

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo by Gary Flanagan

A handful of October Caddis from the North Yuba River.

July 2004



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

July

2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1. Conservation Committee meeting	2.	3. Golden Trout Pak Trout see page 6
4.	5.	6.	7.	8. General meeting: 7 pm see page 10 Virginia Lakes see page 6	9.	10. Broken Arrow Lodge, Montana Trip 1
11.	12.	13.	14.	15. Board meeting 7pm-9	16.	17.
18. Broken Arrow Lodge, Montana Trip 2	19.	20. Fly Tying Jam	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 the beginning of a new term for Granite Bay Flycasters and guess what? The membership was gracious enough to allow me to be President for another year! Year two should be easier since I am ahead of the learning curve. Actually, I think we are going to have an even better year than we just had, if that is at all possible.

A big thanks goes out to exiting board members Lester Snow, Jim Hunter, Jack Ramos and Ray Nunez for serving our Club in a most exemplary fashion. I appreciate their service and dedication and I am positive all three of these guys will continue to participate as Club Leaders, even though they are no longer on the Board.

Which brings me to the "*new victims*", I mean "new board members." Mike Howes is now our Vice President in charge of Membership. Bill Carnazzo, Bill Aaberg and Jeff Burkholder are occupying Board of Director positions. As we all know, Bill Carnazzo has been around for a long time and it amazes me that he continues to remain active and involved in the club. Never once when the Board comes up with something new and innovative has Bill responded by saying to me, "That's not how we used to do it." Bill has held most of the Club positions, including President, and I am sure he will continue to do justice in his new position.

Mike Howes not only has accepted the position of VP Membership, he also volunteered to Chair the 2005 Annual Dinner Committee. This is a huge load off my mind and am I ever relieved that this position is

filled. Mike will do an excellent job. Incidentally, Mike is now looking for helpers for the dinner since it is never too soon to start.

Jeff Burkholder is now on the Board as our Director at Large, a one-year position. Jeff has been attending the Board Meetings for the past year as our Editor and Chief of the Leader. Jeff now has a vote on Board issues and can help in the direction of Granite Bay Flycasters.

Bill Aaberg used to be with another club before joining ours. It wasn't long after joining GBF that Bill asked if he could organize a trip to Montana to Broken Arrow Lodge. I knew at that time we had a player and future Board Member.

I really enjoy having new members getting involved in the running of the Club. I have always believed that as a manager of any organization, part of my job is to work to replace myself with qualified people. Seeing all the interest shown by new people has convinced me that Granite Bay Flycasters will be around for a long time.

On a lighter note, I had a great time at the North Yuba Short-line Clinic. I believe most of the students got into fish by the end of the day. My only regret is that not everyone stayed around for the fantastic Downeville Pizza. Next only to the Pizza joint at Crowley Lake, it is the best I have ever eaten. For the past several years it has been



See 'President's Message page 5

Denny Rickards' 'Callibaetis Nymph'



'Denny Rickards Callibaetis Nymph'

Last month I introduced the Stillwater Nymph by saying that its creator, Denny Rickards, is a well-known still water flyfisher, author, and tyer, and that his patterns are simple but deadly. Well, I'm featuring another of his patterns this month because I had such success with it at Bailey Creek Lodge in June, fishing at Lake Christine for wild Brown Trout and large Rainbows. He calls this pattern the Callibaetis Nymph, but in the text accompanying the pattern he states that it can, if tied in different colors, imitate an adult midge, a mayfly, caddis, or damsel nymph, or a scud when fished on the bottom. He recommends using a floating or intermediate line, using a hand twist or slow, six-inch pull-and-pause retrieve. The colors selected for this month's pattern are for a Callibaetis (mayfly) nymph. For those who fish still water, the Callibaetis is one of the predominant aquatic insects that hatch on lakes.

I n s t r u c t i o n s

1. Smash the barb. Cover the hook shank with thread.

2. Tie in the wood duck tail. It should be somewhat sparse, and the length of the hook shank. Use well-marked feathers for this—it makes a big difference.

3. Tie in the copper wire at the same point, and push it to the rear and out of the way for now.

4. Tie in a properly sized saddle hackle by its tip, at the same point.

5. Tie in another clump of wood duck by the tips, at the same point, so that the butts point to the rear. This will later become the wing case.

6. Dub a slim body with the hare's ear dubbing. The dubbing should end about 1/16" behind the eye.

7. Wind the hackle forward, making no more than 4 turns. Tie it off at the same forward spot as the dubbing.

8. Weave the copper wire forward, making about 6 turns. Tie it off also at the same point.

9. Bring the wood duck over the top of the fly and tie it down at the same point.

10. Form a nice smooth head and whip finish.

See ya on the creek....

MATERIALS

Hook: Size 10-14, 2X long

Thread: Tan 8/0

Body: Hare's ear dubbing

Tail: Lemon wood duck flank feather or dyed wood duck breast

Hackle: Grizzly saddle hackle

Rib: Copper wire

Wing case: Same as tail, tied down full length over entire body (use excess from tail)

President's Message

from page 3

the past several years it has been a tradition after a day of flyfishing, club members get together at the pizza place in town and drink pitchers of beer and pound down lots of pizza topped with loads of salami, sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms, onions, green peppers, olives, an-

chovies, cheese and sauce.

I was sorry our Past President, my fly-fishing buddy and Pizza Pal wasn't able to chow down with me in beautiful Downeville. You see Denny Welch came down with a severe case of Gout and had to cancel at the last minute. By the way, do you get Gout from pizza and beer?

Rod building clinic Oct 18, Nov. 15

There was great participation in our recent Basic Rod Building class instructed by GBF members Larry Lee and Bill Avery (with assistance from members Kevin Healy, Mike Brune, and Paul Meyers).

There were approximately 20 participants with almost everyone finishing their rods. A few members are still working on them. One member has gone on and even built his second rod. Rods built ranged

from 3 weights to 7 weights. The class featured basic rod building techniques of fitting and installing reel seats, attaching line guides with nylon thread, and sealing the thread wraps with epoxy finish. Members also personalized their rods with their name and rod model. Participants had a great time learning a new skill and appreciated the individual instruction during the class.

Another multi-session basic rod building class will be held on 10/18 and 11/15/04 and will coincide with the club's Third Tuesday fly tying jams at the GBF Clubhouse. Each of these classes will run 6:30pm-8:30pm. Any additional class session dates and locations will be announced later.

This multi-session workshop is presented to introduce club members to the art of rod building. For those who have built

See 'Rod building page 7

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

Check out the fly featured in this issue's FlyTier's Corner—then tie that pattern and bring it to next month's general meeting to compete for a gift certificates, donated by American Fly Fishing Company.

This program is a great way to get qualified, experienced input on your tying technique—which can only lead to tying better flies and catching more 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 certificate winner will be drawn at random from among entries in that category.
- Beginners will be moved to non-beginner category after winning their category twice.

Monthly Fly Tying Winners for June

Beginners:

NONE

Non-Beginners:

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company:

Mike Lang

Best Tie: **Paul Meyers**

Virginia Lakes July 8-11



Saddle up pilgrims. GBF is headed over the Sierras on July 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th to beautiful Virginia Lakes. Located off Highway 395 and not too far from the town of Bridgeport, these small natural lakes are true Sierra Gems. Several high granite peaks tower over these pristine lakes while soaking their toes in the silent depths of these natural water features. Both Virginia Lakes are accessible by vehicle, but if you want a treat, take a short hike up the trail to one of the many walk-in lakes that contain Golden Trout.

Michael Kaul, a long time Granite Bay Member is leading this trip. Last year, Mike fished Virginia Lakes and although he did well, was shamelessly out fished by his wife Sandy. Sandy landed twenty fish one morning on little Virginia Lake! Mike has fished the Eastern Sierras for years and if you have an interest in learning about the area's fishing opportunities, Mike is the man to talk with. Professionally, Mike is a high school teacher and he brings his easy going, patient approach onto the water. He has helped many a beginning float-tuber catch fish on Virginia Lakes. This fish out is perfect for beginning anglers, and experienced

flyfishers alike who love beautiful scenery and fantastic fishing. A short drive from the campground will bring you to many fly-fishing venues like the East Walker, Green Creek, Twin Lakes, Robinson Creek and Bridgeport Reservoir, to name a few.

The area boasts a nice campground at Turnbull Lake. Mike has reserved some group campsites for us at Turnbull. More information will be available at the July meeting.

If you do plan on going, please call Mike at (530) 677-8022 so he can get an idea on how many more campsites he needs to reserve. Space is limited and there are no other area campgrounds.



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Rod building class scheduled in fall

From page 5

rods previously, or who may have started a rod but never finished it, this workshop offers the chance to learn the basic steps to building a fly rod. Each participant will build a 'custom' fly rod during the course of this workshop.

Participants: Be thinking about what rod you want to build (line wt, length, #of pieces). Unless you have a specific, name-brand rod in mind, we can suggest where to get an inexpensive, private label rod-building kit that will allow you to build a beautiful, wonderfully-useable 'first' rod for around \$50-\$60 (various line weights are available).

If you didn't sign up for this workshop but would like to be included in a future session, or have any rod-building questions



Photo by Nick Marmolejo

Bill Avery checks the epoxy for Larry Burns at the last clinic. Overwhelming interest has brought a second session Oct. 18 and Nov. 15. This will coincide with the Fly Tying Jam nights.

whatsoever, please feel free to contact Bill Avery at 916-632-1275, email: billavery@grant.k12.ca.us or Larry Lee at 916-965-0616, email: larrylee@L3rods.com

-Larry Lee

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“Fly Tying Jam” third Tues. each month

Most of you know that Granite Bay Flycasters opens up the clubhouse on the third Tuesday of each month for an informal fly-tying get-together for members. You can bring your fly-tying equipment and enjoy yourself in the company of others from around 6:30pm to whenever. The Fly Tying Jam has been that way for years and will remain informal.

The GBF Board, at our last meeting, talked about how we could generate a little more interest and a larger turnout. Starting this month, we are going to try and feature a different member each month that wants to tie his or her favorite fly. The fly selected, will usually be a pattern that will correspond to what can be used for fly-fishing a



The July Tying Jam will feature the “Lantern Fly”, taught by Sturmer White

current species of fish and a local fishery that is ‘turning-on’ for the season.

July’s featured tier will be **Sturmer White**. Salmon Season will be picking up soon in the American, Feather and other valley rivers. Sturmer will show anyone interested at the Fly Tying Jam how he ties a Club favorite, the “**Lantern Fly**.”

The **Lantern Fly** is a fun and fairly easy fly to tie and it has been

See ‘Lantern Fly’ page 12

Denny Welch Attorney at Law

114 N. Sunrise Avenue,
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Materials

Hook Type: Tiemco7999

Hook Size: 1 or 2

Thread: Orange

Tail: Squirrel Black or
natural

Underbody: Silver Braid

Over Body: “Edge Brite” red or
orange

Hackle: Saltwater Cape or
Schlappen in
orange

Hackle: S a l t w a t e r
Cape or Schlappen
in black

Meet the new GBF Board

Annual elections were held at last month's general meeting with the following effects to the Board:

Gary Flanagan, Bill Hagopian, Art Hawkins, and Roger Bryan were elected to continue on as club President, Conservation VP, Treasurer, and Secretary, respectfully.

Mike Howes was elected as our new Membership VP. Mike takes the reins from Lester Snow who managed that position with skill and commitment for the past two years.

Bill Carnazzo and Bill Aaberg were elected to three-year Director positions, replacing Jack Ramos and Jim Hunter who each made significant and valuable contributions to the Board (and the club) during their respective terms.

Jeff Burkholder was elected to our one-year ('at-large') Director

position, taking over for Ray Nunez whose input and efforts in that position over the past year were exemplary.

Congratulations to our new and continuing Board members! More importantly, thank you to our exiting Board members - your dedication, professionalism, and energy on the Board were very much appreciated by the entire organization.

GBF New Board Email

Gary Flanagan	Flanagan@surewest.net
Art Hawkins	art.hawkins@rcsis.com
Bill Hagopian	billh@surewest.net
Karl Wolff	kwolff@qwestonline.com
Paul Myers	Paul_Meyers@hp.com
Mike Brune	m.brune@comcast.net
Denny Welch	dennywelch@jps.net
Mike Howes	lifeisreel@aol.com
Roger Byran	rogerdbry@starstream.net
Bill Carnazzo	BillCarnazzo@aol.com
Bill Aaberg	dryfly@quiknet.com
Jeff Burkholder	jburkholder@nmvinc.com



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“Fly Fishing California’s National Parks”



Photo Tim Hutchins, www.yosemiteflyfishing.net

Steve Beck’s first book is *Yosemite Trout Fishing Guide*. He’s fly-fished the Sierra for twenty years from his nearby home in Merced (the “Gateway to Yosemite”) CA, where he lives with his wife and two young children. As a freelance writer he has also written articles for national fishing magazines. He spent five years doing extensive field work gathering the fishing information for this book. During that time he estimates he hiked over 1000 miles exploring Yosemite’s scenic waters while catching and releasing thou-

SPEAKER

STEVE BECK

AUTHOR

“FLY FISHING CALIFORNIA’S NATIONAL PARKS”

sands of colorful wild trout.

Steve Beck’s most recent book is *Trout Fishing the John Muir Trail*, published Feb. 2000. After devoting many years to becoming intimately acquainted with Yosemite and its trout, he turned his attention to the spectacular high country of the southern Sierra. During the past few years, his summers have been pleasurably spent hiking the John

A HIKE THROUGH THIS EXTRAORDINARY LAND IS CERTAINLY A TREAT, BUT FOR A FISHERMAN, TO ALSO FIND ABUNDANT TROUT ALONG THE WAY MAKES IT SEEM ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

Muir Trail, with fly rod in hand, exploring its sparkling waters. Of his work on both books he says, “Fishing for the most beautiful fish I know, in the most beautiful place I know, has been a labor of love”.

You can contact Steve via his e-mail address: sbeck@elite.net

Yosemite Trout Fishing Guide, by Steve Beck, 1995 Frank Amato Publications (15.95).

Trout Fishing the John Muir Trail, by Steve Beck, 2000 Frank Amato Publications (19.95).

Signed copies (both books are all color) will be available after the program, as will flies designed and tied by the author.



When: July 8, 7 pm

Where: GBF Clubhouse

Hex hatch at Lake Natoma

If you don't know what a "Hex" is, the below-referenced URLs will inform you to the maximum.

Suffice it to say that if you think that all Mayflies are small, you will be astounded at the elephantine size of the *Hexagenia Limbata* species.

For this outing, what you need to know is that they hatch in Lake Natoma, and the hatch normally occurs at this time of year during the last hour or so of daylight.

So, this outing will be held in the evening at Lake Natoma, near the aquatic center. Jim Holmes and Gene Goss are the outing directors for this event. Jim has made arrangements with the staff at the lake for post-hours parking so that



Photo by Thomas Ames Jr. www.thomasames.com

Hexagenia Limbata, aka: Mayfly

no one gets locked in or ticketed. Float tubes or pontoon boats are the vehicle de jour.

Bring your 4 to 6 weight rods with floating and clear intermediate lines. See the attached URLs for the specialty flies needed for this hatch. If you have questions, please contact Jim Holmes at 967-6709.

To keep up to date on schedule and changes, if the hatch is not occurring during this scheduled time, check the GBF message board on GBF's web site for any last minute updates. www.gbflycasters.org and click on the 'Message Board' link.

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Internet Resources

GBF Message Board

<http://www.dream-tool.net/tools/messages.mv?index+fishout+T4zy1xj4UXA>

Check these URLs for additional reference material about the *Hexagenia Limbata* (aka Mayfly):

<http://www.gbflycasters.org/fly%20tying/patterns/Hex%20nymph/hex%20nymph.htm>
<http://www.flyfishusa.com/flyes/the-hex-hatch-2.html>

<http://www.troutnut.com/naturals/mayflies/commonnames.php>

Fly-Fishing Awareness Day at Lake Natoma, Aug. 21

August 21, from 10AM - 2PM at Nimbus Flat State Park on beautiful Lake Natomas, Granite Bay Flycasters is co-hosting Fly-fishing Awareness Day along with several other Fly-fishing clubs from the Northern California area.

The day will start off with a huge swap meet involving several clubs where you can not only bring your unwanted fly-fishing equipment to sell, but you can also shop for deals on new and used equipment. Kienes Fly Shop, American Fly Shop and Fly Fishing Specialties will also be there selling store merchandise. I understand that there will be some great deals on selected items.

Many representatives from the major manufactures will also be present like Outcast, Sage, Scott, Patagonia, Abel, Ross, Loomis and many more. This is your chance to try out cutting edge equipment on the water to decide what fits your needs and pocketbook.

Free casting lessons and demonstrations from Dave Shaffer and Jeff Putnam will be available and there will be a pontoon/wading

safety clinic on the water. You can bring your own boats if you want but there will also be several other types of pontoon boats provided by the manufactures for you to try out.

The public is invited and the clubs will provide fly tying for the kids and free casting lessons for the adults and older children.

I am looking for someone in the club to act as coordinator for this event and several volunteers to make this a success. Much like the Salmon festival, we need to provide members to help out in the fly tying booth and members to help with the casting. Even if you have never tied a fly, we can bring you up to speed in a few minutes so you will be an expert at teaching and helping the children.

If you haven't coordinated an event before, don't worry, it is easy. If you are a Golden Trout Participant, this will fulfill a club requirement for the program. Please call or e-mail Gary Flanagan if you wish to participate in this event at (916) 223-4240.

-Gary Flanagan

‘Lantern Fly’, Fly Tying Jam

From page 8

known to catch big Salmon, and in smaller sizes, Steelhead.

If you're planning on tying along, you will need the following materials:

Don't forget, you are still welcome to come and tie whatever patterns you wish.

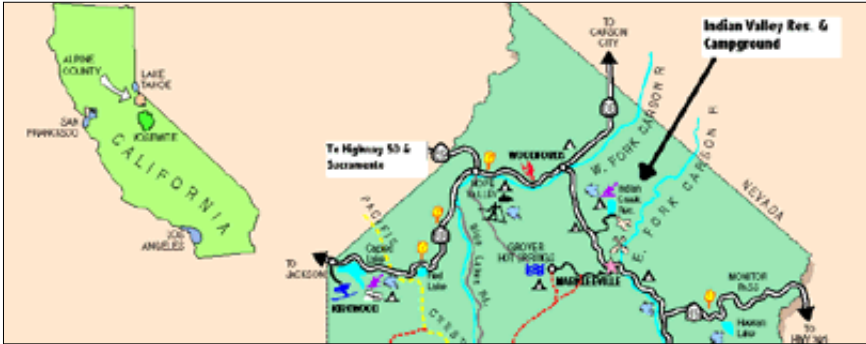
If you would like to feature your favorite tie in the future, by all means let one of the Board Members know. We would welcome your contribution in this Club event.

For additional information on the **Lantern Fly**, contact Sturmer White at (916) 791-2618 or email: sturmw@lanset.com

August 13-15

Indian Creek Reservoir

Joint Camp/Fishout With CFFU



In August there is a great opportunity to fish an awesome region of the Eastern Sierras and to get to know our brothers and sisters at the Sacramento Club. Officially, they are known as “California Fly Fishers Unlimited.”

CFFU, with a similar amount of members as GBF, are some of the people you bump into at the local fly shops. The founding members of GBF actually split off from CFFU in 1986 to start our club in Granite Bay.

This will be a fun joint gathering, after seventeen years it will give the opportunity for friendly fly-fishing, camping, picnicking and telling lies about what great anglers we are.

Indian Creek Reservoir is located just outside Markleeville and has some outstanding fishing. The Alpine County Fish and Game Commission plans to stock 4,000 to 5,000 pounds of rainbows, ranging from catchables to seven-pound fish, in Indian Creek this year. The Commission has stocked 2,000 pounds in the reservoir to

date. The Department of Fish and Game has already stocked 5,000 trout in Indian Creek this year so there should be plenty of fish to go around.

In addition, the East Fork of the Carson, the West Fork of the Carson Pleasant Valley Creek, (pay to fish) and Markleeville Creek are a stone’s throw from the campground which is right on Indian Creek Reservoir. There is also lodging available in Markleeville but the location is close enough to Sacramento that it is also possible to make this a day trip.

One thing I plan on doing is visiting Grover Hot Springs State Park when I am not fishing. I love soaking in the mineral rich waters of the springs. I understand it increases your ability to catch fish!

If you have questions, you can call, Gary Flanagan at 223-4240 for more information. A sign up sheet will be available at the June Meeting.

CONSERVATION CORNER

As we head into the summer and most of us are taking fishing and or vacation trips, the conservation committee is still meeting and working on projects. Any club member is welcome to come and participate. We are always looking for new members and new ideas. As some of you may know the conservation committee is looking into doing some creek restoration on the Coon River in Placer County. On Monday June 21, we had a survey team accompany county officials to look at various sections of the river to see if any of them meet our clubs requirements. We will report to the club at the July meeting.

Future Conservation Events

September

Stream Ecology Workshop

The GBF Conservation Committee will be hosting a stream ecology workshop at the U.C. Berkeley Sagehen Creek Field Station on September 17th and 18th (Friday night and Saturday). On Sunday following the workshop, we will be fishing on Webber Lake which is

nearby at the headwaters of the Little Truckee River.

The signup list for the Webber Lake trip and Ecology Workshop will be out at the August meeting. It is not necessary to attend the Stream Ecology workshop in order to participate in the Webber Lake trip.

October

Classroom Salmon / Steelhead Egg program

Frank Stolten and Rick Radoff will get the in house training program going in September. Training classes for the teachers are available to members of Granite Bay. If you would like to help deliver eggs on November 10, please let them know.

Nimbus Hatchery Docent program.

Training for the docents program is in the September/October timeframe. The actual program runs from November to February. This is a lot of fun and very rewarding.

**-Bill Hagopian,
VP Conservation**



Photo by Kent Ripley

Loop over the top, hold with tongue...

Sturmer White shows attendees of the June 15 Knot tying clinic how to tie many useful knots for flyfishing.

Sturmer is often known to demonstrate to members knot tying techniques prior to general meetings or events.

Fishin' with Chuck...

I had never fished with Chuck Honneycutt before. We were at the North Yuba Short-line Clinic and the group had just finished lunch after a morning of instruction. When I announced to the group that I was heading to a new location on the river to fish, Chuck asked to go with me. He wanted to check out new water. Chuck had done well during the short-lining clinic and as a result had caught several nice fish.

Chuck followed me upstream several miles to one of my favorite places on the North Yuba. We parked our vehicles on the shoulder of the road and headed across a large flat and down a steep slope to a shady section of river. I knew Chuck would have no trouble with the terrain because he is a devout long distance runner and he is in far better shape than I am.

*"I WATCHED CHUCK TAKE HIS
CLIPPERS IN HIS RIGHT HAND
WHILE HE WAS HOLDING THE
LEADER IN HIS LEFT HAND."*

Once on the river, Chuck remarked that he had lost his set up before lunch and needed to re-rig his line. For those of you that fish this set up, you know how labor intensive this system is. It usually takes at least fifteen to twenty minutes for a beginner to rig up.

Chuck found a large flat rock next to the water. He got comfortable and began rigging his line. He started out with a brand new 7-½ foot 3X tapered leader. He cut about 18" of the end and then reattached the line with two Duncan Loop Knots

so they would slip together when pulled. To this, and between the knots, he added a 3X dropper



leader that he attached with another Duncan Loop. Once tight, he pulled on the lead line and the main line, which closed all three knots together. This allowed the dropper line to hang at a right angle to the main line so the fly wouldn't be as apt to tangle with the rest of the leader. As Chuck was doing this, I was in the water fishing. I probably added to his frustration because I caught and landed two fish in front of him. The only thing Chuck needed to do before tying on his flies and begin fishing was to trim the three tag lines that protruded from the three Duncan Loops.

I watched Chuck take his clippers in his right hand while he was holding the leader in his left hand. I looked out onto the water for a moment to watch my indicator slip through the water in the middle of a nice slot. About that time, I heard a high pitched squeal and turned in time to see Chuck hanging in the air about six feet above that flat rock where he had been sitting. His feet and legs were moving as if he was running somewhere but he wasn't getting any traction in mid-air. A look of terror was etched on his face. I assumed Chuck had cut off a finger with his clippers and

See "Chuck & Snake" page 16

Chuck and the snake

From page 15

expected to see a lot of blood. When Chuck hit the ground, he was off and running. I have never seen anyone cover ten feet that quickly over uneven riverbed. He turned, looked at me. His face was pale and contorted. All he managed to yell out was snake!

Sure enough, between Chuck's two footprints in the sand next to that big flat rock, was a beautiful two and a half foot garter snake. The snake looked at Chuck and appeared confused at Chuck's excitement. I envisioned the snake saying, "C'mon Chuck, It's OK." "I don't mind you sitting on my house but stop being so damn noisy." The snake then indignantly slipped into the water and finally disappeared under yet another rock.

In all the commotion, Chuck had missed the tag ends of the Duncan

Loops and had managed to clip off the main leader next to the series of knots that had just taken him twenty minutes to tie. Chucks fingers were unaffected by the ordeal and the only thing he could do was to start over.

As I smiled and moved downstream, I saw out of the corner of my eye that Chuck was mumbling to himself while he attempted to re-rig. Added to this act, I noticed that every five or so seconds, Chuck stopped what he was doing only to intently stare down at the rocks at his feet. After about five minutes I lost sight of Chuck when I moved downstream. I'm not sure if Chuck ever got to fish that afternoon but I am positive that under one of those rocks, that snake was laughing his tail off.

-Gary Flanagan



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info@flyfishingspecialties.com

Nymphing Clinic taught on N. Yuba



Twenty or so GBF members learned Nymphing techniques by Bill Carnazzo June 12.

Members learned 'shortline' nymphing methods which caught a few fish during the clinic.



Rainbow trout caught by Dave Drake during the clinic.

Photos by Gary Flanagan

Introduction to flycasting

3

Floyd Dean, FFF Certified Master Casting Instructor

ADDING DISTANCE TO THE ROLL CAST

Many anglers neglect the roll cast, thinking that it is very limited in application. It is the foundation to all fly casting and very useful in many aspects of fishing. Once you develop the basic roll cast and are able to modify the loop with the drop chop method and you are able to roll cast to about 35 to 40 feet or more consistently, you are ready to add distance to your roll cast.

To add another five feet of distance to your roll cast, pull five additional feet off the reel, extend the rod tip all the way back behind you as far as you can reach, do not move your feet, then bring the rod back into the correct roll cast position and chop forward. This will work only if you can lay the line on the ground, not the water. This technique adds more weight behind you making for an easier roll cast. It's called the extended or reach roll cast. It works well to about 45 feet with a weight forward line.

After this point, a double tapered line will really help because it's the same thickness from the front taper to the rear taper. Most weight forward lines do not have enough mass in the running line part of

the line to drive the thick part of the line. Some types of weight forward lines, such as a steelhead taper or long belly line, might get you a little beyond 50 feet.

But, now we want to go beyond 45 or 50 feet. Pull off another 5 feet of line. Walk backwards two or three feet and then move forward to your original position, laying the extended line on the ground. You will have added a little more line behind you. Add a little more power and make the same roll cast. This is modifying the extended or reach roll cast.

You can walk five to ten feet behind you or more pulling off more line as you go and keep adding distance until you fail to turn over the leader and the fly. You can even run forward and stop and throw the line and gain another five feet. At some point you will scare the fish, fall in the river or fail.

This is assuming that you are on a lake bank or river bank and have

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no possibility for a conventional back cast because of trees, and you have 10 to 20 feet of snag free grass or ground behind you. If you are in sage brush, pickle weed or a thistle patch, this may not work unless you lay a tarp down. You can move back as far as you have space behind you, and your casting ability allows.

At the point where the extended reach cast fails for you, it will be time to add the single haul to your forward stroke. Remember, in a good 'haul', the rod must move first, loading the rod a little, the haul with the line hand is done about half way through the cast, loading the rod a little more. As you accelerate forward, the haul ends when the rod stops. As the rod is stopped, the line hand lets go immediately so the line can shoot. This is called the shooting roll cast or the Turbo Spey. If you hold on to the line too long, the shooting roll cast will not shoot very well.

To attain greater distance you will need to add a 'haul' in the back cast as well as the forward cast, a 'double haul'. By doing a double haul, you will add line speed to both the back and forward cast. Remember, the loop and the majority of the fly line cannot touch the water or ground.

Say you've got 50 to 60 feet of line on the water. As you accelerate the rod into the back cast stop position, instead of stopping the rod completely, you move your line hand forward with a little haul, adding line speed...at the same time you kick the rod back a little, putting a little more energy into the back cast forming a wedge shaped and

rising loop in the back cast. At this point the leader and a small portion of the fly line will touch down on the water and anchor, (as in a Spey cast). Allow the back cast loop to pull your hauling hand back up into position for the forward stroke. As in a Spey cast or shooting roll cast, the loop should never touch the water or ground.

As you start the forward stroke, moving the right hand forward. The back cast loop should be alive and moving. This is more of a pause, not a real stop. You just change from a back cast to a forward cast while the line, (loop) is in the air. The line hand will lead the right hand forward about halfway into the forward stroke, you increase acceleration with both hands. The rod and line hand will start to separate halfway through the forward stroke, this is the start of the haul.

Release the line as the haul finishes and you stop the rod. The stopping of the rod and the finishing of the haul and the releasing of the line from the left hand all happen at the same time. This will allow the line to form a loop and the double haul roll cast to shoot forward into the air. Remember, if you are on the water, you must flip the line back with a rising loop. Do not let the loop touch the water or ground, only the forward end of the line, leader and fly.

As in Spey Casting, timing of the anchor point and the forward stroke is crucial. In a shooting roll cast the same is true AND you add the haul to it. If you do not accelerate smoothly with both rod and line hands and if you shock or jerk that stroke or haul, you will cause a

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tailing or sagging loop and you will greatly diminish the efficiency of the shooting roll cast.

It is possible to achieve 100 feet or an even greater distance with this modified roll cast. Remember, where you stop the forward stroke will determine the height of the reach roll cast. If you stop too low the line will hit too soon and not go as far. The shooting roll cast, (with a single or double haul) will perform best if you stop a little higher and

aerialize the whole line for maximum distance.

The REACH ROLL CAST will perform at it's best if cast more as a conventional roll cast. It should hit the water and roll out on the water.

The SHOOTING ROLL CAST will perform best as an aerialized cast, (into the air) and land like a dry fly cast. It's more Spey Cast than roll cast. The fish won't even know your there!

Next article, the pick up and lay down/wet fly cast. Practicing the pick up and lay down develops timing and loop control.

As always please feel free to email me: floyd@floyddeanflycasting.com or see me at the GGACC ponds.

Tight Loops!
-Floyd Dean

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For Sale: 1 Bauer M2 Reel, like new. \$125; extra spools available. (530) 677-7169. Ron or Jeanne English.

The Stillwater classic pram. \$500.00 firm oars extra and 10 foot Don Hill Drift Boat and Trailer Custom seats, oars, \$1,500 Contact Bill Ossolinski Tel # 916-354-8474 E-Mail bossolinski@sbcglobal.net

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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.

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The Leader

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

Granite Bay Flycasters

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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: 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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