

Granite Bay Flycasters  
P.O. Box 1107  
Roseville, CA 95678-8107



### Granite Bay Flycasters

**Mission:** The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat and promoting fly fishing skills and good sportsmanship.

**Meetings:** Granite Bay Flycasters general meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay clubhouse located in the Granite Bay Group Picnic Area at Folsom Lake. For directions call Drake Johnson at (916) 783-0343.

The doors open between 6:30 and 7:00 PM for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 followed by a quick refreshment break after which the main program begins, which usually consists of a slide-show talk and/or demonstration. A dynamite raffle follows the show.

**Membership:** To become a member of Granite Bay Flycasters, a nominal fee is required: \$35 for a family; \$30 single; and youth (under 18), \$10. There is a \$7 initiation fee for new members. The cost of membership is pro-rated throughout the year. For membership information, call Jim Ferguson at (916) 781-2358.

# The Leader

Voice of

GRANITE BAY  
*Flycasters*

Since 1986



October 2000

Visit us at: [www.ghflycasters.org](http://www.ghflycasters.org)

# October

2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Salmon Festival at  
Nimbus Hatchery

General Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

Salmon Festival at  
Nimbus Hatchery

Fly Tying Jam  
Session 6:30

Fishout: Upper Sac  
thru the 22nd

Board Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

Fishout: O'netill  
Forebay

Daylight Savings  
Time ends

Halloween

## Officers

President	Drake Johnson	916-783-0343
V.P. Membership	Jim Ferguson	916-781-2358
V.P. Conservation	Dave Baker	916-315-0715
Secretary	Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Treasurer	Rod Leggett	916-791-4710

## Directors

Through 2000	Jeremy Gray	916-797-3312
Through 2000	Gray Allen	916-783-4334
Through 2001	Denny Welch	530-268-3453
Through 2001	Nathan Joyner	916-984-2025
Through 2002	John Bergman	916-966-7032
Through 2002	Jeff Medina	916-353-1992
At Large	Christine Johnston	530-644-4061
Past President	Rob Ferroggiaro	916-791-0887

## Committees

Advertising	Robert Tamson	916-967-0176
Annual Dinner	Jeremy Gray	916-797-3312
Bear River Project	Jim Coleman	530-885-4128
Casting	John Hogg	916-663-2051
Casting Pond Project	Tom Klinefelter	916-363-6634
Leader Editor	Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Salmon & Steelhead	Rick Radoff &	916-624-2107
Education Program	Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Fishmaster	Arno Dietzler	916-483-8711
Fly Tying	Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Gatekeeper	John Bergman	916-966-7032
Golden Trout	Jeff Medina	916-353-1992
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Librarian(s)	Jim Hunter	916-652-5057
	Mac Hunter	916-791-0359
Merchandising	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Programs	Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Special Projects	Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Raffle		
Refreshments	Terry Wasserman	530-677-7189
Webmaster		
Youth Counselors	Jeanne & Ron English	530-677-7169



## The Tail-Out Section

By Chris Ronshausen, Editor

I've been putting together our newsletter for just over a year now, and I figured it was time to reflect a moment on the experience.

I don't know if our rag has improved through the months, but it has become easier to produce. I've made connections with members who write for us routinely now; I've become more familiar with the program (Pagemaker) that helps with formatting and design; my editing skills are improving (and I hope it's reflected in good grammar and style); and I'm not struggling at the last minute, having learned to set clear deadlines for myself and others.

Having said all that, producing the newsletter continues to take time, commitment and hard work (something the next editor will find out). And it is well worth it. What we have produced together is a piece of history, something to look back on with pride. All those who have contributed to *The Leader* have contributed to the life of the club as much as any volunteer.

And with that, I'd like to thank a few of the writers/volunteers, that come to mind, who have contributed through the past year:

- Bill Carnazzo ("Fly Tyer's Corner," local fishing)
- Jim Holmes (Craine Prairie trip; Eagle Lake)
- Pete Peterson ( various bass fishing articles)
- Rob Ferroggiaro (NCCFFF updates, misc.)
- John Hogg (casting tips; fishing trips)
- Nathan Joyner and Cindy Leggett ("Conservation Corner")
- Jim Cramer (various tying articles)
- Bill Tierce (leader construction)

There are plenty others. Thanks to all!

In the coming months look forward to some "slick" changes as our newsletter (and our club) continues to evolve.

**Wayne Eng**

*Licensed Fly Fishing Guide*

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*Call for river conditions*

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<http://www.tahoeflyfishing.com>

## September Program @ The Clubhouse

### *Dawn Stuart, Recovering Yuppie*

**Dawn Stuart** was a workaholic Yuppie living in the confines of Los Angeles. Ten years ago she dropped out and moved to the wilds of Oregon. She spent the next seven years working to rehabilitate the several hundred acres of land that she purchased and where she now lives--simply--in what she refers to as "a lovely paradise."

Aspen Ridge Ranch is a former cattle ranch located in south central Oregon on the upper Williamson River. After many years of rehabilitating the river and riparian habitat, the fisheries have recovered beautifully. **Dawn Stuart** will present a slide show on the Upper Williamson River of Oregon. She will cover the history of the river, talk about the Redband trout (indigenous only to this stretch of the Williamson), and describe the fishing opportunities offered at the remote and rustic ranch. Fly fishers can visit this remote valley and enjoy days of incredible fishing on four miles of private waters. Come to the October General Meeting and find out more!



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## President's Message

### Drake Johnson

Some of the premiere fishing is about to happen. You need only to have been at the last club meeting and listened to the extensive fishing reports. Usually when I ask for fishing reports, only a couple of people speak out with a report. But that was not the case at the last meeting. Evidently the bite is on!

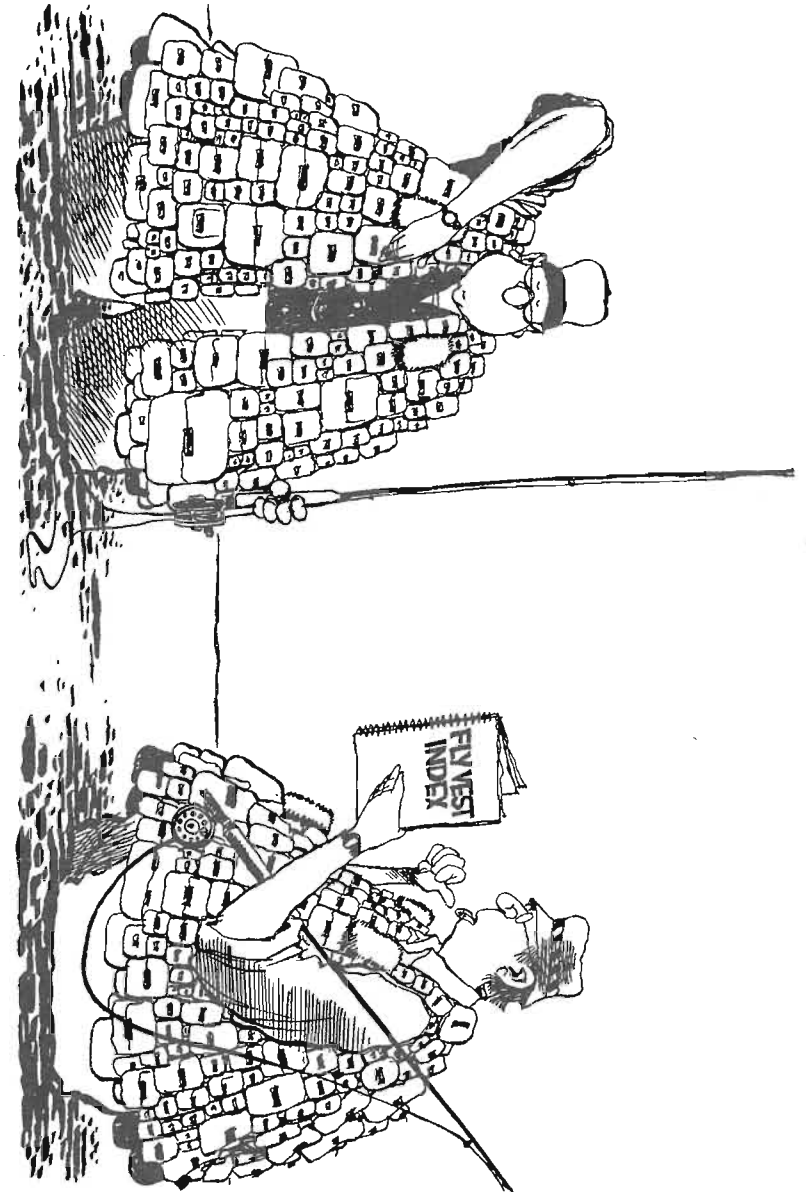
I got away to Fuller Lake for the "one fly" fish out. Those of us that showed up had a great time, but the fishing was not as great as everyone has been reporting. In fact it was really tough fishing! **Arno**, got the prize (\$), with the longest total length of fish. He also had the most fish! **Christine Johnston** gave me a great emerger to use after I lost my fly that got stuck on the bottom while taking pictures of **Kahl Muscott**. **Denny Welch** rounded out our group with his usual cheer.

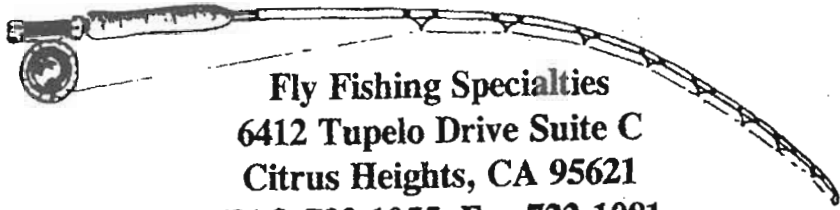
Speaking of cheer, the GBF Annual Picnic was reasonable well attended. Special thanks to all the folks that helped out, including the **Hunter brothers** and their wives, **Linda Shaw** (who ran the children's games) and **John Hogg** and the crew for setting up the casting pond for the contest. **Mike Wasserman**, former raffle chairman, won big at the raffle. I think that's only fair! And the casting contest produced new winners this year. **Steve Johnston** took 1st and **Chris Ronshausen** came in 2nd (with several others breathing down his neck).

And the Salmon Festival is breathing down our neck. GBF is the proud sponsor of the youth fly tying booth along with California Fly Fishers Unlimited (CFFU). This year the festival takes place October 14th and 15th and the tying booth will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **It is very important that you folks mark your calendars and plan on helping out with the fly tying booth.** When I spoke recently with Phil Greenlee, president of CFFU, he said a good number of his members have already committed to helping out, as they did last year. **There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting, so come prepared to sign up and commit a couple hours of your time to help out!** You need only know the basics of fly tying to help out.

By the way, Arno is planning a very promising fish out for later this month; be sure to read about it further on in this issue.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting, or on the water.





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*Announcements*

**Calling All Members!**

We seem to have had a shortage of volunteers lately for the various events that we're involved in and for inter-club activities. It's great to see so many in attendance at the General Meetings each month, but as you know, such meetings could not happen without the support of volunteers. Nor can we continue to put on such great events such as the Annual Picnic, the Annual Dinner, the December Swap meet etc. without assistance from club members throughout the year. **Consider signing up to help out with an upcoming club activity or perhaps taking on an ongoing position of responsibility in your club.**

The following is a list of positions that are, or soon will be, available. See how your skills or interests match the following selections and then consider helping out your club in the way that best suits you. For a detailed description of these positions, turn to page 18.

Inter-Club Positions

- Gate Keeper(s)
- Monthly Raffle Coordinator
- Newsletter Writer(s)

Club Event Positions

- Fly Tiers at the Salmon Festival
- Annual Dinner Coordinators/Help
- Chili Cook-Off/Swap Meet Help



**Easy Money!**

Have you seen the pattern that **Bill Carnazzo** presented in the "Flytyer's Corner" last month? The "South First Special" is a relatively easy tie and quite effective, according to Bill. (He should know. He might as well own the stretch of water along the Upper Sac where the idea for this fly originated!)

**UPPER SAC!**  
**GREAT TROUT**  
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**RON RADUN, LICENSED GUIDE**  
 The Big Ed Fish Society

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**Announcements** *continued*

And did you know that as a beginning tyer you have the opportunity to win a **\$15 gift certificate to American Flyfishing Co.** by entering the Fly Tying Skills Program contest? And as a non beginner, you can go home with a **\$25 gift certificate!** If you win (and your odds are good considering recent participation), you can look at this contest as if you were getting paid to tie! **\$25 an hour ain't bad!**

Now, while the emphasis on this skills program should be (and is) on developing skills and showing your best, the money element cannot be ignored! **Steve Johnson** and the **English's** are frequent shoppers at American Fly Fishing Co. because they are often the only contributors of flies! My sense is that the guys at American are eager to see some new faces in their shop. Will it be your's?

**Steve Johnston--Certified Casting Instructor**

At the NCCFFF Conclave at Lake Tahoe a few days ago, **Steve Johnston** was one of only two certified as instructors out of 8 applicants. A demanding performance test culminated with a requirement for making 75 foot casts showing good loop control both on the back-cast and forecast. No less difficult were lengthy roll casts, throwing tailing loops on demand and explaining and correcting casting faults presented by the examiner. A written and oral test required an extensive knowledge of the mechanics of casting covering target lines, casting arcs, casting stroke length, rod stops, open, closed, and tailing loops, over/under application of power, drifting on the back-cast, creep on the back-cast and much more.

This certification program is conducted by the FFF, and each instructor must be certified by two Master Instructors. In **Steve's** case, his certification was conducted by nationally known author and casting expert, **Al Kyte** and **Floyd Dean**, who is one of the most preeminent distance casters in the country. (Many of you will recall **Al Kyte's** casting program which he presented at our Annual Dinner last year.) **Steve** has coached and advised in GBF's casting program for several years, and I know you will want to join me in congratulating him on his achievement. Way to go, Steve!! **J.H.**



**Steelhead Update**

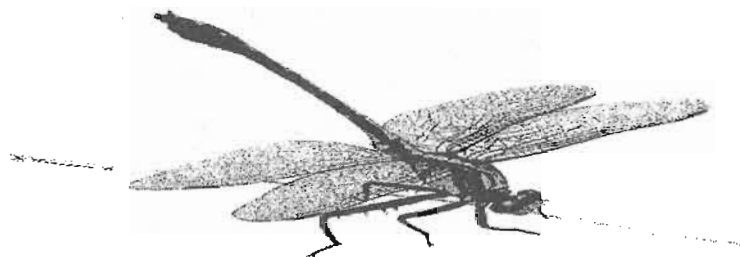
**A**t long last, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has designated steelhead in the Northern California ESU (Evolutionarily Significant Unit) as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. NCCFFF has been party to a law suit intended to force NMFS to list steelhead as threatened in this ESU and in the Klamath Mountain ESU. NMFS originally refused to list, despite the recommendation of their own scientific panel. After the corrective action promised the Wilson administration failed to materialize, particularly revisions of logging practices, NMFS finally stepped in with the listing. The Klamath ESU suit remains in the courts.

Final 4(d) rules which go into effect on 9/8/00 were issued for three California ESUs; the South Central Coast, Central Coast, and Central Valley. 4(d) rules are the regulations issued after a listing to provide protection to listed species. We have been told that the new rules will not further curtail fishing opportunities, at least in the near term, since protective angling regulations have been in place for some time. The long term future of steelhead fishing in the listed ESUs will depend on the health of the fisheries and on any future enforcement actions taken by NMFS.

It remains to be seen whether or not NMFS grows the teeth required to effectively address the most critical issues such as water diversion, forestry practices, and development.

**Dam Removal on Clear Creek**

The Saeltzer Dam on Clear Creek on the Lower Sac near Redding was identified decades ago as environmentally damaging, blocking access to the creek by salmon and steelhead. It had long been a target for removal, and finally it looks like its going to happen. Dam removal is underway, and all the state and federal agencies are on track to complete the removal this fall. After joining local dam removal advocates at a meeting with DFG earlier this year, NCCFFF submitted written comments urging removal of the dam and stressing the importance of securing minimum water flows that would sustain healthy runs of steelhead and salmon.



# Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (NCCFFF)

## Conservation Update

### Upper Sac Regulation Enforcement

Since the Cantera spill, a third warden in the North Coast/Nor Cal Region had been funded by the Cantera Trust, with his acclivities focused on enforcement on the Upper Sac. There were indications from the Department of Fish and Game that the position might be eliminated, so our Upper Sac Committee had been in contact with DFG to highlight the importance of this role. Committee member Mondy Lariz recently received a letter from DFG which confirmed that DFG will continue to have a third warden in the region, funding the position internally. This is good news given the new regulations forthcoming as a result of the Management Plan. (The July NCCFFF Conservation Update contained an overview of the Upper Sac Management Plan)

### PGE Proposes Hydropower Divestiture Settlement

The proposed auction of PG&E hydropower assets continues to undergo review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Since the possible transfer of hydropower-related assets has huge implications for anglers, NCCFFF filed extensive written comments as part of this process. The draft EIR is now scheduled to be released on 11/1/00 to be followed by a 70 day public comment period. When the opportunity to comment arrives, those of us interested in recreation and conservation will need to speak up. Stay tuned.

Making complex matters more complex, PG&E recently proposed a settlement which is intended to avoid the auction process. The settlement would transfer PG&Es assets to an unregulated PG&E subsidiary. Under this agreement, PG&E would use conservation easements or transfers to public agencies to protect the recreational use of all of property associated with their hydro projects, over 140,000 acres. While this is a huge "carrot," the funding for environmental restoration falls woefully short of what's needed. Moreover, the costs would be born mostly by rate payers despite the fact that there is enormous long term profit potential for PG&E. For these reason, conservation organizations have not rushed to support the agreement. The future of the settlement is also in doubt because it is being challenged by other utility companies on procedural grounds. Evidentiary hearings may follow.

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# Up-Coming Activities

## 4th Annual Salmon Festival

*October 14 and 15*

In anticipation of the fall run on the American River, the Department of Fish and Game along with several other agencies will again host the fourth annual American River Salmon Festival on Oct. 14 and 15. There will be live wildlife demonstrations, naturalist-led river walks, live music, fishing clinics and trout planting, children's activities, culinary demonstrations, rafting and canoeing and more. For information about the Salmon Festival, call (916) 358-4359. (AP)

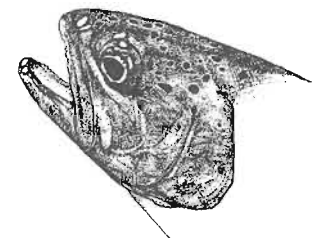
## Casting Clinic

*Sunday, Oct. 14*

Do you want to tune up your distance cast, or work on getting rid of that tailing loop? Maybe you are a novice, and would like an introduction to some of the fundamentals. If so, this clinic is for you.

The clinic will be held on Sunday, October 14, beginning at 1pm. Bring your own rod, or check one out from the club library. We recommend a floating line, with 7 foot 3x leader. Eyewear is mandatory for safety reasons, choose a hat and appropriate clothing for the expected weather.

To reach John's pond, proceed as follows: from Hwy 80 going to Auburn, take the Penryn exit; turn right at the stop and go 3/4 mile to King Road; go left and proceed 3 miles to Auburn-Folsom Road; turn left and go 1 and 1/2 miles to Newcastle Road; turn right and go 1 mile to the "Y" in the road. Bear left, which is Rattlesnake Road and go 1/2 mile. Turn left on Hayes Road and go 1/2 mile to 10101 Hayes Road. **Call John Hogg at 663-2051 if you have any questions.**



## Fish Outs

October 19-22

### The Upper Sac with Denny Welch



**Denny Welch** has fished the Upper Sacramento River for 30 years and is quite familiar with the methods required for catching fish in this popular fishery. Denny refers to it as "one of the best Blue Ribbon trout streams in the country." Last year, a group from the club went up at about this time, and all caught fish. **Denny** landed a 22 inch rainbow just under the bridge where the infamous Cantera spill occurred back in 1996, testament that the fishery has indeed rebounded!

Now it's a bit of a jog up to Dunsmuir, center of this October fish out--about 3 1/2 to 4 hours. So be sure to get camp reservations or find lodging unless your prepared for a looong day trip. **Denny** suggest checking in to Cave Springs Resort in Dunsmuir. At this resort, rustic cabins and modern rooms are available at a reasonable price. Give Cave Springs a call at (530) 235-2721 for more information.

Various Caddis are hatching this time of year. **Denny** suggests having a few October Caddis on hand; they're sure to get smacked. But for a more recent (updated September 29), informed overview of conditions, read the following, courtesy of "Fish First."

*Fishing is fair to good and improving. Best fishing is in the morning and evening; afternoon has been slow with the hot weather. In the morning, high-sticking through the oxygenated water (5-6 ft. deep) in the lower river... has been producing nice lake rainbows 14-18". Be sure to use enough weight to get to the bottom. Dry fly fishing in the lower river and in the pocket water through town and in the canyon upstream has been decent in the evening. Fish a caddis, light cahill, or parachute adams.*

Keep in mind that conditions do change (likely for the better this time of year) and that you'll want to check with Denny or with the local fly shops before you come up. There will be a sign-up sheet, along with more information about the area, at the October General Meeting. Don't miss this tremendous Fall fishing opportunity! **Call Denny for more details at (530) 268-3453.**

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\*certain restrictions may apply



## Volunteer Board

### Fly Tiers

The third annual Salmon Festival is right around the corner (October 14 & 15) and GBF will be there again--along with CFFU--to introduce young people to the art of fly tying. We need people from the club to commit to a couple of hours in the booth tying Woolly Buggers. For your effort, you'll have free parking the event and a basic lunch (hot dog and a coke). Children are delighted when they tie their first fly and it's equally delightful to see them tie it--but only with your help. **Sign up for this important position at the October General Meeting or give Drake a call.**

### Raffle Coordinator

**Mike Wasserman** has held this position for quite a while now and needs a break. The job consists of organizing and presenting raffle items at the General Meetings each month. The Coordinator will sell raffle tickets (with the help of other volunteers) before the meeting and during the break and call off the winning numbers after the presentation. **Talk to Mike Wasserman at the October General Meeting for more information about this important position, or give him a call at (530) 677-7189.**

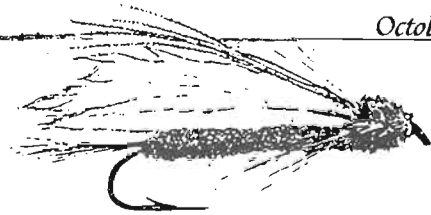
### Annual Dinner Organizers

Members are being sought to help coordinate the Annual Dinner which will take place in March of next year. Want to be involved in preparing GBF's most dynamic event of the year? It's not too early to lay the groundwork, so get your tools out and let's get building! **Talk to Drake Johnson at the October General Meeting, or give him a call at home for more details.**

### Gatekeeper

With daylight savings time coming to an end, Folsom State Park will now close before our Thursday night General Meeting begins. This means that someone will have to remain at the entrance until 7:45 p.m. to allow latecomers to attend the meeting. This person will close and lock the gate on the way to the meeting. This role can be shared among 2 or more people. It is a critical job, as the park service locks the gate at dark during the winter, preventing most people from attending the meeting. **Call John Bergman for more details at (916) 966-7032.**

### Saturday, October 28 O'Neill Forebay with Arno Deitzler



This unique Striped Bass fishery is not far and therefore makes for a perfect day trip. Located west of Los Banos, just off of Interstate 5, this forebay is host to some of the largest Striped Bass in California. **Arno** has had great success during this time of year at this fishery and is anxious to share his techniques for success during this outing.

O'Neill has a strong current running through it (the water falls through a hydroelectric facility on the east side), so a boat or pram is recommended. Tubes are allowed, but **Arno** recommends that only strong tubers venture out (and with an anchor), since you'll want to remain in and target key areas.

Regarding equipment, **Arno** says you want to get down--fast, "because the current is swift and that's where the fish are." Bass are gorging on Threadfin Shad--good sized ones. The following is an excerpt from a Q and A billboard regarding equipment required at O'Neill Forebay, compliments of [www.reel-time.com](http://www.reel-time.com). The following quote is by **Capt. Mike McKenzie** ([stripermike@earthlink.net](mailto:stripermike@earthlink.net)), who guides for stripers in central California.

*While a 9-weight fast action rod will do the job very well, it's a lot of rod to throw from a float tube all day. A 7- or 8-weight would serve you better. Also the Teeny lines should work okay, but my preference would be for a shooting head system consisting of single strand mono or flat beam running line with type 4 and lead core shooting heads and loop connections. This allows for a little more versatility (you can change to any kind of head from a floater to lead core quickly) during times of changing conditions. The mono running line also gets you out farther and down quicker, which will increase your catch rate. As far as flies go...you should stick to weighted flies. Blanton's Sar-Mul-Mac's and Flashtail Whistlers in S.P.S., black, chartreuse and white, and Flashtail Clousers in chartreuse/white, grey/white - all should work. Other than these, anything tied to represent baitfish should work (Deceivers, etc.) You'll want a variety of sizes, 2/0 to 4/0, and lengths from 3" to 6".*

**For more information on this ideal day trip to O'Neill Forebay, talk to Arno Deitzler at the October General Meeting, or give him a call at home: (916) 483-8711.** A sign-up sheet for the trip will be passed around at the meeting along with more detailed information.

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Local Fishing *continued*

At this time of year the mosquitos won't be too bad, but they will be there. Wade carefully, as the fish will be spooky and you can easily slide off of slippery rock surfaces and get nasty shin and ankle bruises, not to mention a broken rod.

**Euchre Bar Trail**

This trail was not mentioned in Walt Simmons' article. To find the trail head, get off I-80 at Alta, which is just beyond Colfax and then Baxter. Find the small road on the South side of the freeway, which heads Southeast. It turns to dirt shortly. Follow it for about 2 miles, and you will come to a fork; take the right fork. There should be markers, unless they have been torn down. You will come to a parking area with a small outhouse; park there, and head down the trail which begins as an old jeep road. There is a trail marker about 1/4 mile down this old jeep road. The trail is not the easiest, and it's around 2 miles. Have good boots as it is rocky in places. It ends up at a footbridge. From there you can fish upstream or down, with dries such as a Royal Wulff, Parachute Adams, Humpy, Elk Hair Caddis, or your favorite. This time of year don't leave home without hopper patterns such as Joe's Hopper and Dave's Hopper. Standard nymphs will also work.

Here all of the standard warnings, caveats and disclaimers laid out in previous articles apply. Be careful, don't go alone, and leave plenty of daylight for the return hike, which will take longer than the descent.

So...off the couch and onto the stream!!!



*Bill's South Fork* *Bill's Old Trail*

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## FLYTYING SKILLS PROGRAM

Sponsored by American Fly  
Fishing Company

Pattern for October Program: South First Special  
(featured in the September Leader)

*Note: This is an educational program/contest. Don't be reluctant to submit a fly! And ask for a critique from a more experienced tier; it will ultimately increase your chances at catching fish--and winning certificates to afford it!*

**For the winner of each category, American Fly Fishing has generously donated the following prizes for each month's contest:**

**Beginner: \$15.00 Gift Certificate**

**Non-beginner: \$25.00 Gift Certificate**

*\* The winner of the gift certificate in the non-beginner category will be determined by a drawing between those who have entered that specific contest.*

### Winner(s) for September:

Beginner: n/a

Non-beginner: Steve Johnston

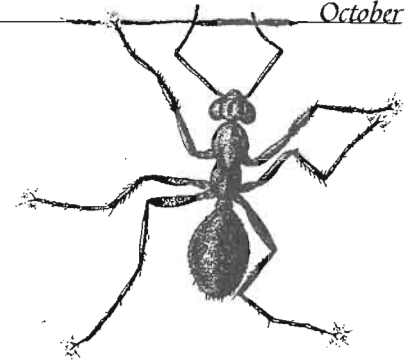
### Program rules:

- \* judging will be during the meeting
- \* best tied fly announced just before program, and name of tier featured in the next month's Leader
- \* 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.
- \* two categories: beginner and advanced. Anyone who has won the beginner category twice will have to compete in the advanced category from then on.

## Flytyer's Corner

BY

BILL CARNAZZO



### Delta-Winged Ant

Recently, when fishing a small eastern Sierra stream, I re-learned a lesson: always have an ample supply of ant patterns in your fly box!! During the morning hours on this particular early Fall day, I adorned my tippet with a pair of perky dry flies, since this stream was touted as a dry fly heaven. After about a half hour of drifting ever smaller and sparser patterns over visible large trout, I gave up and tied on my normal go-to nymphs, again tiny and sparse. That strategy worked for the rest of the morning. Around noon I noticed the fish beginning to dimple the surface here and there, and returned to dries, again without much success in getting these spooky thin-water trout to hammer my offerings.

In such times, I find it helpful to just sit and watch the fish work for awhile in an effort to figure out what they are taking. I noticed that many of the rises were close to the bank, and the light bulb went on. Duh!!! "Grabbing ants," I muttered to myself, as I grubbed around in my fly boxes for some of the little black jewels. Dropping my tippet to 5X, and going to a single fly, I knotted on a Delta-winged Ant. My first cast, executed on my knees in a crouched position, brought a curious and cautious Rainbow to the surface, as it followed the fly for a few feet before sipping it down in the manner that trout normally take ants.

From then on the action was fast, with the larger fish breaking my 5X like it was a thread of spider web. In my delirious state I neglected to notice that I had only a few ants left in various patterns, until I lost my last Delta-winged specimen. Switching to 4X, I was able to spread the remainder of my ant patterns out over the rest of the day. Needless to say, I'll not again be caught without a mess of winged type ant patterns in various shades (although the black version seems to work best). So let's tie up one of these very simple imitations.

Flytyer's Corner *continued*

*The Delta-Winged Ant*

Materials

Hook	Standard dry fly hook, sizes 14-18
Thread	Black 6/0 or 8/0
Abdomen	Black super-fine synthetic dubbing
Thorax	Same as abdomen
Hackle	Black dry fly (died grizzly works great)
Wing	Blue dun dry fly hackle points (or grizzly dyed blue dun)

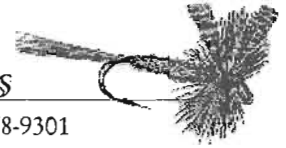
Instructions

1. Smash hook barb and cover back half of hook with layer of thread.
2. Dub an abdomen in the form of a small ball of dubbing; the abdomen will need to be a bit larger than the thorax, since that is how a real ant is built. The front of the abdomen should end at the mid point of the hook.
3. Take two blue dun hackles from your cape (use the larger ones that you won't use to hackle dry flies); don't strip the barbules from the stem. Mount one of them at a 45 degree angle in front of the abdomen, with the point of the hackle to the rear. Tie it on long, and pull it forward to the proper length, which should be such that it extends just beyond the hook bend, while pointed out at a 45 degree angle. Mount the second hackle point wing in the same manner.
4. Tie in the black hackle at the same point, and take 2 or 3 winds. It needs to be sparse.
5. Now dub the thorax, which is also a small ball of dubbing, made slightly but noticeably smaller than the abdomen. Whip finish a small head.

This pattern is not the easiest to see, although the dun wings do help. Try to concentrate on watching where the fly lands and carefully watch that area for a sipping rise. When setting the hook, particularly with the smaller sizes, gently raise the rod tip while pulling on the line in your other hand. It's not easy to resist the instinctive urge to "rare back" and strike hard, but you need to develop the patience to be still and strike differently. You will end up breaking off fewer fish, and hooking and landing more of the larger specimens. Enjoy, and....See ya on the creek!!!

*Nevada City Anglers*

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**The cost of a float trip is \$300 for one or two anglers.** Our drift boats can comfortably accommodate up to 2 anglers, and additional boats for larger parties can be scheduled for \$300/boat.

**Beginning Fly Fishing Class**

Nevada City Anglers offers a one day Beginning Fly Fishing class. These classes are held twice a month on Saturdays. Everything is provided in class. Students meet at the shop at 9:00am. At the class, we will cover the following:

- Fly Fishing equipment, rods, and reels
- Rigging, knots, lines, and leaders
- Fly selection, insect types, and hatches
- Locating fish, reading the water, and presentations
- Mechanics of the cast
- Timing and loading the rod
- Overhead cast
- False casting and the presentation cast
- Roll Casting

We provide all the necessary equipment, but if you have your own, feel free to bring it to class. **The cost is \$85 per student.** Private lessons or classes are available on request. Call or e-mail to enroll today.

**\* Check out our well developed and frequently maintained web site at [gofishing.com](http://gofishing.com)**