We are convinced to a man that fly fishing addicts are in the grip of a progressive illness. Over time we get worse, never better.

We are like men who have lost their legs; they never grow new ones. Neither does there appear to be any kind of treatment which will make flyfishing addicts like other men. We have tried every imaginable remedy. In some instances there has been brief recovery, followed always by a still worse relapse. Physicians who are familiar with fly fishing addiction agree, there is no such thing as making a normal fisherman out of a fly fisherman. Science may one day accomplish this, but it hasn't done so yet.

Many who are real fly fishing addicts are not going to believe they are in that class. By every form of self-deception and experimentation, they will try to prove themselves exceptions to the rule, therefore not addicted to fly fishing.

Here are some of the methods we have tried: Fishing with bait only, limiting the number of fly patterns in our fly boxes, never fishing alone, never fly fishing in the morning, never casting in the back yard, keeping our rods in the garage and not in the house, never fly fishing during business hours, fly fishing only at club sanctioned fish-outs, switching from flies to bait, fishing only natural insects, taking a vacation without your rod, swearing off forever, taking up another sport, reading inspirational books

(not related to fly fishing), going to health farms and sanitariums -- we could increase the list ad infinitum.

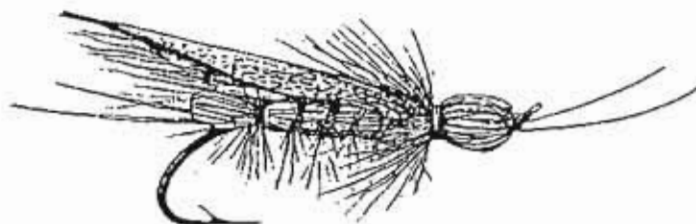
We do not like to pronounce any individual as addicted to fly fishing, but you can quickly diagnose yourself. Step over the the nearest stream or lake and try some controlled fly fishing. Try to fish and stop abruptly. Try it more than once. It will not take long for you to decide, if you are honest with yourself about it. It may be worth a bad case of the jitters if you get a full knowledge of your condition.

Though there is no way of proving it, we believe that early in our fly fishing careers most of us could have stopped fly fishing. But the difficulty is that few addicts have enough desire to stop while there is yet time. And we have seen the truth demonstrated again and again: "Once a fly fishing addict, always a fly fishing addict." if we are planning to stop fly fishing, there must be no reservation of any kind, nor any lurking notion that someday we will be immune to fly fishing.

Certain fly fishers, who would be greatly insulted if called fly fishing addicts, are astonished at their inability to stop. If anyone questions whether he has entered this dangerous area, let him try leaving fly fishing alone for one year. If he is really addicted and very far advanced, there is scant chance of success. In the early days of our fly fishing we occasionally stopped fly fishing for a year or more, becoming serious fly fishers again later. Though you may be able to stop for a considerable period, you may yet be potential fly fishing addict. We think few can stay dry anything like a year. Some will be out fly fishing the day after making their resolutions; most of them within a few weeks.

For those who are unable to fly fish moderately the question is how to stop altogether. We are assuming, of course, that the reader desires to stop. Many of us felt we had plenty of character. There was a tremendous urge to cease forever. Yet we found it impossible. This is the baffling feature of fly fishing addiction as we know it -- this utter inability to leave it alone, no matter how great the necessity or the wish.

(With apologies to the A.A. Big Book .....J. P. Gildone.)



## A CLASS TO ADVANCE YOUR CASTING

by John Hogg

**H**ave you ever noticed the advertisement that categorizes casters by the distance they can cast? - beginners 40 feet, intermediates 50 feet, advanced 60 feet, experts 70 feet, and so on.

Uh, excuse me but is that 60 feet in a float tube with a sinking line? Or 60 feet at the local casting pond (nicely cleared of any entanglements that might otherwise ensnare a dropping backcast? That 40 feet couldn't possibly be across several variable speed currents and under those hanging branches where Shamu the killer Brown lurks, could it? Or does that 40 feet include the curve you can put into the cast to get around a rock and still get a dead drift?

Last year at GBF's "Advancing Your Casting" clinic, students were indeed interested in stretching the length of their casts, but achieving some consistency in their overall casting performance was the stated goal of more than three quarters of the group.

These goals are not surprising - we all want to cast further and with more control under all situations. And this clinic is designed to do just that. The mechanics of each cast are examined in depth and the student's casting form is then reviewed one on one to determine those changes that can lead to improvement.

Good casting is not one skill, it more accurately frames the ability to control rod, line, leader and fly under the many various conditions in which we fish. Reach casts to mend your cast in a fast current; a tight loop to drive a hopper into the wind, a pile cast to set up your downstream drift, a steeple cast to keep away from high rocks or underbrush behind, a curve cast to get a drift on a rising fish without laying your line on top of him - and yes, that 50 foot cast to get your fly out to the riseform that is just barely in range.

Advancing your casting can include any of the above, or getting one of GBF's certified instructors to help you analyze that one nagging problem you have, or well OK, it can also be a goal of adding 10 feet or more to your cast.



### 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.

#### **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 is placed
- Tickets deposited in a sealed box each meeting
- Drawing held at annual picnic (commencing in 1995)
- 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: 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.

### LAST MONTH'S WINNER

Jeanne English was last month's winner. She tied the best Scott's Floating Nymph in the competition. **Congratulations Jeanne!** The rest of you, keep tying and submitting your entries. We would like at least 15 for each meeting's contest. Remember you don't have to win to get a chance at the \$100. Don't be shy folks!!!!



### FOR SALE

Two sets of float tube fins. Yes, that's right - two sets. It seems that Vern Stubbs has some extra goodies including three sets of float tube fins so he wants someone to help him out with two of them. I know there are a lot of you just getting into belly boating and this is a good chance to save a \$ or \$\$.

One set is a large size Caddis for \$20

The other is Force Fins in size small for \$40

He also has: Boat Rack - (Fits Drip Rail on your car) - \$30      Back  
Pack - (Fits your shoulders) - \$30

Sounds like a great deal or two for someone so call Vern at 663-2801



## FLY TYER'S CORNER

by  
BILL CARNAZZO

Madam X  
May, 1995

**Note:** The Pattern for the May Fly Tying Contest will be Water Boatman featured in the April Leader. Bring your best version to the May 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 this year's picnic. .... Bring those flies in -- Don't be shy!!

**Another Note:** See the next article for a rundown on the rules and incentives for the contest.

"The Madam X" pattern, which was developed by Doug Swisher in the 1980s and tested by him on the Bitterroot River in Montana, is a versatile and surprisingly effective pattern. I've seen it catch bass, bluegill and other panfish, as well as trout -- even once on a tough stream, Hot Creek. The pattern can be varied in color and materials. For example, an overwing of turkey quill can be added to make it resemble a hopper -- even without the overwing it can be used as a hopper, or as a stonefly adult.

You will note that the tying instructions include use of a modified "bullet-head" technique with deer hair. While it may sound tricky, it's actually quite simple and, with practice, can be quickly mastered.

For me, the principal use of this fly is in bass and panfish waters. It should be fished on top, or just under the surface. It seems to be most effective to cast the bug, let it splash down, and leave it there until the concentric circles are gone. Then retrieve it, using short, quick strips with intermittent pauses. Often the fish will take during the pause. Try different speeds/lengths or retrieve, and on occasion let it sink slightly.

### Materials:

Hook	Mustad 94838 or Tiemco 5212, size 10
Thread	Yellow or tan 6/0 or 8/0
Tail	Yellow or tan deer hair
Body	Yellow or tan artificial dubbing
Wing	Yellow or tan deer hair
Legs	Tan or white rubber leg material

### Tying Instructions:

1. Tie in tail hair beginning at the thorax area, and secure it down evenly along the shank to the standard tail tie-in point.
2. Dub a nice evenly tapered body up to the thorax area. At this point the front 1/4 of hook should be free of tail material and dubbing.
3. Stack a small bunch of deer hair for the wing, and trim the butts even. Use long hair, and keep trimming to a minimum.
4. Tie in wing just ahead of thorax area, with hair tips facing forward. Tie down butts; cover tie down area with a little dubbing, leaving thread at thorax area. Keep hair on top, don't let it spin 360 degrees.
5. Pull hair rearward, back over body, still keeping it on top. While holding hair by tips, tie it down firmly at thorax area. Amount of flare depends on type and quality of your hair. Leave thread at same point.
6. Take 4" piece of rubber leg material; double it over. Place it on top at thorax and tie down with 3 or 4 wraps. Cut loop end; pull 1 segment down on each side of hook. Trim to desired length.
7. Wrap a bit of dubbing over thorax area to cover thread; tie off.
8. Tie thread on again behind eye, and form nice, small head.

If you have trouble with this pattern, it will be tied during the 7:00 -- 7:30 pre-meeting tying session for the May 11th general meeting.

- See ya on the creek!!!!

