

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Mike Howes and his first Steelhead catch in Del Loma on the Trinity River.

December 2003



Visit our website: <http://www.gbflycasters.org>

December 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1.	2.	3.	4. Conservation Committee meeting	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.	10.	11. General meeting: 7 pm Pot Luck' contact: Minique Medina 916.353.7992	12.	13. Swap meet/ Chili cook-off 9am - 1 pm
14.	15.	16. Fly Tying Jam	17.	18. Board meeting 7pm-9	19.	20.
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
28.	29.	30.	31.			

President's Message

G a r y F l a n a g a n

It's Monday morning and this is the first time I have been dry and warm since last Thursday. You see, I attended our annual fishout on the Upper Sacramento River in Dunsmuir. Fishing was fantastic on Thursday and Friday. There was a great Blue-Wing Olive Hatch on Friday but the rain finally blew out the river by Saturday morning and fishing got tricky. Thank you Ron Rabun for letting us stay dry under the little gazebo during the short-line clinic. Some of us fished the McCloud with only limited success. The drive home was dicey with flood warnings, funnel clouds forming and one-inch hail pelting the cars. Through all that, Jim Bitcon and I still managed to fish the Posse Grounds on the Lower Sac on Sunday afternoon. Winter is definitely here and I am enjoying it. I love the smell of wet Steelhead in the morning.

I had promised myself that I was going to get busy and finish this message early so it I wouldn't feel guilty while I was off chasing all the little fishies on the Upper Sac., but here it is five days before the deadline and I am just getting starting.

Granite Bay Flycasters Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off is coming up on Saturday Morning, December 13th at the Clubhouse. Make it a point to attend. I always look forward to finding deals on flyfishing equipment and selling stuff I no longer need. Not only will individual members have items for sale, but some of our local fly shops have committed to be at our clubhouse with special deals on merchandise.

We need you to put on your cook's hat and apron. If you have secret

family chili recipe or a can opener, bring a batch and enter it for everyone to try. Everyone gets to taste the different entries and vote for their favorite dish.



I was looking at back issues of the Leader last night. Where did the year go? I guess it is true that time flies when you are having fun. I was very proud and pleased at what Granite Bay Flycasters has accomplished as a Club in 2003. The Fishouts were too numerous to list. The President's Picnic and One-fly Contest was truly awesome. We definitely earned the FFF Conservation Award for all the projects we were involved with. The Monthly meeting boasted some wonderful and informative speakers. Our Leader Newsletter and the GBF Website have never been better and I can't say enough good things about the Salmon Festival in which we added casting demonstrations, lessons and a membership booth. Volunteers and participation by Club members are what make Granite Bay Flycasters such a good club!

We made a lot of new friends this year but sadly, we had to say goodbye to some old ones.

Rest in peace Greg and Dave. Both of you will be sorely missed. I believe Heaven wouldn't be complete without a place to wet a line, so I trust you guys are keeping your lines tight and your feet dry. Save a few for the rest of us.

“Red Fox Squirrel”



Red Fox Squirrel

This pattern was created about 40 years ago by Dave Whitlock, one of the most respected and talented people in our sport. It was actually his first nymph pattern, and still remains his favorite. I favor fur-bodied nymphs; Dave does also. This pattern is the quintessential fur-bodied nymph. I've even used it to imitate the emerging October Caddis pupa.

Tied in smaller sizes, it can imitate any light-colored mayfly nymph, caddis emerger, or even a little yellow stonefly nymph. You will need to locate some red fox squirrel fur—on or off the skin. The pattern that follows is an “improved” version (although some would debate that claim) tied by Randall Kaufmann.

I N S T R U C T I O N S

1. Wind lead onto bare hook at thorax area (first 1/3 of the hook shank), and cover shank with thread, building a shoulder in front of and in back of the lead. Stay back from the eye a distance equal to at least 1/6 of the hook shank.

2. Trim a small clump of fibers from the center of a hare's mask and pull out the under fur.

You should have a remaining clump of “hair” consisting of the guard hairs. If you've done this right, you will have a clump that is dark with light tips.

3. Tie in the guard hairs as a tail just above the back of the barb (which you have by now smashed). The tail should be no longer than 1/3 of the shank length.

4. Tie in the oval tinsel at the same point as you tied in the tail. Dub a nice, tapered body of the squirrel fur forward, forming an

See 'Red Fox' page 5

MATERIALS

- Hook:** Tiemco 5262 or 5263, sizes 14-6
- Thread:** Black 6/0
- Tail:** Hare's mask guard hairs
- Rib:** Fine gold oval tinsel
- Abdomen:** Red fox squirrel body fur, blended with like color antron dubbing
- Thorax:** Red fox squirrel body fur, blended with charcoal and brown antron dubbing.
- Legs:** Mottled brown hen hackle, or grouse, tied full.

tying the Red Fox Squirrel

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abdomen that occupies about 60% of the hook shank.

5. Wrap the rib through the abdomen and tie it off at the forward end of the abdomen.

6. Dub the thorax, which should be nearly twice the diameter of the abdomen. Leave a good-sized space between the thorax and the eye.

7. Remove the fuzz from the base of the feather and sweep all of the fibers except for the very tip down toward the base. Tie the hackle in by the tip, with the concave (dull) side facing to the rear.

8. Begin wrapping the feather around the hook, stroking all of the fibers rearward after each turn of the feather, with each successive wrap in front of the previous one. Four wraps, if possible, is best.

9. Tie off the stem and form a nice

head, sweeping back the hackle fibers if necessary. Here is where the benefit of staying back from the eye of the hook during prior tying operations will pay dividends.

Fish this gem as a pupa just exiting from its case, or as an emerger. In smaller sizes, it can be fished as a mayfly nymph, or as a little yellow stonefly nymph.

See ya on the creek!!!

Monthly Fly Tying Winners for: November

Beginners:
No Entries

Non-Beginners

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company:

Alex Giannini

Denny Welch Attorney at Law

114 N. Sunrise Avenue,
Suite B-2
Roseville, CA 95661

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Don't be shy, submit a fly **Fly Tying Skills Program**

Sponsored by American Fly Fishing Company

Beginner: \$15 gift certificate

Non-beginner: \$25 gift certificate

Tie this month's fly and bring it to next month's general meeting to be eligible for gift certificates donated by American Fly Fishing Company.

Get input and critiques from experienced tiers. This will help you improve your skills and help increase your chances of catching fish.

Rules:

- Judging takes place during the general meeting.
- Winning flies are those that best match the specific pattern recipe published. No other pattern is accepted.
- Non-beginner category winner will be drawn from among entries in that category.
- Beginners will be moved to non-beginner category after winning their category twice.

One Person, One Boot, One Snail



They're not as big as a rail car, or as vicious as the Northern Pike, but a 5mm long newcomer to Northern California has the potential to severely impact a cold-water fishery – forever.

It can happen as easily as when an unsuspecting fly caster, who we'll call John, enters Putah Creek on a cool October morning. (He is visiting his brother who lives in Sacramento and has always wanted to fish Putah.) As he slogs through a bed of waterweed, he dislodges thousands of pepper-flake size baby New Zealand Mud Snails and hundreds of their mothers (There are no males in this group). The babies are already pregnant and will eventually bear thousands more if left in Putah. As the fisher throws his pheasant-tail nymph into the feeding channel, the currents move the snails and several lodge behind his bootlaces. As he wades to the upstream riffles, he moves some rocks that dislodge a few thousand more snails. Several get caught in the groove between his left shoe and the felt bottom. He's loaded with snails that have closed their "front door" (operculum) and are ready to travel.

After a very successful morning in Putah landing eight rainbows, John and his brother remove their fishing gear and John faithfully places

his wading boots, complete with BB sized snails, in a water-proof boot bag. If he leaves Putah Creek within the hour, he can drive to the Upper Sacramento and fish the Cantera stretch before sunset. He calls ahead to book a room at the Tree House Best Western in Mt. Shasta. What a day! John can fish the morning hatch in Putah Creek then the October caddis hatch in the Upper Sacramento. Life is good!

He makes it to the Upper Sac with plenty of time to don his gear and head for the river. In his haste, his laces weren't properly tied and he felt some grit in one of his boots. Sitting on a rock next to

BY: KEN DAVIS

AQUATIC BIOLOGIST

the river, he removes his boot and washes off some of the grit (actually snails) into the river. The Upper Sacramento unwillingly receives a population of the New Zealand Mud Snails. Unfortunately, there is one live adult snail left in his boot for his short visit to the McCloud River the next day before he continues his journey home toward Portland. That's enough. She's ready to liberate 20-30 young live snails within days.

- What just occurred? The transferring of a few New Zealand Mud Snails into another waterway will result in thousands of mud snails hatching and thriving in these fisheries.

- Why the concern? Well, the mud snails consume the algae that are the basic food source for the mayfly. In turn the mayfly population diminishes dramatically and

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Mud Snail in Putah Creek

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from there the trout population declines exponentially.

That same scenario could easily happen to a biologist like me who might not sterilize his invertebrate net between rivers or a kayaker who gets snails caught in her sandals and moves to other waters. For me, the thought of watching a river die is downright painful. Some might see a river as water, to the biologist, rivers are functioning communities that have a sound of their own. I've seen too many sterile streams such as Shoemaker, Dolly, and Spring creeks which all drain abandoned mines in Northern California. They're yellow, and green, and orange and look like the surface of some distant planet. I was on the Upper Sacramento the day after the 1991 Cantera spill, covering the

wreck for a magazine agency. Water hyacinth has been my enemy for several years as our team is working to keep it out of Lake Natoma and the lower American River. No more dead creeks please!

Back to the New Zealand Mud snails and their non-snail-like march through the West. Some may say: "Hey, don't panic: we don't know what impact the snails will have on trout populations in California." I say Phooey! We have a developing history of the snails in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. We know the following about the New Zealand Mud Snails:

- They are spreading rather rapidly from state to state.
- They appear to live very well in the very best fly fishing areas.
- In some areas of Montana snail

See 'Mud Snail' page 8

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On our staff, Dave Sloan is the inventor of "Sloan's Paralyzer" and "The Mighty Mite" manufactured and distributed by Umpqua.

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New Zealand Mud Snail

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populations reach 900,000 snails per sq. meter.

- They eliminate mayfly populations by eating algae normally taken by mayfly nymphs.

- They do not need males to reproduce.

- They can stay alive out of water, in moist situations for several weeks.

- They have no natural enemies in California

Now, you be the judge. Are we concerned about hurting the snails' feelings by stating that they destructive and have the capacity to destroy a river forever: Just imagine your favorite river dominated by a growing population of mud snails and—starving trout.

Education

Because there is no effective and acceptable treatment to kill the snails once they are in a river we only have one choice left: education. Even then, conservation education is only effective when you have compliance and a targeted behavior change. Changing your own behavior is not easy and complicated by a multitude of factors such as traveling, fatigue, and the “it’s-not-in-my-backyard” mentality. We dealt with all of those this year while on an invertebrate collecting trip to Montana and Wyoming. There are a multitude of potential treatments to kill NZMS on equipment but when you’re traveling between waterways, the treatments can become a pain. After a long day on the river, it’s easy to say, “I’m too tired to clean my equipment” and rationalize that there are no snails on your boots anyway.

The good news is that I’ve never

witnessed such a dramatic change in behavior as with the discovery of NZMS in Putah Creek. I’ve talked to a guide who regularly fishes Putah who bought new gear for a trip to the McCloud and the Pit River. I get daily questions, responses, and suggestions to my website about the accepted way to treat equipment. The responses appear honest, show concern about protecting a resource we value, and seem doable. The response from California Trout and Granite Bay FlyCasters was immediate and highly supportive. No flip-flops or waffling, just get a poster completed and posted along Putah Creek.

Questions via email as posted on my website:

1. How do you think the snails go into Putah Creek? I believe that it is painfully obvious that the snails probably got here on the equipment of a fly caster. We have no proof, but lots of clues. Fly fishing magazines feature destination oriented articles such as “Fishing the Big Hole” and “Nymphing on the McCloud.” We take fly fishing road trips and fish a variety of waterways in a few days. The results of those multi-river-per-day trips can be catastrophic to the aquatic life we adore. Gary Flanagan, President of the Granite Bay FlyCasters; responded quickly after notification of the snails in Putah. He suggested, and I agree, that it is now prudent for all of us to clean our boots before leaving every river. In the near future, we need to develop and adopt a routine treatment for our equipment.

2. Is the effort hopeless? Will the snails relocate to other rivers? Dave Richards, the University of

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Mud Snail

from page 8

Montana researcher who is working on the snail problem, says "No! It is not hopeless." The snails have one weakness; they do not have a dormant stage. And, they are susceptible to freezing. Although the snails seem to do very well in the best fly fishing waters, we simply don't know what they'll do in California. But I don't think we should wait to find out. We have to educate ourselves, others, and change our behavior to slow or hopefully prevent the spread.

3. Do you think that putting up posters along the creek will help? After we posted the posters yesterday, I saw in three separate areas people that were reading the posters. Everyone we talked with was highly receptive to treating their equipment. They just wanted

to know what to do. The U.S Fish & Wildlife Service has produced a business card size "Alert Card" that we can hand out to other fishermen. They are on order.

Treating your equipment

By far, the most important action we can take as individuals and as a group is effectively treating our equipment and sharing that knowledge with other fishers. We know that several treatments are highly effective; providing 100% kill if used properly. They include hot water, freezing, desiccation (dehydration), and household bleach. Realistically, my girlfriend won't tolerate my boots in the freezer or in the bathtub, so here is what I suggest with the knowledge we have as of today.

Hot water: We know that 120

See Mud Snail page 11

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Holiday 'Pot-luck' Dec. 11

With the holidays here and the hustle-n-bustle we all are going through, it's time to relax and have a simple feast.

The December General Meeting will 'Pot Luck' style event: which everyone is requested to bring a dish of some sort or refreshment.

Relax. Have a cookie, and chat about that big one that got away.

You never know what new tricks

you'll find out about during this gathering.

Please contact Monique Medina 353-1992 to arrange what is needed for this event.

When: Dec. 11, 7 pm

Where: GBF Clubhouse

Next Year: Fish Montana

Ever want to go to Montana, but thought you couldn't afford it? Well this is your chance for the deal of the year.

Seven nights on the famous Ruby River with all meals included, for only \$106.25 per night. And this ain't the Cheap 8 Motel either. This is the Broken Arrow Lodge. And you're fishing one of the most awesome fisheries in the region.

Date: July 11 to 18, 2004 and July 18 to 25, 2004

Cost: \$743.75 includes 7 nights lodging and all meals

Where: Broken Arrow Lodge, Alder, Montana

Deposit: \$250.00 to reserve your space.

Not Included: transportation to lodge, fishing license, guided fishing, and gratuities

For more information or to reserve your room for the Ruby River FishOut, call Bill Aaberg @ 773-1897. Reservations will be limited to 10 people per week.

2004 Membership Renewal

As 2003 is winding down, it's time to think about renewing your Club membership for 2004. Those members who avoid the rush and pay their 2004 membership dues this year will be eligible for a special raffle to be held at the December General Meeting.

Membership Dues:

Individual : \$30

Family : \$35

Send to: GBF

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Mud Snail

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degree water for one minute will kill the snails. It's easier for me to throw my boots in a tub and pour hot tap water over them until covered and let them soak until the water cools. Our tap water reaches 130 degrees so I use that as my standard. Why pull the boots out after one minute (unless there is potentially damage to the boots).

Freezing: Freezing your boots for four hours will kill the snails.

Desiccation: Allowing your boots to dry completely, especially in hot sun is highly effective.

Household bleach: A water bath with 10% household bleach will completely kill the snails in one hour.

What I do in reality: My equipment, including collection nets, boots and jars; are treated with a 10% bleach bath, then 130 degree tap water soak until the water cools. I then allow my stuff to dry when possible in the sun.

One interesting suggestion from the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife is the use of 409, a commercial cleaner available at grocery stores. They suggest you spray your equipment with 409 and allow it to

dry in the sun for several hours. My own test this morning shows a significant snail kill when sprayed with 409. Remember to rinse off the 409 before getting back to fishing.

The effort is primarily up to us, the resource users. The response from the California Department of Fish & Game is wanting. The snail's entry into California is rather predictable. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game and the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service have taken a pro-active stance and posted signs informing river users that they don't want New Zealand mud snails in Alaska. What happened in California?

Ken Davis is an aquatic biologist/wildlife photojournalist who has been working with invasive species in crop lands and waterways for thirty years. He is currently working locally on a water hyacinth removal program in two Folsom creeks and Lake Natoma, a biomonitoring program, and several articles for fishing magazines. MacroWorld, featuring his nymph images will appear in the January 2004 issue of American Angler. He was working on an article for American Angler when he found the New Zealand Mud Snail population in Putah Creek.

Swapmeet & Chili Cookoff Dec. 13

Yes, it's time to dust off that 'junk' gear and listen to the spouse.

"Sell It!"

How? and where? you ask. The Annual GBF Swapmeet, of course. And it's a good time to pull out that 'killer' chili recipe, for bragging rights to this club-favorite event.

Either way, the price is right (chili and fixin's are free) and the crowd is top-notch (club members, friends, and shops).

Speaking of shops, confirmed to be there are some of our local favorites: Keine's, Fly Fishing Specialties, Sierra Fly Fishers, —all bringing their 'sale' merchandise to the clubhouse for a few hours during this meet.

The 'party' is Dec. 13, 9am-1pm. Questions or if you need table space, contact Denny Welch 530-889-8562 or email: dennywelch@jps.net

Salmon/Steelhead classroom Program

Just as fall signals it's time for salmon to begin their spawning ritual and complete their life cycle it also brings renewed activity to GBF's classroom education program.

As we begin our 15th year with the program, the club has sponsored 5 additional teachers who recently completed their required "in-service" training and were provided with a complete insulated tank and chiller system. The package includes everything needed to successfully raise salmon or steelhead from tiny eggs until they reach the alevin stage and are then planted in the Sacramento River to begin their long journey.

The whole purpose of the program is not to create mini-hatcheries in classrooms but rather to teach students about the life cycle of salmon and steelhead and all the various threats they encounter that affect their ability to survive and ultimately complete their 2-4 year life cycle. The obstacles these anadromous fish face are huge as Mother Nature really stacks the odds against their survival with less than 1 in 2000 ever returning to spawn in their natal rivers.

Hopefully, the lessons these students learn will bear fruit in later years as they become adults and are able to influence the issues affecting the fishes' survival. That, in fact, is already happening since many students from the programs earliest days are now adults: aware, educated and voters. The underlying theme, of course, being that many threats to a fish's survival also have a negative effect on humans.

Nov. 5th, we had 11 GBF volun-



Photo by Lee Smith

Rick Radoff speaks to a classroom after his delivery of Salmon eggs.

teers meet at Nimbus hatchery to gather salmon eggs for delivery to 26 classrooms. We presently cover 4 counties; Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado and Nevada; from 3rd grade through high school, from large 2000-student campuses to a tiny 1-room school with 5 students. No school is too big or too small.

We've found that teachers and students alike really enjoy and look forward to the program each year. Many teachers have been in the program since its inception 15 years ago and are still as enthusiastic as ever. Just one visit to a classroom of excited and inquisitive students full of interesting—and often unusual—questions will show you why.

As a club member this is a very rewarding program to participate in. If anyone would like to help out and continue this remarkable program's success we are always open to additional volunteers and welcome your participation. Just contact either Rick Radoff at 624-2107 or Frank Stolten at 725-6894 to learn more about it. The pay is crummy but the rewards are there; some right now and others some day off in the future.

- Frank Stolten

Putah Creek gets help from GBF



Photo by Gary Flanagan

Michael Gervais and Curtis Ferebee post the first sign, notifying fishers of New Zealand Mud Snails found in Putah Creek .

On Sunday, Nov. 16th Curtis Ferebee, Thomas Zoglman, Michael Gervais, Mike Howes Paul Meyers, Entomologist Ken Davis and myself posted warning signs along Putah Creek warning people of the recent infestation of New Zealand Mud Snail. Every flyfisher that we met was very appreciative of the information we supplied and were amazed that the posting occurred so quickly. Ken Davis only discovered the menacing snail a week and a half earlier.

A special thanks goes to Ken, Thomas, Michael, Mike, Curtis and

Paul for jumping on this project on such short notice.

One bonus of this outing was that we ran into the Napa Club out of Sweeney's Fly Shop. They were doing garbage clean up on Putah Creek. Granite Bay Flycasters was invited and joined the Napa Club at the post clean-up picnic. Thank you guys for feeding us.

The money that was used to pay for the production of the signs was provided through a generous donation from Cal Trout and The Granite Bay Flycasters Club. (*Your dues at work to protect your fishing resource.*)

A special thanks is extended to the GBF Board for approving the expenditure. Everyone on the Board voted in favor to spend the money on this worthy cause.

This posting, which gives directions on how to sanitize your equipment, is only a beginning and will now allow the California Department of Fish and Game to be proactive in controlling the Mud Snails on the Putah.

Beginner fly tying seminar Feb. 2004

A seminar for beginners; and for those who have some tying experience, but have not reached the "intermediate" stage, has been scheduled for February.

The class will be limited to the first twelve members who sign up and pay the \$15.00 fee. Seats will only be reserved for those who pay at the time of sign up. Emphasis will be placed on techniques that will enable the students, with practice, to tie most trout nymphs and dry flies. For more information, call Bill Carnazzo at (916) 663-2604.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting, and at subsequent meetings.

If you don't want to wait until then to sign up, mail a check to Bill at 2079 Country Hill Run, Newcastle CA 95658.

Tying Seminar Dates

February 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2004. (Tuesdays, 6:30 pm)

Bass Tying class: Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, March 1.

Conservation committee-Meeting Dec. 4

As many of you know, GBF has a major investment of money and sweat-equity in the restoration project on the Bear River meadow. Since the project began, there has been concern about the low flows in the river. In addition, there have been concerns about logging, cattle, fencing, preservation of significant archeological sites, etc.

Over the next few years, PG&E will be seeking a new license for operation of their Drum/Spalding Hydro Project, which we believe includes the stretch of river we restored. This new license will determine the flows on this river for the next several decades, as well conditions for use of the surrounding lands. There will be an opportunity for the public to be involved in this process and to potentially influence the outcome.

Since the GBF has had an interest in the Bear River, we invited a person from CHRC to attend a conservation meeting to discuss the

upcoming license, so the committee can evaluate whether this would be a worthwhile activity for the club.

Steve Wald of the California Hydropower Reform Coalition (CHRC) will be at our next Conservation meeting, Dec. 4 to talk about the CHRC. The CHRC has staff who are willing to help train and support individuals or organizations who wish to become involved in the utility hydro license processes. The CHRC is conducting a training session in the local area in early February.

Also, the club should know that significant stretches of the upper Yuba River, including the North Fork, will be relicensed under a two separate license process.

The next conservation meeting is Dec 4, 7pm, at the Roundtable Pizza on Douglas Blvd. in Granite Bay (in the shopping center NW of the intersection of Douglas and Auburn-Folsom Blvd.).

-Bill Hagopian

Call-out to write F&G Commission

As you know, GBF has taken the lead on trying to get the California Department of Fish and Game to stop the spread of the New Zealand Mud Snail in Putah Creek. Fish and Game has refused to close Putah to keep this snail from being carried to other places in our area like the American, Lower Yuba, Lower Sacramento, Feather and other fisheries in California. GBF has hired a government consultant and we plan on attending the Dec 3rd (Wed) Fish and Game Commission Meeting and demanding the Putah be closed to fishing until the problem can be resolved. We can't afford to have these snails

spread. They will destroy a river's aquatic plants and the fish will die. The Department says they have no money and are short-staffed. This is not an excuse to allow our streams to die.

This is why we need to convince the Commission to institute the closure and force Fish and Game to kill the snails.

Write a letter asking the Commission to close Putah Creek. (You may use the letters emailed recently, as a template or create your own.)

We also need as many people as possible to attend the Commission

See Write Commission page 15

Write F&G Commission

From page 14

meeting Dec. 16, 10am. at the State Personnel Board Room Rm. 150. 801 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.

Please email me a copy of your letter and mail a hard copy to the address listed on my letter.

If you plan on attending the meeting, please sign the card provided at the meeting to speak during the public forum.

You can go to the GBF website for more information or call me at 223-4240, www.gbflycasters.org

Value, Expertise, Friendship

Why should you be a member?

Value. Value is hard to find these days. Every business out there tries to convince you that if you purchase their product or service you will find value in that purchase. Most fall short of this promise.

Last year, Granite Bay Flycasters held its first annual President's Picnic, Fishout and One Fly Contest at Beautiful Fuller Lake. The two days of camping was free for members and their family. The Club paid the group camp fee at PG&Es Bear Valley Campground. If you attended

this event, you saved thirty-two bucks in camping fees. At the picnic, you and your family ate barbequed ribs, chicken, sausage and hot dogs until you felt like you would explode. We even had leftovers to take home! How much do you usually spend to take the family out to dinner? At the One Fly Contest, at Fuller Lake, over four hundred dollars in prizes were awarded to participants and there was no entry fee!

GBF's yearly family membership

See Why membership? page 18



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Golden Trout Program updated



It's not quite New Years, but it's never too soon to resolve to become a better, more knowledgeable fly fisher!

What a coincidence... becoming a better fly fisher is exactly what the club's Golden Trout Program is all about - and now it's easier than ever to get involved! Here's how...

1.) Go to the club's website and click the 'Golden Trout Program' link on the homepage.

2.) Read all about the program, then visualize yourself catching more fish, more easily, more often.

3.) Now come back to reality and make a mental note to sign up for this program at the next club meeting.

It's that easy to decide to become a better fly fisher! Now... catching more fish, more easily, more often is a little tougher, but this program really can help you with that. That's what it's for... that's

why it was created... that's why it's so-o-o-o great!

To sign up, just pay the \$10 program fee. Make your check payable to 'Granite Bay Flycasters' and give it to me at a monthly club meeting. In return, you'll receive a program handbook, along with the club's commitment to help you succeed in the program.

Special offer: Sign up for the program and get one category 'grandfathered'. This means you can get credit for any one category that you may have completed prior to signing up for the program. Example... last month you spent an afternoon distributing salmon eggs to local schools and this month you decide to sign up for Golden Trout. If the category sponsor will vouch for your efforts and sign off your handbook for that event, then that's one less category you'll have to complete for the program.

Wow... knowledge, skills, and a cool little pin to prove it! The Golden Trout program is a golden opportunity to make 2004 the year that you become a better fly fisher!

**-Mike Brune,
Golden Trout Coordinator**

Sportsman Show in Jan.

The 2004 Cal Expo Sportsman Expo is just around the corner and GBF will have a booth once again.

Jeff Burkholder, Leader editor, has volunteered this year to coordinate people and the production necessary for this show. I personally performed this task for about 10 years and it was a lot of fun. A schedule and signup sheet will be available, for volunteers willing to spend a few hours during the show to man the GBF booth. Our booth always receives an enthusiastic re-

sponse. In fact, it is a major source of new members for GBF, as we pass out literature and application forms.

If you cannot attend the December meeting but want to sign up email jb Burkholder@nmvinc.com or call Jeff at 916-852-7716.

This event is rewarding for the participants. You also get in free for the day that you work, but (as everyone else does) must pay for parking (\$6, I believe).

-Bill Carnazzo

Fish Master's Report

After taking this job, the first couple of month's fishouts were already planned for me. Now it's time for me to get to work!

December can be a tough month to coordinate a fishout... We have the swap meet/chili cook-off, Christmas, and New Year's to work around. So for December, I suggest that everyone use our online message board (on the club's website) to arrange any impromptu 'fishouts' that people want to do (Delta stripers, American steelies, Ryan & Amanda's trophy trout, etc.).

January 11th, I'm planning a fishout to Lake Amador, weather permitting. Last year we had a lot of fun there and some big fish were caught. The hot fly was a black or green leech.

Then January 25th, I'd like to have a fishout on the American River at Sailor Bar. This can be a great time to catch big, beautiful steelhead. We will have more information on this event in the January Leader.

I'd really like someone with local steelhead experience to step up and lead this outing. Please contact me if you're interested, and I can send you a Fishout Leaders Guide to help you plan it if you'd like.

February 1st is Super Bowl Sunday, of course, and we'll again have our 'Super Bowl Sunday Fishout' on the Yuba River at the Highway 20 bridge. More information (tackle-n-techniques) will be in the January Leader. On February 15th, we're back to the Yuba - this time through the U.C. Davis property. This fishout will be limited to the first 20 'paid up' members who sign up (only members who've



Photo by Paul Myers

Like many of the FishOuts, everyone has plenty of fun and most of the time the feast is as good as the fishing. The GBF clan at the recent Upper Sacramento River FishoOut

already paid their annual dues will be eligible). Paul Meyers will lead this fishout.

If anyone has suggestions for other fishouts, please get in touch with me.

This is a rough draft of some of the things I would like to do this year:

March: Camp Far West
April : Cameron Park
Tony Hamaoto Lake
May: Hot Creak
June : North Yuba Clinic
President's Picnic
July: Virginia Lakes
Aug: Truckee River
Sept: Crowley Lake
Oct: Burney Falls
Upper Sac
Nov. Eagle Lake
Dec: O'Neil Forbay

If any of these trips look like something you want to lead please let me know by calling me, 916-774-9972 or email: jackramos@comcast.net

Why membership is a ‘good thing’?

From page 15

fee is only thirty-five dollars. If you attended the President’s Picnic you more that covered your membership to Granite Bay Flycasters with this one outing. Value is the operative word here folks. You also receive the Leader Publication, which keeps you current on upcoming events and programs. At the monthly meetings you also get to meet some of the top people in the flyfishing world and see quality presentations.

Expertise. Our club has some of the best flyfishers and fly tiers I have ever had the privilege of knowing. I don’t know any one of them that wouldn’t be willing to help you if you show interest and ask for help. Since joining four years ago my learning curve has accelerated

ten fold because I have taken the clinics and fished with masters like Bill Carnazzo, Pete Peterson, Stan Hellekson, Dave Shafer, Jeff Putnam, Ron Rabun, Sturmer White, John Hogg, Steve Johnston, Dave Howard and Ron and Jeanne English. The club clinic fees run from free to twenty dollars depending on which clinic you attend. If you want to take an outside clinic, you could be paying hundred of dollars for the same instruction. Some of our members are guides and certified casting instructors who donate their time to the club. You won’t receive better instruction and help anywhere. There is also value in this in addition to the expertise.

Friendship. I joined Granite Bay Flycasters so I could find nice people to fly fish with. Since then I have fished with fellow members in local waters and in several states and different countries and have forged lasting friendships that wouldn’t have been possible unless I was active in the Club. Whether you fish local or abroad the opportunity to forge friendships in this club is a matter of meeting people half way.

I think I more than made my point regarding Value, Expertise and Friendship. If you have let your membership lapse and want to renew, take a moment to go to the membership section of www.gbflycaster.org

If you are current in the club, then you already must already realize the value in being a Granite Bay Flycaster Member. Pay your dues early and continue to be a part of the greatest fly club around.

Tight lines and keep your feet dry friends...

**-Gary Flanagan,
President**

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

For Sale: PAC 1000 pontoon boat. Like new. Retail \$1400. Will sell for \$850. Bill Carnazzo: (916) 663-2604, or billcarnazzo@aol.com

For Sale: Two Older Outboard Motors
Johnson 6HP - 50th Anniversary Series (1972)
Ran smooth/great when put into storage three years ago. Missing slow speed adjustment knob (but looks like a standard knob). Comes with original Johnson 6 gallon auxiliary gas tank & hose. Used infrequently/serviced regularly, one owner. First \$100 steals it.
Eska 7HP - Model 1747 (1972)
Ran inconsistently when put into storage three years ago. Otherwise good condition. Comes with original owner’s manual, service directory, Eska 3.25 gallon auxiliary gas tank & hose. Also has convenient 3 quart internal gas tank. Used infrequently/serviced regularly, one owner. Free with purchase of Johnson motor, above, or first \$50 gets it. Call Mike Brune for more info at (916) 723-4524.

To place a classified you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Submit your listing to: jburkholder@nmvinc.com with subject line: GBF: classified. Or mail your info to: Jeff Burkholder, 11300 Coloma Rd. Suite B14, Gold River, CA 95670.

Officers

President	Gary Flanagan	916-223-4240
VP Membership	Lester Snow	916-967-7563
VP Conservation	Bill Hagopian	916-771-5837
Secretary	Roger Bryan	916-645-6897
Treasurer	Art Hawkins	916-725-3026

Directors

Through June, 2004	Jim Hunter	916-408-8966
Through June, 2004	Jack Ramos	916-774-9972
Through June, 2005	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Through June, 2005	Mike Kaul	530-677-8022
Through June, 2006	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
Through June, 2006	Karl Wolff	916-941-8584
At Large	Ray Nunez	916-276-9347
Past President	Denny Welch	530-889-8562

Committees

Annual Dinner	Karl Wolff	916-941-8584
Casting Instruction	John Hogg	916-663-2051
“	Steve Johnston	530-644-4061
Salmon/Trout Egg Program	Rick Radoff	916-624-2107
“	Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Fishmaster	Jack Ramos	916-774-9972
Fly Tying	Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Gatekeepers	Michael Gervais	916-783-5477
“	Jack Peuler	916-797-1547
Golden Trout Program	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Leader Editor	Jeff Burkholder	916-852-7716
Librarians	Jeff Medina	
Merchandising	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Monthly Programs	Ron English	530-677-7169
Monthly Raffle	Jeanne English	530-677-7169
New Member Coordinator	Ray Nunez	916-276-9347
Refreshments	Monique Medina	916-353-1992
Webmaster	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
Youth Programs	Ron & Jeanne English	530-677-7169

New members for October

Individual: Joe Aichroth, Kevin Hager, Nicole Hager, Bruce Bartholomew, Toni Bartholomew

Membership application available online at:
[http://www.gbflycasters.org/About GBF/GBFApplication.pdf](http://www.gbflycasters.org/About%20GBF/GBFApplication.pdf)

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

Granite Bay Flycasters

PO Box 1107

Roseville, CA 95678-8107

Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat, advancement of the art of Fly Fishing, and good sportsmanship

Meetings: General club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay Activities Center on the shores of Folsom Lake. For directions, check www.gbflycasters.org or call Gary Flanagan 916-223-4240.

Doors open between 6:30pm and 7pm for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30pm. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually involves a guest speaker and slide show or other presentation. Each meeting also has a raffle, and visitors are always welcome!

Membership: Membership applications are available online www.gbflycasters.org and at general meetings. Single membership: \$30; Family memberships: \$35; and youth (under 18): \$10. There is also an \$8 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is pro-rated throughout the year. For membership information, call Lester Snow 916-967-7563 or visit the website www.gbflycasters.org

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please notify if address change