

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*



*through the film...*

## *January 2001*

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



# January at a Glance

2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Conservation Committee Meeting: 7:00	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting The North Umpqua	12	13 Steelhead Clinic on the American with Arno Dietzler
14	15	16 Flytying Jam Session: 6:30pm	17 Intl. Sportsman's Show at Cal Expo: 17-21	18 Board Meeting 7:00pm	19 Youth Flytying Clinic: 6:30-9:30p	20
21 Intl. Sportsman's Show at Cal Expo: 17-21	22	23	24	25	26 Youth Flytying Clinic: 6:30-9:30p	27
28 Fishout: The Yuba River--with Arno	29	30	31 San Mateo Sports Show--thru 2/4			

President  
V.P. Membership  
V.P. Conservation  
Secretary  
Treasurer

## Officers

Drake Johnson	916-783-0343
Jim Ferguson	916-781-2358
Dave Baker	916-315-0715
Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Rod Leggett	916-791-4710

## Directors

Through 2000  
Through 2000  
Through 2001  
Through 2001  
Through 2002  
Through 2002  
At Large  
Past President

Jeremy Gray	916-797-3312
Gary Allen	916-783-4334
Denny Welch	530-268-3453
Nathan Joyner	916-984-2025
John Bergman	916-966-7032
Jeff Medina	916-353-1992
Christine Johnston	530-644-4061
Rob Ferroggiaro	916-791-0887

## Committees

Advertising  
Annual Dinner  
Bear River Project  
Casting  
Casting Pond Project  
Leader Editor  
Salmon & Steelhead  
Education Program  
Fishmaster  
Fly Tying  
Gatekeepers

Golden Trout  
Historian  
Librarian(s)

Merchandising  
Programs  
Special Projects  
Raffle  
Refreshments  
Webmaster  
Youth Counselors

Robert Tamson	916-967-0176
Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Jim Coleman	530-885-4128
John Hogg	916-663-2051
Tom Klinefelter	916-363-6634
Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Rick Radoff &	916-624-2107
Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Arno Dietzler	916-483-8711
Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Mike Gervais	916-783-5477
Jack Peuler	916-797-1547
Denny Welch	916-353-1992
Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Jim Hunter	916-652-5057
Mac Hunter	916-791-0359
Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Jeanne English	916-677-7169
Terry Wasserman	530-677-7189
Amy March	530-333-9530
Jeanne & Ron English	530-677-7169



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## The Tail-Out Section

By Chris Ronshausen, Editor

For those of you who aren't aware yet, I'm handing the newsletter over to a fellow clubmember who has the talent, responsibility and interest to keep it up and likely exceed the current standard. **Amy March** has produced newsletters in the past and currently works as a writer/editor. She has been fly fishing for a couple of decades and has been with the club for about a year now.

Putting together a presentable newsletter each month is not altogether easy. It takes time, patience and creativity to develop and maintain. But most of all, it requires support. Through the months that I produced the newsletter, I received tremendous support from many of you in the club, and to you I owe thanks; you know who you are.

Amy will need the same support in order to produce a great newsletter. Let's get together on this and show Amy how much we care about the newsletter and the club by contributing material whenever we can while respecting her submission deadlines. If you have an announcement, a short story, a news article, a comic strip or joke, an instructional piece—whatever, send it over to her! The newsletter is only as rich as its contributions.

You can reach Amy and send material to her via e-mail at amy.march@intel.com. Her mailing address is P.O. Box 69, Georgetown CA 95634. Write this information down, and please use it! Be in contact with your club newsletter editor and convey anything to her that the club should see on the pages of *The Leader*.

Meanwhile, I'll be busy helping put together the Annual Dinner for March. It'll be a busy time, but I plan to get out steelheading. I'm a little embarrassed to admit that I have yet to catch an American River Steelhead, and the river is virtually in my back yard! This is my year. With the help of patience, club members' input and "lady luck," I'm gonna hook up! And after all, as I mentioned above, Amy *does* need material for *The Leader*.

Ciao for now. CR

Oh yeah, I couldn't find space this month in the "Events" section to announce the *San Mateo Sportsman's Exposition*. It will take place this year January 31, February 1, 2, 3 and 4. Pete reminded me of this event and what a shame it would be to miss. Evidently, Pete has never missed a show.

## January Program @ The Clubhouse

### Ken Ferguson: The North Umpqua

The North Umpqua River may be the most beautiful river in the Pacific Northwest. The combination of summer-run steelhead, challenging angling, and majestic scenery makes this an attractive region to visit. The river boasts of 31 miles of fly-angling containing at least 161 named pools and runs. In addition to steelhead, the North Umpqua River serves as needed habitat for a variety of resident and anadromous fish species, fall and spring chinook salmon, coho salmon, and sea-run cutthroat trout.

The program this month will be presented by **Ken Ferguson**. Ken is the Vice President of *Spirit River*, one of the largest fly and material suppliers in the world. They are located in Roseburg, Oregon. Ken lives and breaths the North Umpqua and is intimately familiar with this fishery. He will bring to us some of the history of the river, tips and ideas about fishing there and some information about the work going on to protect this magnificent fishery.

Come to the January General Meeting and see why such notables as Clarence Gordon, Frank Moore and Zane Grey were so drawn to this stretch of river in Southern Oregon and why it continues to have such appeal.



## President's Message

### Drake Johnson

**H**appy New Year to you all. I hope you had a wonderful holiday and got a chance to share it with family and friends. I had a wonderful time spending Christmas day with my wife's family and the week between Christmas and New Years with my son and daughter who came up from Southern California.

The Tackle Swap/Chili Cook-off/Photo Contest came off without a hitch. Thanks to **John Carroz, Gary Flanagan, Ed Fritz, Gene Goss, Michael Kaul, Al Meredith, Bob Morton, Dick Neumann, Chris Ronshausen** and **Audry Wann** who volunteered their time to help.

At our December Board meeting we developed the upcoming year's calendar of events. But we're not done yet, as we still need to integrate the *Golden Trout Program* into the activities we have planned for the year. Take note fly tyers: Pete Peterson is putting on two 4-night bass fly tying sessions starting in February. See page 6 for more information. We have a full schedule of fish outs planned and much more, including our traditional annual events.

Speaking of annual events, thanks to **Chris Ronshausen** for taking on the responsibility of *Annual Dinner Coordinator*. Chris has already had one Annual Dinner organizational meeting, and at the Board meeting we firmed up our dinner speaker. You seasoned members know that our Annual Dinner is a great event, promising loads of fun with a chance to win great prizes. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, March 31, and plan to attend the dinner. Last year we nearly sold out, so I suggest you get your tickets early--and bring a friend!

Part of what makes the Annual Dinner raffle such a success is the generosity of our members. Traditionally, every member donates something to the raffle. Donations need not be fishing related, and you can even donate cash! Twenty dollars goes far when the dinner committee purchases prizes; local shops give us a significant discount as a way of supporting our dinner.

Finally, thanks to **Amy March** for taking over as Editor for *The Leader*. It sounds like she will do a tremendous job with plenty of experience writing and editing. See the "The Tail-Out Section" on page 20 for information about this transition.

I am looking forward to 2001 and have great expectations for the club. Hope to see you at the next meeting or on the water soon!

## In Retrospect continued

them in 1977. All of the photos in 1980 show people in rubberized or cloth waders. The June 1979 issue has an article titled "Float Tubes--What they are and how they work." I guess not much more need be said.

Perhaps the most stunning ad was from *Dan Bailey's Fly Shop* in Livingston, Montana, announcing a "new great fly" called the Woolly Bugger. (I assumed the Woolly Bugger was always around, but apparently not.) The original pattern lists a black marabou tail and a dark olive body palmered with black hackle. This drawing shows a fairly sparse tie, with only about eight strands of marabou for the tail and five winds of hackle on the body. You could order this new pattern from Dan for 95 cents.

The article by-lines offer a kind of who's who of fly fishing. There were such notables as **Ernest Schwiebert**, **Lee Wulff** (on the history of the Wulff flies), **John Betts**, **Ed Engle** (with his first article for the magazine), **James Leisenring** (Leisenring Lift), **Len Codella** and **Nick Lyons**. **Dan Blanton** was writing about fishing sinking lines even then! The fishing/hatch reports from 1977 came from guys like **Ted Fay**, **Bob Quigley**, and **Randall Kaufmann**--quite a historical cast of characters.

If you think gear costs too much today, you are right. In 1977 you could get a Columbia Furnace Creek vest for \$22. In 1980 you could get a Weinbrenner wading shoe newly designed by **Gary Borger**, for \$60, a T & T bamboo rod with two tips for \$225 (\$475 AFI vs. \$1550 today), or a full day float trip for two on the Snake River for \$100. And if you wanted to rub shoulders with the legends, you could attend an advanced fly fishing school with **Ernie Schwiebert** and **Gary Borger** in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains or study with **Joan and Lee Wulff**.

In the past 20 or so years, the materials and equipment we use in fly fishing have undergone numerous changes. But what strikes me about the articles of 20 years ago is that what interests people really hasn't changed. **Dan Blanton** was writing about how to fish sinking lines in lakes, **Ernest Schwiebert** about the "Anatomy of a Spring Creek," and **Nick Lyons** about "No-Name Creeks." My recollection is that **John Gierach** wrote a similar article recently for *Fly, Rod and Reel*. Ultimately the essence of the sport remains constant: go fishing, take care of the environment and have a good time.

## Fly Fishing--In Retrospect

by Jim Ferguson

At the Tackle Swap and Chili Cook-Off last month, I heard someone say, "I don't know why anyone would want these old magazines." This piqued my interest, so I looked over and saw several *Fly Fisherman* magazines dating back 20 and more years. Still curious, I picked out a few and took them home. What I found in these dated editions was a little surprising and provided a good lesson in perspective.

As I read through these pages into our past, I found a number of things that made me pause and think. These magazines were published about 20 years ago—the recent past, especially for something as timeless as fishing. But the changes that have taken place in the fly fishing world in 20 years are surprising, as are those aspects of the sport that have remained constant.

In 1977, graphite rods were in their infancy and had yet to spawn the boom of great rod making that we are familiar with today. You could buy one from *Doc's Rods* in Chicago for \$50-\$144 adjusted for inflation—one-third of what many of them cost today. Boron was also being used as a rod-making material and hasn't been seen in a rod in at least a decade. In 1977 fiberglass seems to have predominated as a rod material, although bamboo was still widely advertised, and by 1980 graphite was much more prevalent.

In 1980 Thomas and Thomas announced a new series of bamboo rods, and the *Bamboo Rod Shop* in Vermont sold only bamboo rods that are now considered classics such as E.F. Payne, Leonard, Uslan and T & T. Most of today's great rod makers had not yet been founded, although you will find advertisements from some familiar names like Scott, Orvis, Fenwick, Lamiglas and Browning. You could also find graphite or boron rods from Rodon, Lew Childre, Marv Taylor, or a kit from Ee-da-how Custom Fishing Rods. Smile and nod to your grandchildren if you have heard of any of these.

You won't find any of the reelmakers or designs popular today, either. There were no large-arbor reels, and machined reels were just hitting the market. The most heavily advertised reel was the Pflueger Medalist with other ads for Martin, Orvis, Scientific Angler (System 1 series) and Hardy. One of the first machined aluminum reels, made by Marryat, was announced. In 1980 neoprene waders were apparently not readily available, even though O'Neill (originating from *O'Neill's Surf Shop* in Santa Cruz) announced

*continued next page*

## Announcements

### The Annual Dinner: 2001

This year's Annual Dinner is fast approaching. Our annual fundraising dinner was enormously successful last year, with close to 200 fly fishing enthusiasts in attendance! This year's dinner, **Saturday, March 31**, promises to be another major success! **Mike and Christine Fong**--avid fly fishers, writer/photographers and regular sportsman's expo exhibitors--will be our special guest for the evening. These folks are incredibly entertaining and informative--a must see!

**Now, consider where you come in.** There are a few things that you can do as a member to ensure that this year's Annual Dinner is nothing short of awesome. Keep in mind that without your participation as members, there would be no dinner--no club. Here's what you, as a member, can do:

- ✓ Purchase your ticket for the dinner by February 29, 2001. This early purchase assures your party a place, and, it also automatically enters you into an "early bird" raffle for a special prize.
- ✓ Pledge to sell at least four Annual Dinner tickets to a fellow fishing enthusiast, associate or friend.
- ✓ Donate a raffle prize (fishing related or not) or discount certificate for a product or service, and solicit those who have the means to do the same. All donations will be specially acknowledged during the dinner. Take note that *Granite Bay Flycasters* is a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation, making your donation tax deductible.

So make this year's Annual Dinner a smash by participating in the above-mentioned ways and watch how we grow as a club through our 17th year because of your efforts. Seek Chris Ronshausen out at the general meeting, January 11, for more information about this event and for Annual Dinner tickets. Or give Chris a call at home (916) 638-5615.



## Announcements continued

**What Can You Buy for a Buck Anymore?**

Can you believe that dues for a GBF individual club membership is only **\$2.50 a month!** Reflect on what you've gained (and what you've been able to give) while being involved with GBF during the past year. Know that the information, material and friendships (not necessarily in that order) that you've gained in the past year are worth plenty more than what our membership costs. Keep contact with the club that has made a difference in your fishing life and renew your membership now!

There will be an announcement at the January general meeting and an opportunity to renew your membership then. There will also be a membership packet sent out as a reminder. Talk to **Jim Ferguson** at the January general meeting for membership details or give him a call at (916) 781-2358.

**The Wet Fly Award: Are You Worthy?**

Have you seen your fishing partner dunk recently...again? Does this club member have no grace around water, frequently splashing about below the film in search of a more forgiving gravity? Well, he/she (you) may be eligible for a grand prize! Yes, the club is looking for someone who fits these webbed shoes and we want to honor him/her at the Annual Dinner with the Wet Fly Award. Don't be shy. Step forward at the next general meeting and nominate this person (or yourself) for this place of distinction, or talk to Drake at the break if you want your nomination to be anonymous. Either way, there must ultimately be proof of the fall(s), i.e. torn clothing, leech suction marks, webbed feet--or more likely, a picture. Meanwhile, stay dry.

**On a Very Sad Note...**

The following is a note that I received late in production; hence, the odd placement. This man was a friend of my cousin's, both of the *Russian River Fly Fishers* of Santa Rosa. Please respond if you can. CR

*If you can pass this on to your network of flyfishers it would be great. My good friend and Russian River Flyfisher casting champ **Wayne Kipp** was murdered at his office at the Petaluma Marina last friday. He was the best. We are all sad here. I learned much from this humble, unassuming and kind person.*

*I created an online memorial at <http://flycaster.com/Alaska/wayne.html> He leaves two beautiful boys. A memorial fund has been created for the kids and all the info is on the web page. Thank you for your help in passing this on. Any small amount into the fund for the children will help out. Thank you. Peace and tightlines to all. Ken Ronshausen*

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*The staff at Kiene's would like to thank our friends at the Granite Bay Fly Casters for their continued support and friendships. We are committed to the continued growth and prosperity of GBF!*

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\*certain restrictions may apply

## Trinity River Flow Decision Announced

Just before Christmas, *Secretary of the Interior* **Bruce Babbitt** announced a decision to implement the “preferred alternative” as outlined in the EIS/R for the Trinity River restoration. This alternative would keep approximately 48 percent of the water in the river. Those who benefit from the diversions of water from the Trinity to the *Central Valley Project* are already on their way to court in an effort to block this action.

## PG&E Divestiture

The EIS/R for the PG&E divestiture was recently published. An initial review indicates that the EIS/R recognizes most of the issues we raised in our written comments and in oral testimony at public meetings. It highlights 49 significant environmental impacts that could result from the proposed auction. The public comment period on this EIS/R continues until February 5, 2001. It is likely we will be contacting our members in January to ask them to send comment letters and to attend public hearings, which will begin in late January.

Even though the EIS/R identifies important concerns, it remains to be seen how this will play into a final result given the amount of money at stake. In addition, the process gets more interesting as it is played out against the backdrop of the soaring energy rates consumers will be faced with in their monthly statements. Even the EIS/R addresses this directly. The legislature has made half-hearted attempts to resolve this in the past (recall the *Keeley Bill*). Recent public dissatisfaction with deregulation may provide the impetus for legislative action, with uncertain results.

## Judge Issues Ruling on Klamath Province ESA Lawsuit

The Federal Court recently took action on a lawsuit in which NCCFFF was a co-plaintiff. *U.S. District Court Judge Susan Illston* gave the *National Marine Fisheries Service* until March 31 to reconsider its 1998 decision not to list steelhead in the Klamath Province as threatened under the *Endangered Species Act*. The Klamath Province is an area that straddles Oregon and California and includes the Rogue and Klamath Rivers.

While government biologists had determined that the steelhead was imperiled, NMFS had previously declined to list the species. The court ruled that just because Oregon and California had promised to take conservation measures there was no reason not to list it. As of this writing it is unknown whether the government will appeal.

## Upcoming Activities

### Steelheading Techniques on the American River with Arno Deitzler

#### January 13

Mid-January is when steelhead begin to come up heavily on the American from the Pacific Ocean and bay estuary, and all signs suggest that the river will see high numbers of these fish during this year's annual winter run. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn proven techniques that will increase your chances of catching one (or many) of these magnificent fish on your next outing. Speaking of next outings, note that this clinic has been purposely placed before the January 28 “Steelhead Sunday” trip to the Lower Yuba (see page 7): the skills you learn at the clinic will prepare you for this late-January trip and increase your chances of doing well.

The cost to members for this clinic is \$10.00. This money will pay for pizza and beverages afterward with any excess going toward our conservation interests. **For more information, call Arno Dietzler at (916) 483-8711 or talk to him at the next general meeting.**

### International Sportsman's Exposition

#### January 17-21

This is where the real sportspeople convene. It's the harmonic convergence of anglers, hunters and general lovers of the outdoors. This is the place to talk to experienced guides, dealer reps, shop owners and club members from other clubs throughout the country who share an equal interest in our sport. Cast rods, watch tying demonstrations, check out the latest gear, and when you need a rest, check out the plush velour seats offered by one of the many massive recreation vehicles on display.

Copies of the final sign-up sheet will be available at the January general meeting for those who signed up to represent the club at the GBF booth. There will be an instruction sheet in the booth for cash handling and other matters. The “pass” to get into the show will consist either: 1) the badge which is worn at the booth (only); or 2) a regular show pass for each person who has volunteered to help. Those who have signed up will have their names on a list at the “will call” ticket booth at the main gate; they can pick up a badge (or a pass, as the case may be) there.

If Expo management chooses to use badges, there will be only six (or so) badges. **Those working in the booth need to return the badge to will call, so the next team can get in. Please cooperate in this regard.** If they use show passes instead of badges, the situation will be a lot easier. Don't miss this event! Call Bill Carnazzo at 663-2604 for more information.



## Youth Fly Tying Classes with Ron and Jeanne English

January 19, 26, February 2, 9



There are very few feelings better than the one produced when you catch a fish on a fly that *you* produced. And for a child to catch a fish on his or her self-created fly, it's nothing short of magical. Introduce your child to the art of fly tying and watch him/her recreate that magic on the stream for years to come!

**Ron and Jeanne English will lead four consecutive Friday night tying sessions--6:30 to 8:30--for youth between the ages of 10 and 17, beginning January 19.** They will teach basic concepts, providing new tyers with the fundamentals required to advance. **The cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for non-members, and this nominal fee includes the use of all tools and materials.**

Don't miss this opportunity to introduce your child to the art of tying! Ron and Jeanne have taught young tyers (including their own) for years and are always delighted to see these kids progress. This class will be announced at the January general meeting and a sign-up sheet sent around. Spaces are limited! **You can sign your child up early by calling the Englishs' in advance at (530) 677-7169.**

## Intermediate Bass Fly Tying: 2 Classes!

with Pete Peterson

February 5, 12, 19, 26 / March 5, 12, 19, 26

Pete is a bass fishing maniac who loves to tie innovative bass patterns for a variety of situations. In each of these classes you will learn to tie such classics as the Clouser Minnow and the Blanton's Punch and create some more obscure, yet as effective, flies such as the Sheep Shad, the Hair Jig, Bonker and the Whistler.

No fly will be tied twice! In the second class, Pete will instruct to tie an entirely different group of flies! And this class is not for beginners. "I will not be teaching the basics," says Peterson, "but I won't be spinning deer hair either." When you have finished a class (which consists of four sessions) you will have tied numerous flies and learned several valuable tying skills--some geared specifically toward bass tying.

Pete does ask that you bring your own tying vice and head cement. All other materials are provided. **Each class costs \$25 will run from 6:30-9:30pm. Payment will be required at sign up. For more information, call Pete at (916) 786-9133.**

**Editor's note: Six members is the maximum that Pete can instruct--and provide close attention to--at the tying table. I have heard that only five spaces remain in each class.**

## NCCFFF Conservation Update

by Rob Ferroggiaro

### Upper Sac Wild Trout Designation

The *California Fish and Game Commission* recently designated 28 miles of the Upper Sacramento River as "wild trout" and "catch and release" water. These designations now apply to 74 percent of the Upper Sacramento River. Two sections will be designated: from Box Canyon Dam down to Scarlett Way and from the county bridge at Sweetbriar down to Lake Shasta. The council was actively involved in the development of the management plan for the Upper Sac, and in November we sent a letter to the commission urging wild trout and catch and release designations for the Upper Sac.

The wild trout designation precludes the stocking of fish in the future. The catch and release designation means that fishing regulations can permit a maximum kill limit of two fish. Current regulations prohibiting the taking of fish in these river reaches remains in effect through 2001. Regulations for 2002-2003 will be developed next year. Based on the management plan, the section would remain 0 kill, and the lower section could have up to a two fish limit. Gear will be restricted to artificial lures in any case.

### Lower Yuba River Decision

It has been 12 years since a coalition of groups led by the *California Sportfishing Protection Alliance* filed a complaint with the *State Water Resources Control Board* insisting that action be taken to increase flows and better manage diversions to protect fish on the Lower Yuba River. A decision favorable to the fish was recommended to the board, but this was stifled under the Wilson administration. River advocates including *South Yuba River Citizens League*, used the legal process to obtain a copy and bring it to light. In December the board held a public meeting prior to making a decision on the future of the river. The room was packed with water users protesting the proposed decision. Fortunately fish advocates including CSPA, SYRCL, *Friends of the River*, *Cal Trout* and NCCFFF presented statements urging the board to stay the course and to acknowledge the its responsibility.

Due to the large number of people wishing to speak, a second public meeting will take place during the day Sunday, February 18. We are told the Board will take action at this meeting. If you can go, let me know, and we'll fill you in on the details.

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## Fish Outs

### **The Yuba River: Home-Field Advantage with Arno Dietzler**

**January 28**

Arno Dietzler, Fishmaster, will lead members to victory above the Hwy. 20 bridge on this Steelhead Sunday. Arno's got home-field advantage. He fishes the Yuba quite a bit and frequently has success. Now, ideally, *everyone else* will be watching the "big game" (you know, football) while our club has the whole river to itself! That's the hope anyway. There are plenty of fish along this stretch of river to keep your mind off the game and in the water. My guess is that the only football talk you'll hear will be in reference to the "football" size of the fish brought to the shore!

Chances are good, says Arno, that the Golden Stones (nymphs) will be chosen on the first round draft pick of flies to match the formidable steelhead teeming along the Yuba. Other popular players for this time of season are various rubberleg-type flies (some black, some light with flash), Prince Nymphs, Hare's Ears, etc. Shooting-head lines are recommended; you've got to be on the bottom this time of year. **Talk to Arno at the January general meeting for more details or give him a call (916) 483-8711.**

*Below: Arno releasing a nice trout on the Merced.*

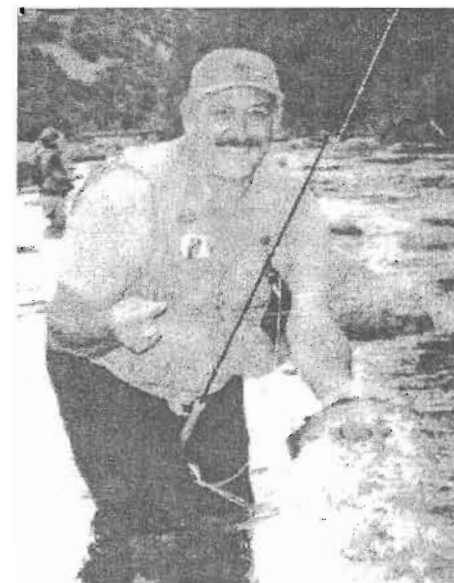
#### **Arno Dietzler Licensed Guide**

A few of the rivers and lakes Arno is  
equipped to guide...

- \* The Merced
- \* The Sacramento
- \* The Yuba
- \* New Melones Lake
- \* Oroville Lake

*Give Arno a Call and...  
hook up!*

(916) 483-8711  
[deitzler@csus.edu](mailto:deitzler@csus.edu)



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*Just wanted to thank you for your business; a full service shop like ours thrives only with your support. We're genuinely pleased to serve your every fly fishing need.*

*Jeremy Gray*

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- ♦ Wading packages for just \$139 with breathable waders and felt soled wading boots
- ♦ Beginning fly fishing classes just \$85 for 8 hours of instruction
- ♦ Fly tying classes just \$85 for four two hour sessions
- ♦ Rod building classes just \$85 for four two hour sessions
- ♦ Drift the Yuba river for steelhead and rainbows for 2 people just \$200 for a half-day
- ♦ Vests starting at \$29, reels at \$29, rods at \$99
- ♦ breathable waders at \$99, wading staffs at \$20, plus hundreds of stocking stuffers-including a huge selection of books
- ♦ Beginning fly tying kits starting at \$59
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- ♦ All neoprene waders are 20% off

*We have gift certificates for any dollar amount as well! Call and we will send out your gift certificate today!*

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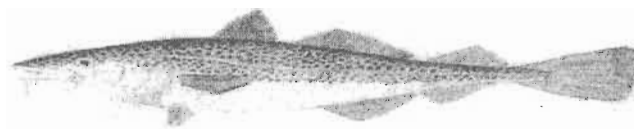
Parking under the bridge is pretty safe as there are usually several cars there and it is frequented by anglers almost daily. There is a place to park on the east side of the bridge, but people have experienced problems caused by one of the property owners that believes all those people parking there must be crossing his property illegally to access the river. I have been told that Cal-Trans has an easement directly under the bridge, but this doesn't create a free pass to cross private property wherever and whenever people want. Your best bet is to park on the west side of the bridge.

There has also been much debate regarding private property along the river banks. My understanding has always been that if a river was navigable at the time the state of California was admitted to the union, that it is considered a public waterway between the high-water marks. Several of the property owners disagree with that and caution should always be exercised when dealing with the local property owners.

If you continue west past the parks bar bridge for several miles you will come to the blue nose-cone (yes a real nose-cone from a plane) that has been set-up as a bus stop. The first left west of the blue nose-cone is the entrance to Hammond Grove Park. There is free parking and access to the river.

The final access point just west of Hammond Grove, is Sycamore Ranch Campground. Sycamore Ranch is actually a private campground, but they will allow angler to park there for a \$5 fee. It is possible to drift the yuba from the bridge down to Sycamore Grove in a canoe or raft, but putting in a drift boat or pram involves carrying the boat down a very narrow and steep bank.

I have recently heard rumors that UC Davis, who runs a field station about 1 1/2 miles above the bridge is considering opening their property for access once a month on a lottery basis starting this Spring with DFG providing the supervision. These are only rumors and I will follow-up with more information as it becomes available. Meanwhile, enjoy fishing on the Lower Yuba and be safe.





# Things to Know When Fishing the Lower Yuba

by Jeremy Gray

Be aware that February brings out the march browns, two's; some brown drakes will also come off as spring arrives. Caddis become the primary menu item once the days begin to warm. And, the Yuba is a great fishery for swinging soft hackles; the rainbows start spawning in spring and you will pick up some really brightly colored fish on the swing.

The Lower Yuba offers year round fishing, but it is subject to special regulations that have been established to protect this wild fishery. Upstream from the highway 20 bridge to Englebright Dam is closed to all fishing from October 1 through November 30 to allow the salmon to spawn. Upstream of the bridge is always artificials only with single barbless hooks. Between the bridge and the Daguerre Diversion Dam is open year-round but is limited to artificials only with single barbless hooks from January 1 to September 30 and is limited to single barbless hooks from September 30 through December 31.

No salmon, trout, or steelhead may be taken on the Lower Yuba above the Daguerre Diversion Dam to Englebright Dam at anytime. If you see someone taking fish call Cal-Tip at 1-888-DFG-CALTIP and write down their license plate number if you can get it. The regulations specify that you may take one hatchery trout or steelhead, but this river has not been stocked in many, many years and the extremely rare case of a feather river steelhead getting lost or a Collins or Englebright Reservoir trout getting over a dam is so rare as to be improbable. Poaching is a big problem on the Lower Yuba and you can make a difference by reporting it.

The biggest problem with the Lower Yuba has always been access. Most of the property along the Lower Yuba is private property, but there are still public access points and more may soon be available. Access on the lower Yuba is currently available at only three places, the highway 20 bridge (Parks Bar), Hammond Grove Park and Sycamore Ranch Campground. The highway 20 bridge is located about halfway between Grass Valley and Marysville on Highway 20. From the Bay Area, take Interstate 80 east through Sacramento to Auburn, then north on highway 49 to Grass Valley, and finally west on highway 20 until you cross over the Yuba river. A left on Parks Bar road will bring you under the bridge.

*continued next page*

## FLYTYING SKILLS PROGRAM

*Sponsored by American Fly Fishing Company*

*Pattern for January Program: Peacock Dragon  
(featured in the December 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 for December:**

Beginner: **Ed Fritz**

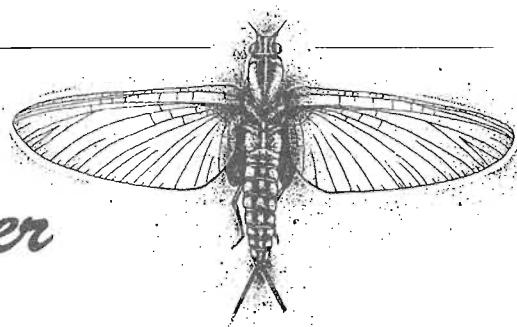
Non-beginner: **Bill Avery and Jeanne English**

***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



## Micro-Mayfly

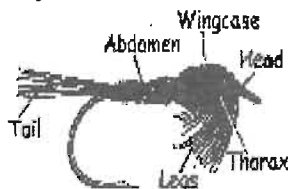
Here is a simple pattern to use for virtually any small mayfly nymph imitation. It works well when used in a tandem rig as a dropper fly, or as a point fly with another tiny creature such as a Brassie. Another option is to drift it on a fine leader under a dry fly such as a Humpy, which can serve double duty as an indicator. As I recall, the pattern is attributed to Mike Mercer. I have used it successfully on both freestone streams and spring creeks.

### Materials

Hook	TMC 2457, # 16-18 or equivalent
Bead	Small copper bead
Thread	Chartreuse 6/0 or 8/0
Tail	Olive Pheasant Tail, 3 fibers, splayed
Abdomen	Olive stripped peacock herl quill
Rib	Fine gold wire
Wingcase	Pearl Flashabou over speckled turkey
Thorax	Olive superfine dubbing
Legs	Olive Pheasant Tail
Collar	Olive superfine dubbing

### Instructions

1. Put copper bead on hook; build up thread dam behind bead to hold it in place.
2. Move thread to rear of hook, and tie in 3 PT fibers; they should be splayed out, one on each side.



3. Tie in gold wire ribbing and the herl quill at the same point, and move thread forward, covering shank with thin layer.
4. Wind the herl quill, tie off and then rib with wire in opposite direction. You should end up at around the front 1/3 point on the hook.
5. Tie in a 1/8" strip of Pearl Flashabou, with the long end facing to rear; now tie in a 1/8" strip of speckled turkey, shiny side down, facing to rear also.
6. Dub a small thorax, and then apply PT legs, 3 to a side, no longer in length than the point of the hook.
7. Pull the turkey wingcase over and tie off behind bead; repeat with the Flashabou.
8. Dub a tiny collar of the olive dubbing, whip finish, and add a drop of superglue. Although I am not a glue fan, the combination of the bead and the crowded situation behind the bead will otherwise tend to cause the thread to unravel.

So, if your aching eyes will permit, tie one of these little gems on and.... See ya on the creek!

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