

THE LEADER

VOICE OF

GRANITE BAY
Flycasters

AUGUST 1996

GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS
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GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

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Roseville, CA 95678

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Calendar of Events

Including Fly of the Month

August

8	Hairwing Coachman
10	7:30 PM General Meeting
15	Fishout - Truckee River
16	7:00 PM Board Meeting
17-18	6:30 PM Youth Meeting
	Bear River Work Day

September

2	Labor Day
7	NCC/FFF Quaterly Meeting - Joe Bania
7-8	Fishout - Fignon Lake
12	7:30 PM General Meeting
14-15	Fishout - East Sierra
19	7:00 PM Board Meeting
20-22	NCC/FFF Conclave - Kings Beach
	6:30 PM Youth Meeting
28-29	Bear River Work Day
	10:00AM - 2PM Fly Rod Evaluation Clinic -
	Clubhouse - John Hogg

October

10	7:30 PM General Meeting
12-13	Fishout - Upper Sacramento
17	7:00 PM Board Meeting
18	6:30 PM Youth Meeting
19-20	Bear River Work Day
26	9:00AM Open House/Chili Cookoff
27	Daylight Savings Time Ends-set clocks back
31	Halloween-Dress up as a flyfisher and go
	trick or treating!

Presidents Message

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EIGHT IS NOT ENOUGH! Even though a popular TV program a few years ago tried to make us believe that, I'm not convinced. This weekend's work party at the Bear River Project proved that to me. If my count is right Jim Coleman got support from only 8 Granite Bay Flycasters this weekend. Now Jim has proved to me that he and a very few can do an awful lot in a relatively short time but he could do much - much more if twice that many were helping. This 17th and 18th of August is scheduled for the next big weekend. How about setting aside one weekend for the Bear River? I guarantee that you will be rewarded many times over from any effort you put in. There are tasks for everyone. You don't have to lift 100 lb. logs into place or the D__ post hole digger. Jim can find something that fits everyone's expertise and skill level. Come on up and pitch in for a day or two (you'll probably come back again) or even for just a few hours. It's fun, it's healthy and above all you will be amazed at how much it improves the fishing.

I was extremely pleased to see how our work from last year held up and how well it is looking. We planted willows on this spring's natural fill-in of the catch structures that we built last year. I expected it would have taken two or three years worth of run off to do this much good. This part of the stream is probably about 50% narrower and deeper than last year at this time. The fish are coming back. You can see hundreds of fry. It just looks great! I would like at least 50% of the club members to have a chance to see for yourselves. So come on up. If you can't make the 17th or 18th call Jim - he comes up in the middle of the week sometimes and I'll bet he can find something for you to do.

Another reminder - you are missing a good chance to win a fly box. Last month we only had 3 entrants in the fly tying contest. With the two levels of competition even I was allowed to judge the winner in one of them. Don't forget, even if you don't win, you get a chance at the \$100.

Congratulations go out to the Lions Club. As you can see, they got busy and built the extra room on the corner of the building near the kitchen. Now its our turn to get busy and get started on the casting ponds. Lets make it a goal to have some contests in our own pond. Next year. I'm open for any suggestions, or volunteers of assistance, equipment, tools, etc. Give John Hogg or me a call if you can help out.

Don't forget it's about time to start planning for the NCC/FFF conclave coming up in September. Check out the information and registration form found here in the Leader or at the general meeting. They are looking for help, donations, participation and support. Call Dan McDaniel (209) 951-7900 if you help out and above all mark September 20, 21 and 22 on your calendars. It's a good show so lets plan on seeing each other up there.

Lets go HELP out Jim on the Bear and then ----Lets go Fishin!!!

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Editor's Note: Paul just called. Norm Rossignol fished Finnon Lake this past weekend July 20 and 21. Norm reported the fishing is so good that he and Paul will be doing a beginners overnight outing to Finnon Lake September 7 and 8. This lake has a good population of bass and large bluegills. Fishing is with poppers or woolly buggers. Talk to Paul or Norm at the next meeting. A float tube is mandatory. If you want to come and don't have a tube let Paul or Norm know. Maybe you could borrow one.

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Outings

Kim Roccoforte

The July fishout to Rucker Lake was well attended by GBF'ers but the bass were not as "prolific" as they were last year. Perhaps it was the midnight thunderstorm which drenched camp on Friday. Luckily the weather stabilized and the weekend was beautiful. On Sunday a few of us headed to Fuller Lake in hopes of catching trout, only to find that the lake was down 12 feet to do repairs to the dam. By the time you read this the water level should be back to normal.

Heading home, some folks stopped by the Bear River project site to view the restoration efforts headed by Jim Coleman. The Bear River is looking better than last season and there are bright rainbows in the stretches that looked barren only two years ago.

The August Fishout is scheduled for the 10th which is the Saturday following the general meeting. This outing will be to a section of the Truckee River which will be chosen in the weeks preceding the general meeting. So find out the time and place at the August meeting or call Paul Roccoforte at 642-2929.

The September Fishout has traditionally been to Robinson Creek which is near Bridgeport of the east side of the Sierra. This outing is scheduled for September 14 and 15., so plan ahead for a campout. If possible take a three day weekend to fully enjoy the area.

During the September outing a one day golden trout fishing trip will be planned for up to 10 people interested in taking a 30-40 minute moderate hike to a secluded alpine lake very close to the Robinson Creek camping area. This is the most easily accessible golden trout spot we've found which retains the wild environment. Sign up at the September or call Paul Roccoforte at 642-2929.

Bear River Update

Jim Coleman

The July work weekend is history. Eight of us worked hard and at the end of Sunday we could look at the Bear River and see that it is in much better condition for our efforts. The fish seemed to like it too. They are thriving in a beautiful, improving habitat. All of us who have shared in this success can carry the pride of a job well done.

The one minus in this picture is the lack of participation of by most of you in our club. We need and expect more of you to make the commitment to help. There are time when we don't have enough hands to use the equipment that has been rented. That is a waste of the club's money and time.

We only have three or four more chances this year to make a significant improvement in the life of the Bear. Please sign on for one of the weekends, and call me (885-4125) to confirm the date when you can help.

August Meeting Speaker

Robert Tamson

Program Chairman

Our speaker for the August meeting is a very talented writer, innovative fly tier, and fascinating fly fishing instructor/speaker, Andy Burke. His program will cover one of his most alluring passions - still water tactics for trout.

Andy is a very busy guy, when not out fly fishing he works at the Fly Shop in Redding, and writes for *California Flyfisher* in his column "At The Vise." Also, many of you will recognize Andy from the ISE Sportsman shows as an exhibition fly tier.

FYI - Andy can be reached at the Fly Shop for up to the minute fishing reports in the Shasta/Trinity area at (916) 222-3555.



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million psi. Succeeding generations included IM6, 39 million, IM7, 42 million, Graphite III, 50 million, and Graphite IV, 64 million. Of-course, the graphite modulus of a flyrod is only one characteristic, and does not in itself define quality. Sage, in a response in one their "Frequently Asked Questions" columns, notes that "our exclusive design with the Graphite IV SP's (one of their model families) allows us to build a stronger rod using the ultra high modulus graphite", but "Graphite III offers the greatest design parameters." In other words, more control of the rod's action can be effected using the Graphite III, which is used for both moderate and fast action rods. The Graphite IV material is so stiff, that right now it is limited to rods with a super aggressive, fast action.

A really good rod at a great price!

Building a good graphite rod is a very complex process, and only a few manufacturers have been successful with it. And unfortunately this difficulty has been transmitted to the marketplace in the form of extremely high prices for flyrods.

During the course of GBF's various casting clinics, I get the opportunity to cast many rods. I always take pains to cast the rod without first looking at brand and model, though predictably, I usually find that the rods I like have a high price tag. (I am also occasionally surprised by the extremely low quality of some rods carrying well known names). At our recent Novice clinic however, I borrowed a rod from one of the students to demonstrate a point and was pleasantly surprised to notice its crisp responsive action. I looked at the brand, which was Reddington, one I had not heard of, and was told that it had been purchased at Kiene's for about \$120.00. I was truly amazed! The casting quality of this rod was equal to one in the \$300 to \$400 range. Keeping my eyes opened for more about this company, I came across an article in a trade journal that described this Florida company's unique approach. According to the article, they offer a lifetime warranty on their rods, and it is implemented in a very unusual manner. When a rod fails, the owner simply cuts out the section of the rod butt with the brand and model information, mails it to the company, and Reddington sends out a new rod. If you're looking for a new rod, I'd definitely recommend you include a Reddington in your evaluation.

BACKCASTS

By John Hogg

Casting clinic review

It's a long stretch back to late April and early May, but that's as far as I must go to thank our many members who made the flycasting classes possible this year. The Introductory class went off with out a hitch - we had three sessions on two consecutive evenings, and then a Saturday morning. I must say, that the students this year were absolutely phenomenal - I have never seen a group learn so fast as this year. The club rods secured by Frank Stolten were one key reason, as these rods, plus the generosity of the coaches in allowing their rods to be used, assured that each student had a quality rod with which to cast. And the coaches this year were magnificent! On the first night we had a dozen students, and as many coaches. This allowed one-on-one assistance for the students for the full two hour class and was of immense help. Coaches, I can't list you all, but please accept my gratitude for making this a highly successful clinic. And last but not least, our class was conducted on a beautiful pond, with lots of room both fore and aft. Bill and Judy Camazzo, thank you so much for your generosity in allowing us to conduct both Novice and Advanced clinics at your home.

Our Advanced clinic did not fare quite so well in that our first session was wiped out due to a severe rainstorm. The second session went off on schedule with six stalwarts showing up. The emphasis was on distance casting, and after the two hours, everyone had a good opportunity to explore their casting style in depth. By the fall of dusk, casts were lengthening out, and one young lady accomplished an 80 foot cast!!

IM6? IM7? What's what?

I had just started building a new rod when my curiosity was aroused about the material called graphite which has been the premier flyrod material for the past 15 years. In particular, I wanted to know just what the definitions were of IM6, and IM7 - terms I'd heard and used, but really did not have a clear understanding of.

A little research came up with some answers that I'll share with you. The first graphite fiber material used by rod manufacturers was Graphite II. The characteristic of stiffness (modulus) in a graphite fiber is measured in millions of pounds per square inch, and Graphite II had a modulus of 34

Vice President's Message

Kim Roccoforte

Paul and I just returned from a trip to the east side of the Sierra to spend time fishing for wild trout and doing some reconnaissance for the September GBF fishout. We had an opportunity to check out Picket Meadow on the Sonora Pass which flows through a beautiful meadow before reaching the valley. This stream was highlighted in the July Leader as an insert by Joe Bania to promote GBF involvement in a joint Cal Trout/FFF restoration project. Please pull out the July information if you are planning to travel through the area in the next month. Volunteers are needed each Saturday in August so don't wait for an organized group effort, just coordinate directly with Federation Coordinator Frank Emerson (818) 846-6597.

The July Leader printed that I am working on a conservation project that I was to discuss at the July meeting. To dispel any mystery (since I did not make a report) there is a water use plan in the works by area water agencies that involves diversions off of the American River. The Draft Plan through the year 2030, is anticipated for release this month. I'll keep you posted.



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FLYTYER'S CORNER

BY
BILL CARNAZZO
August, 1996
Parachute Adams

Last month we "returned to basics" with the Hairwing Coachman. Staying with that theme for this month, let's build a Parachute Adams. We all know, and dearly love (at least I do) the incomparable Adams...in fact, I keep a small fly box with me that has nothing but Adams', tied in many different variations, from dark to light, bushy to sparse, male and female, Catskill and parachute, etc. The Parachute Adams has all of the charm and bugginess of its namesake, with the additional benefit of increased visibility due to the white upright wing (blessed relief to these tired eyes). Recent, quite memorable experiences with this fly have placed it high atop my list. Incidentally, the Catskill version of this variant on the Adams is called the "Bastard Adams"—see Jack Dennis' books.

Materials

Hook barb)	Mustad 94840 or Tiemco 100 (smash
Tail	Hackle barbs, mixed grizzly and brown
Body	Grey/blue dun dubbing--natural or
synthetic	
Wing	White calf tail or calf body
Hackle	One grizzly and one brown neck hackle
Thread	Black or dark gray 6/0 or 8/0

the stream or stillwater body, find a nice spot to rest and eat or drink something, take a short snooze, or drink in the surroundings. And, speaking of the surroundings, consider these prophetic and poetic words of the late Robert Traver (1903-1991): "I fish because I love to; because I love the environs where the trout are found, which are invariably beautiful, and hate the environs where crowds of people are found, which are invariably ugly...; because trout do not lie or cheat and cannot be bought or bribed or impressed by power, but respond only to quietude and humility and endless patience...; because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste the trip."

Enjoy, and think sparse!!!



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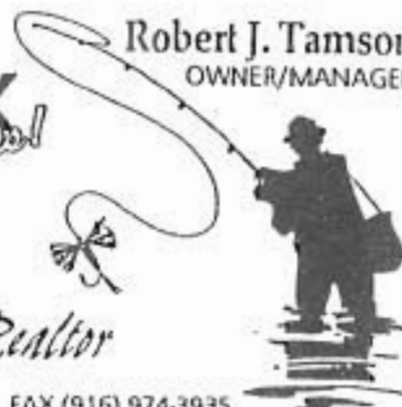


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SOME OBSERVATIONS ON...OBSERVATION

by
A Thinly Hackled Emerger
Part V--Conclusion

In the April Leader, the concept of centered observation was introduced. In May, we considered how the concept of centered observation applies to observing fish in their own environment, and how the angler can use "total immersion" to improve fish-spotting skills. In the June edition, we saw how centered observation of some of the various riseforms can increase angler success--keeping in mind that there are myriad factors which affect riseforms, such as the individual characteristics of the stream, time of day, type of food available, type of current, and a host of other variables. In July, we kicked around the concept of "reading the water"--likely fish locations, the effect of currents, and feeding patterns.

Now let's see if we can wrap this up, while staying focused on the concept of present awareness. Transport yourself to (i.e., visualize yourself at) that classic "hole" on a lovely trout stream. You've not blithely charged into the water; instead, you stood quietly back and observed the overall situation, thinking it through by taking into account depth, flow, obstructions, currents, available light, likely fish spots, insect activity, visible fish (beneath the surface as well as riseforms). After processing all of that data, you've now decided how and where to enter the stream; picked a likely fly (surface or subsurface); and selected a strategy for covering the pool with your casts (including whether you will be sight fishing or using searching techniques).

So far, so good...but is there something else? Indeed there is...visualization and focus (concentration) are needed to bring it all to life. Unless the angler, even having done all of the above, continues to be present and aware of where she/he is in each moment, how that fly is working, and how each cast fits in to the pattern, the chance of success may decrease, with a corresponding increase in the level of frustration. Concentration and deliberate movement, then, are essential to the process of keeping oneself centered on, and immersed in, the wily trout's environment.

When frustration does (and trust me, it will) on occasion set in, it is helpful to step back and endeavor to refocus. One way to do this is to exit

Instructions

1. Jam-knot the thread onto hook at midpoint of shank, and wind to rear of bend, just above the back of barb. At this point, take a tiny bit of body dubbing, and build a "ball" with two or three wraps.
2. Mix stiff grizzly and brown hackle barbs--about 6 each--and even up the tips. Measure length of tail to shank length. Mount them on top of hook just ahead of the ball. Holding them tightly above the shank, wind thread back and against base of ball. This will cause the tail fibers to fan out, providing additional stability on the water.
3. Move thread forward, covering remainder of shank with thread, and leave thread hanging at a point 1/3 of shank length behind eye. Cut small bunch of calf tail, clean out fuzz and shorts, and stack to even tips. Measure to length of shank, and mount directly atop shank, with tips pointing out over eye.
4. Snip butts at an angle--not blunt, since that will create a big lump in the body. Now securely tie down butts.
5. Grab wing and pull it upright; take two winds in front of wing, and one directly around its base. I call the latter wind the "gather wind", because it gathers up all of the wing fibers.
6. Now take another wind around wing base and pull thread to rear, catching it in the remaining wing butt fibers. This holds the wing in an upright position without creating a big "shoulder" in front of the wing. Repeat this several times, to secure the wing.
7. Return thread to base of tail, and dub on a cigar-shaped body, ending it at rear of the wing.
8. Take one grizzly and one brown (stiff) neck hackle, strip the fuzz, and mount them together just behind the wing. The tips should be pointing to the rear; leave about 1/8" of the bare stem showing; tie down securely behind and in front of wing.
9. Take hackle pliers and wing both hackles around the post wing, making sure each wind is beneath the previous one. When done winding, drape hackle pliers over close side

of shank, hold back hackle fibers, tie off and clip hackle, and whip finish.

Note: Tips on tying this fly will be presented at the pre-meeting demonstration at the August meeting (unless, of course, I am off fishing somewhere).

See ya on the creek!!!

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FLYTYING CONTEST

Pattern for August Contest: Hairwing Coachman, featured in July Leader.

Contest rules: Don't be reluctant to submit your entry. Ask for a critique if you want help, or what the winning fly has that yours does not.

- + judging will be during the meeting
- + winner announced just before program
- + winner gets a new fly box
- + each entrant gets free ticket on which name and phone number are printed
- + tickets are deposited in a sealed box each meeting
- + drawing held at annual picnic
- + winner gets \$100 gift certificate at fly shop of choice
- + fly must be tied in accordance with 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.
- + there are two classes: (i) those who have won the contest three or more times, and those who are acknowledged experienced tyers; and (ii) those who have not won more than three times. Separate boards and separate prizes are provided for each group.

Get those flies in the contest!!! The \$100 gift certificate is there for the taking...who couldn't use that??

Two days later the total is done. It took over four pages to list everything. The wife saw it. She asked about the pram and bass boat in the backyard. "Shouldn't they be on the inventory? What about these fly tying vises and all these feathers?"

Things haven't quite been the same since she saw the inventory. Kind of an icy silence. I think I'll go fishing until this whole thing blows over. Before I go I phone Orvis. I saw a great gadget I just have to have. Hey, it's only a couple of dollars!

Wayne Eng
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• Ten Tips for Beginning Fly Fishers*

• By Clay Riness

- 1. Don't take yourself too seriously...it's supposed to be fun. You don't have to have the mind of Einstein and the hand-eye coordination of Stefan Edberg to enjoy fly fishing--as much of the contemporary literature seems to suggest. True, catching wary trout can be difficult. But learning to have fun with a flyrod is not difficult at all.
- 2. Seek a mentor. All kinds of fly fishing instruction is available: books, videos, schools, clinics, ad infinitum. Each has its place, but nothing compares to what you learn standing at the side of a veteran angler. The friendship you develop is very special, too.
- 3. Quit thinking of fly fishing solely in terms of trout. All fish are fun on a flyrod! Bass, bluegills, crappies, northern pike, even carp- go forth and figure out how to hook them.
- 4. Choose your tackle wisely. Forget about buying an "entry level" rod, reel and line. You'll blame yourself for its lack of performance, and it won't have any resale value. Check around; try different rods; ask your mentor's advice.
- 5. Join fishing-related organizations and clubs. You'll meet people who share your interests, and who are willing to share their expertise as well. Plus, you'll be contributing to the protection of the resource.
- 6. Learn to cast on grass, not water. use your yard, or a local park (or even a gymnasium, if one's available). This way, you can concentrate strictly on developing and improving your casting, without having to worry about anything else. The flyrod can be a tool of great precision; you'll catch a zillion more fish in the long run by knowing how to use that tool before you face your quarry. Besides, if you can't get your fly to the fish, you can't fish.

- 7. Take up a little basic fly tying. Losing flies is much easier when it's a ratty old thing you tied for eight cents, instead of a two dollar bit of fluff with an intimidating name. Catching fish on your home-tied creation is a lot more fun, too. And if you keep at it, you'll eventually be able to tie fancy bits of fluff with intimidating names.
-
- 8. Get free catalogues. You can learn all incredible amount about fly fishing by studying the wishbooks that cater to it. You'll also get an idea of what's out there in the way of tackle.
-
- 9. Keep a notebook of your experiences. Keeping a journal affords you the luxury of reliving your adventures in your own words. You will also be able to process this information over the seasons, and learn from it.
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- 10. Go Fishing!
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- Clay Riness is the proprietor of Rocking Trout Spring Creek Fishing Service in Coon Valley, Wisconsin.
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- *Story from the FFF Story File

From the Editor's Desk

Bruce Bartholomew

The cutoff date for the September Leader will be Thursday, August 22. Thank you for submitting your articles on time.

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The Inventory

Anonymous

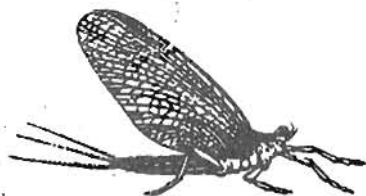
A number of my friends have had their fishing equipment stolen from their vehicles recently. The size of the bills they submitted to their insurance companies was staggering. This and a few "gentle" remarks by the wife about the mound of fly fishing gear in my fishing room prompted me to take inventory of all my fly fishing gear. Surely I haven't spent as much money on fly fishing as she maintains!

Now inventorying all my gear isn't that hard. I mean I keep it all pretty well organized. The rods are in one half of the closet all neatly put away in carrying cases. The other half of the closet has shelves, each containing a large basket. One basket has only fly boxes, another only salt water reels, another fresh water reels and another rod building equipment. Of course there are some miscellaneous baskets. As I eyed the closet the wife just shook her head and made some disparaging remark about the national debt.

First came out the three weight rod and rod tube. What a great buy it had been! Next came two four weight rods. Then the four/five weight rod, "I built for you, honey." Too bad she never uses it. I can't bear to see it sitting in the closet and am starting to fish it more this year. Next come the six weights followed by a seven and then a few eight weights. Oh the memories of all the fish they have caught. A couple of ten weights and memories of tarpon in Belize and trevally in Christmas Island round out the rods. Oops, can't forget to add in the rod cases.

Next come the reels, fly lines and tools. As the mound continues to grow the wife's eyes get smaller and the scowl larger. "Don't forget the float tubes, fins and depth finders in the garage", she snaps. Onto the inventory they go. Finally, everything is listed.

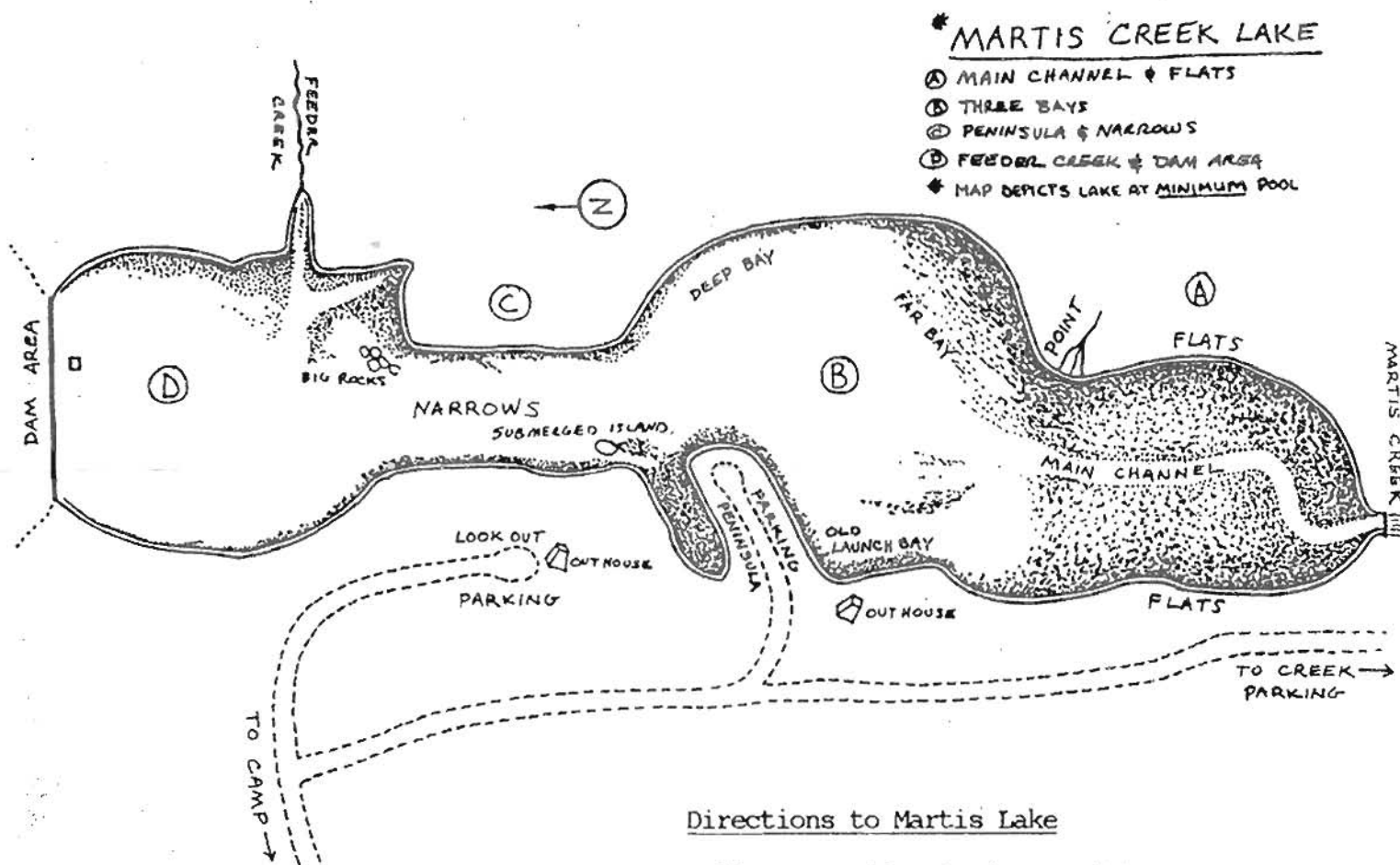
Next come the fly fishing catalogs. Have to look up each item to see how much it costs now. One of two things has happened I explain to the overseer. Either I got some great buys, or the price of this stuff sure has gone up. Her expression tells me she isn't buying either explanation. Slowly the total passes all expectations. This is going to be much worse than I ever expected. The wife just gloats and says, "See, I told you so!"



Martis Creek Lake

RENO FLY SHOP INC.

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Directions to Martis Lake

I-80 to Hwy 89 N. (Quincy exit). Turn South at end of exit ramp and go into Truckee. At 1st intersection turn Left on Hwy 267. Go approx. 2.5 miles (you will pass the airport) and watch for Martis sign. Turn Left and go 1 mile. Turn Right. This road will take you past the campground and down to the lake.

Conservation Report

by
joe bania

I'm taking time off for good behavior this month from preparing a conservation report and submitting instead an article about one of my favorite lakes because fishing there is always a challenge. It is a 70 acre lake, has many brown and hearty rainbows, and is located within a couple of hours drive from Sacramento. What lake has so much to offer? Well it is **Martis Lake** which is about three miles southeast of **Truckee**, just off state Highway 267.

Martis Lake was the first lake in **California** to be designated as a wild trout lake, and also the first public water in which a project was started to re-establish a naturally, self propagating **Lahontan cutthroat** fishery, under the rules of zero kill and artificial barbless lures only. The same regulations still exist today, but sadly the **Lahontans** are gone. They couldn't compete with the other lake residents, the large browns and rainbows. **Eagle Lake rainbows** are the prime target for the many flyfishers who visit the area, and those with the adipose fin removed are party of a study DFG is conducting with the assistance of **GBF** and the **Tahoe-Truckee Flyfishers**. The trout range typically from 14 to 22 inches with a few well into the 24 to 26 inch class.

Now (July) is one of the best times to fish **Martis**, especially early and late in the day. **No motorized boats** are allowed, but fishing from a canoe, pram, or float tube is a heck of a lot of fun, and fishing from shore is easy too because there is little vegetation along the banks to snare you backcast. You should, however, be prepared for fishing in a breeze or wind since the air currents generally rise in late mornings or early afternoons. In fact, if you're tired of fishing you can watch the gliders from the nearby airport drifting and soaring overhead. Your best bet is to fish from the sheltered coves along the west shore while the wind is up.

Martis is not a lake with a set pattern for successful fishing, but some general guidelines may be helpful. Dry fly fishermen face a greater challenge than fishermen who use nymphs, pupas or forage fish imitations. Use of a long line, deeply sunk, works well, especially with delicate and

deliberate retrieves using hand twists or long slow draws. The key is to mimic the sculling motion of damsel nymphs in early summer, and the swimming and resting motions of **chironomids** (midges), **callibaetis** (may flies), and green sunfish throughout the season.

This is a good place to test your skills in reading the water and selecting the right technique for the situation. Some areas of the lake are weed free but there is a significant area of vegetation that, at certain times of year, is impassable to float tubers. There is an open channel over the old stream bed that reminds me of a freeway through the forest; lovely to look at as well as to navigate through. Be sure to probe the feeding/cruising zones: drop offs, springs, shoals, weed beds, foam and wind lines. A map of the lake is included elsewhere in the Leader.

Evening is generally the most productive time to fish this lake. The wind has died down and the fish become active at the surface. There are rises all around within good casting distance no matter where you may be on the lake. The fish seem to respond best to **blood midge** imitations at this time. A size 14 adult or emerger pattern can be equally productive.

At **Martis**, some days the fish seem smarter than the fishermen, other days it seems the fishermen can offer just about anything and the fish will bite. **Martis** is constantly changing due to wind conditions, water temperatures, and density of aquatic vegetation – seemingly more so than many other lakes I've fished. But, no matter what the conditions are on any given day, the lake is always a relaxing place to soak a line.

And, if **Martis** does not appeal to you on a particular day, within 30 minutes in almost any direction are other great fishing spots including **Prosser**, **Stampede** and **Boca** reservoirs, **Sagehen Creek**, and the **Truckee** and **Little Truckee** rivers.

So, get your gear together and head up Highway 80 for a wonderful fishing experience that will spark your senses and produce a smile.

Tight lines and let'em go!!