

The Leader

Voice of

GRANITE BAY
Flycasters

Since 1986



AUGUST

Visit us at: <http://www.gbflycaster.org>

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 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 Denny Welch at (530) 889-8562.

The doors open between 6:30 and 7 p.m. 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 Jeremy Gray at (916) 797-3312

AUGUST

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

4	5	6	7	1 conservation Committee Mtg.	2	3
11	12	13	14	8 General Mtg. 7-10:30 P.M.	9	10
18 Fishout Merced River	19	20 Fly Tying Jam	21	15 Board Mtg. 7-9:30 P.M.	16 Fishout Merced River	17 Fishout Merced River
25	26	27	28	22	23	24
				29	30	31

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President's Message

By Denny Welch

Do the numbers 25-400-0 mean anything to you? Well, let me explain. There were about 25 GBF members who attended the fishout at Fuller Lake on July 20th. There were at least 400 fish caught between us and there were 0 complaints. The fish truck dropped off a bunch of fish the day before and they all stayed put until we got there. The fish didn't have much size (14" - 15" was big...11" - 12" was average) and they had as much color as a paper towel. What they lacked in size and color they more than made up for in sheer numbers. Can you imagine 25 float tubes, belly boats, pontoons and fat cats all bumping into one another...25 fly lines all flailing at the same time in different directions....25 bent rods and 25 suppressed giggles from people not used to giggling. What an utterly fantastic day.

There was another four day fishout a couple weeks ago at the Circle 7 Resort on the Fall River. It wasn't really a GBF sponsored event, but only GBF members were invited to attend. The Fall River is one of those blue ribbon spring creeks we always hear and read about. It's located about 15 miles from Burney and is within spittin' distance of the Pit River, Hat Creek and the Upper Sac. We fished from boats for 3 days, caught some trophy fish, ate some good food (Dick Gaspari's pork tenderloin was unbelievably good and Gary Flanagan's banana pancakes were dynamite...or so I'm told). We tied some flies, told some lies and had a great time.

Some of our members have been fishing the hex hatch on Lake Natoma...that's right...LAKE NATOMA. I don't think I've fished there since I was a kid. Anyhow, fish to 16" were taken...ask Jim Hunter. August also brings us to the

(Continued on page 2)

 The Leader

So You Want to Create a Home Grown Club Program
by Ron Rabun, GBFF member

Well this month program chairman, Ron English and family, is fishing the Amazon River. Therefore, he approached a Ron Rabun and Bill Carnazzo for a program. As an alternative, Ron proposed the presentation of a program prepared by the Fly Fishers of Davis as their own home grown program presented at their annual dinner last February.

The August program will look at a different approach to a Annual or a home grown program. As a GBF member, Ron has provided programs and clinics for the club. This month Ron will provide a different look at programs as a result as the program chairman and newsletter editor for the Fly Fishers of Davis.

This is just one example what club members can do to prepare your own program. The program is an electronic slide show presentation presented solely with music and very limited commentary. The program consists of over 140 member submitted slides in various categories of interest. The complete program lasts less than 20 minutes and is very entertaining. Although, this program was a FFD creation, all fly fishers can appreciate the fishing, big fish, scenery and humorous photos contained in the presentation.

Hopefully, this program will provide some ideas and opportunity for GBFF to create our own 'home grown' program presentation.

 KINGS RIVER CADDIS

In May 2002 the folks in the Kaweah Flyfishers of Visalia, California started a series of newsletter articles about the late Wayne "Buz" Buszek and his innovative fly patterns. They permitted me to quote liberally from the articles by Gene Methias and Clarence Butzbach and even supplied the pictured fly, tied by Clarence and photographed by Chuck Wilcox.

Buz's contributions to fly tying are remembered in the Federation of Fly Fishers' annual Buz Buszek Memorial Award. It is given to that amateur or professional fly tier who demonstrates outstanding skill, creativity or innovation, and sharing knowledge by teaching or publication. It is truly a prestigious award. Since 1970 an amazing group of individuals have received it for their significant contributions to the art of fly tying.

One of Buz's many contributions is the Kings River Caddis. Please note there is no apostrophe in Kings, unlike many references that erroneously use one. In the 50's Buz developed this pattern, and in his words (from Methias' article): "Several seasons ago a population of large rainbows appeared below the new dam on the Kings River. They were heavily fished and soon began refusing every offering. Caddisflies were common on the river, hatching in droves late in the evening. I worked out this pattern to match the hatch and it proved, and still is successful."

Besides solving a problem, he did several things that were different at that time. He tied the brown turkey wing by its tip rather than thicker section near the shaft. This way the wing did not split apart or flare. The wing was tied long and trimmed later to match the streamside caddis. He undersized the hackle about one hook size so the fly sat low on the water like real caddis, and the wing stayed parallel to the water surface. This was in the days of Indian gamecock hackle, and he preferred the "red game" color.

The Kings River Caddis was successful locally, and soon its fame spread to other parts of the world. In part Buz spread the word nationally through his catalog. Orvis put it their catalog and many fly-book authors listed it. All of this gave it international exposure.

As for fishing technique, let the caddis tell you how to do it. Use a floating line and dead drift if the fish are taking caddis that are floating along. If the fish are going after moving caddis, jiggle your fly a little. However, I haven't figured out how to imitate caddis that spin around in circles before they are recycled into trout.

A description of how to tie the Kings River Caddis can be found on the FFF website at <<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>>.

What I Know About Fishing

FishingŠ what do I know about fishing? Someone once said that catching fish is the least important thing about fishing. I know this to be true. Fishing is really about knowing that your best friend, or perhaps your mate is just a few yards upstream, enjoying the river with you. It's about stopping at a gas station on your way to the river to pick up candy bars for an afternoon snack. It's about early mornings and mist, and late evenings and clouds of mayflies. It's about water so cold you have to get out of the stream to warm your feet in the sun.

Fishing is about poetry, the poetry of the cast. The line may have been made in a factory, the cast made by a flyfisher, but the poetry is eternal. The arc of the line goes to the river like a lover to his mate. The two are made one and there is perfection in the union. I once saw a woman play a new cello for the first time. There was palpable sensuousness as she held the instrument to her and together they created music that nourished my soul. She and the cello were lovers. It is this way with the cast. Perhaps though, the lover isn't the line but the angler, reaching home to the river.

If you really try, you can feel eternity there in the river. As you stand there, the water flows around you. Soon, if you wait, it flows through you and becomes your lifeblood for that time. And then time is no more. Day passes into evening and on into night. There is only the river and the darkness and you. Water no longer dries from your wet hand. It's cold, icy cold and pure. But there is also unbelievable warmth to be had in the gloaming. People have called it the velvet darkness. It feels like that. You feel it more than you see it: soft, warm, secure. There are mayflies everywhere, in the air, on the water. They become the light. Somewhere a fish rises. You are homeŠ in the riverŠ in the darknessŠ in the lightŠ in the coldŠ in the warmth.

That's what I know about fishingŠ

(by Ed Estlow of the Minnesota Fly Fishers for the FFF Club-Wire Email Newswire)

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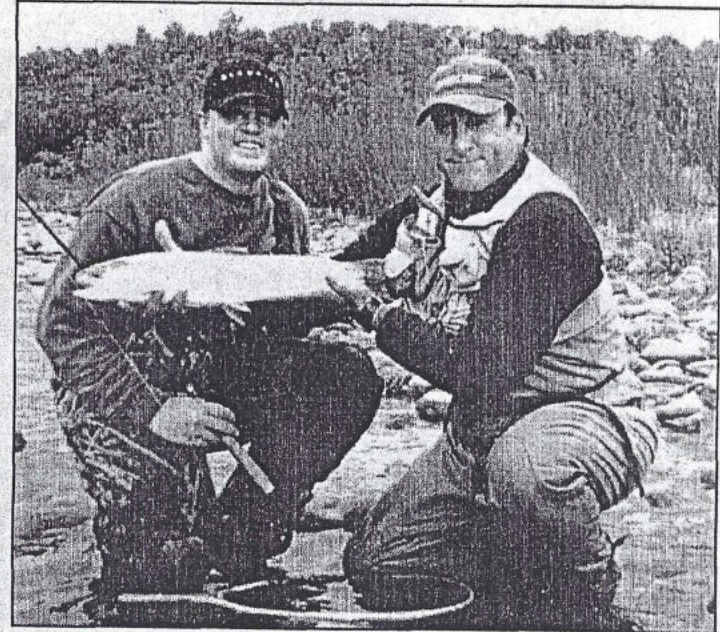
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Ted Williams: A Perfectionist With Rod and Reel

By Pete Thomas
(c) 2002, Los Angeles Times

Ted Williams the baseball player will be remembered for his many remarkable accomplishments: his .344 lifetime batting average, .406 in 1941 his .438 on-base percentage, his 521 homers.

Ted Williams the fisherman posted some pretty impressive numbers as well. How's this for a grand slam: 1,000 Atlantic salmon, 1,000 bonefish and 1,000 tarpon, all caught on a fly rod.

Indeed, Williams' proficiency with a bat was, in many ways, matched by his proficiency with a rod and reel.

"I was host of the 'American Sportsman' TV show for 20 years and got to fish with most of the world's great fishermen, and (Williams) was the best all-around fisherman I ever met," said Curt Gowdy, 80, also a legendary sports broadcaster.

And if Williams, who died recently, was considered a perfectionist on the field, you should have seen him on the water.

Sammy Lee, a Birmingham, Ala., talk-show host, met Williams in 1992 in Florida to tape an interview for his fishing show. It was the beginning of a friendship Lee valued above all others.

Reached recently at his home, he recalled the time Williams invited him to spend a week at his cabin on the Miramichi River in New Brunswick, Canada. Lee, a former pro bass fisherman, had taught Williams a thing or two about how to put a largemouth on the hook, but he was new to fly fishing and thus was in for some schooling he'll never forget.

Williams wouldn't even let Lee on the river the first day; instructing him instead to watch and learn from its bank. Lee gave his full attention to the master, knowing that when his time came, he would be under intense scrutiny.

On the second day, Williams sent Lee wading precariously down river, entrusted with one of Williams' signature fly-casting rigs.

"It was basically my first time free fishing in a river like that, and it was my first time fly fishing," Lee says. "And I have this man critiquing me? Talk about pressure!"

The pressure proved too much. While Lee was trying to negotiate around a large rock, the swift current caught him.

"I go head over heels," he says. "My waders fill up and my feet are sticking straight up in the air. And I remember thinking, 'I don't care if I die, as long as I don't let go of the rod and reel' because this is Williams' rod and reel we're talking about."

When Lee regained his footing, he glanced toward the bank at Williams, who barked, "Why are you looking at me? You can't catch anything looking at me!"

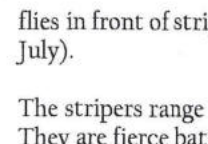


Guided Striper and Shad Floats American River

Dave Howard, Guide

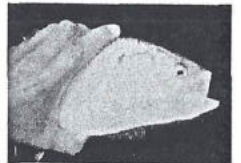


Spend a morning or evening on the river chasing stripers and shad with Dave Howard. Dave has been fishing and guiding the valley rivers for years. He knows where they live! And he knows how to get them!



You'll hit the river either right at dawn, or in the early afternoon and spend 5 or so hours angling. That way you'll be on the water during the low-light times of the day. That's when it's best for stripers. You'll have the opportunity to cast your flies in front of stripers (all year) and shad (May through July).

The stripers range in size from 1 pound to over 50 pounds! They are fierce battlers, and aggressively chase flies. They are no dummies, however, so catching the big ones isn't always a snap



Shad, in contrast, are frequently easy to catch. They don't grow as big as stripers—the biggest are 6 or so pounds—but they fight really hard and are far more numerous. In a morning or afternoon session an angler can catch more than 20 of the rascals!

\$95 per person, 2 person minimum, or \$190 for the boat, (if you want to catch all the fish yourself.)



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Pattern for August Program:
(featured in the July Leader)

Don't be shy submit a fly! Ask for a critique from a more experienced tier; it will ultimately increase your chances at catching fish and winning certificates to help support your habit.

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

Beginner: \$15 Gift Certificate

Non-beginner: \$25 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.

July **Winners:**

Experienced: **No Entry**

Drawing for \$25 Gift Certificate

Beginner: Jeroen Smit 15\$ Gift Certiicate

Program rules:

- * judging will be during the meeting
- * best tied fly announced 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.

Weight Lead or substitute (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cover hook with thread and wrap weight; if using lead, gauge it to the size of the hook (i.e., smaller hook = finer lead wire). 5 to 6 wraps should suffice. Note: weight is optional; some flyfishers believe that weight "kills the action of the fly." You be the judge.
2. Take a supple stemmed brown hackle and strip the barbules from it, leaving only the brown stem. Tie in the tip (thinner) end of the stem just above the back of the barb of the hook. Leave it there for now.
3. Dub a nice thin body of bright green antron dubbing, leaving the front 1/4 of the hook for the thorax.
4. Rib the body with the brown hackle stem, and tie off the rib material at the same spot where the body ended.
5. Dub on a sparse looking thorax covering most of the remaining 1/4 of the hook.
6. Turn the fly over in the vise, and tie on a sparse "beard" style hackle, which should be no longer than sufficient to fall just short of the point of the hook.
7. Whip finish and put this creature into the drift. (Hint: try fishing it in a two or three fly rig, and add or subtract weight to compensate for depth and flow conditions).

See ya on the creek!!!

Flytier's Corner

BY
BILL CARNAZZO
 August, 2002
"LaFontaine's Caddis Larva"

We recently lost Gary LaFontaine, who was a superb author and creative fly tyer. His book on Caddis insects and patterns and his video tape on the subject are authoritative. Gary's sense of humor, and his common sense approach will be sorely missed.

We have all seen, when turning rocks over in a stream bed, the little green wormlike creatures squirming around. Many of these are un-cased caddis larvae. This month's featured fly is a good, simple imitation of that insect, which at certain times gets "into the drift". Trout will key on them during these periods, and unless the angler realizes what's going on, it can be very frustrating. One way to get "one up" is to hold your seine net in the current; if you accumulate a bunch of these in the net, change to a fly that imitates a drifting "rockworm."

MATERIALS

Hook	Tiemco 200; Daiichi 1260; or equivalent, #10-16
Thread	Black 6/0 or 8/0
Rib	Stripped brown hackle stem
Body	Bright green antron dubbing
Thorax	Brown antron dubbing
Legs	Brown grouse or partridge hackle fibers

STEALTH FLY FISHING

Stealth Fly-Fishing can be summed up with an old saying "Walk softly and carry a Big Stick". Before you head out to your favorite stream; take a good look at your equipment. When you stalk the trout you will use most of your senses: sight, sound, touch, smell, and intuition. Since Fly-Fishing is not a static sport you must also consider the dynamics of the environment you occupy.

SIGHT:

Your sight can be improved with a good pair of Polarized Sunglasses and a pair of side blockers. Wear a wide brim hat to prevent direct sunlight into your eyes. With your sunglasses on standing in the middle of a stream and looking directly up stream you will not see fish very clearly. However, walk over to the side of the stream and look perpendicular to the water flow. Your vision into the water will improve significantly. Look for spider webs with insects for clues to the most recent hatches.

SOUND:

Now stand on the side of the stream with your eyes closed and listen to the sound of the water. If you are beside a slow running pool you may only hear the sound of a rising trout. False cast your fly a few times over the water and listen to the sound your line makes. Now cast upstream and listen for the sound of your line hitting the water. Did it make a crashing sound? Open your eyes and take two steps toward the center of the stream. Look at the waves your legs made and watch how far those waves travel into the pool! Sound waves also travel far into the pool. What types of boots do you wear? Are the soles of your boots, rubber, felt, felt with metal cleats, or chain slips overs? I recommend the new sticky rubber soles. Did your steps make any noise on the bottom of the stream?

While walking up stream try to avoid the slow pools, try to walk around as not to spook these fish. Trout do not hear sound they feel it through vibrations. When you walk on top of a bank the trout below can also feel those vibrations.

TOUCH:

When you stalk Wild Trout you will need to know the environment that Trout live in. Touch the water with your fingers. Is it cold or warm? Better yet take the temperature. Touch the bottom with your hand. Is it muddy, sandy, or gravel? Turn over a few rocks to determine the food supply. Many items are time of year dependent!

SMELL:

Take a slow deep breath and try to smell the clean air around you. Do you smell the fresh air after a rain shower, the Cedar, the Wild Azaleas?

INTUITION:

Now that you have your physical senses in order, it is time to use your intuition. Think back a year or more when you were fishing this same spot or one just like it. Are the conditions the same? Use some form of record keeping like a streamside dairy. Sitting along the streamside and watching Trout rise will give you an indication of what and how they are feeding.

Look for fish in their feeding stations. Trout normally feed up stream or on the side of a rock. They

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do this because it uses less energy and food will flow to them. The aquatic food drifts past their feeding station and the trout move up or down, left or right. Cast up stream and let the fly drift to the fish. Since the trout will be looking upstream they will not see you if you are behind them. If you are to the side of the fish make sure that you do not cast a shadow on their position. Also consider how you are casting; too many false casts will spook all the fish.

Stalk Trout in the stealth mode and watch your catch rate improve.

(Copyright 2002 Rich Lobrovich of the Tracy Fly Fishers of California for the FFF Club-Wire Email Newswire.)

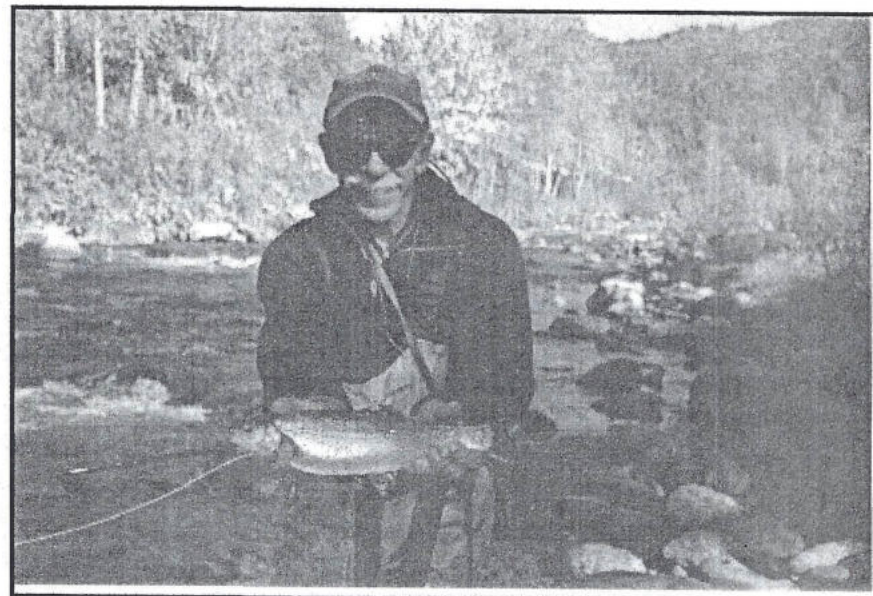
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