

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo by club member, Rick Radoff
in October 2005

Marie Stull, Honorary GBF Life Member,
with Missouri River Rainbow.

December 2005



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

DECEMBER 2005

SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
		Conservation Committee Meeting			General Mtg. 7:00 P.M.	
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
				Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.		
18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
		Fly Tying Jam	Winter Begins			
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.
Christmas Day/ Hanukkah Begins at Sun-down						Annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off

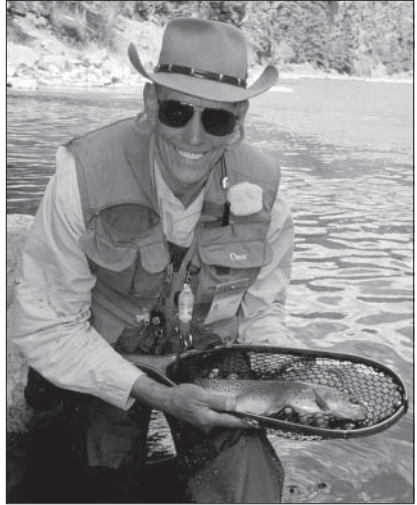
President's Message

It was most rewarding to be associated with fly fishing last Saturday. Under the direction of Ken Davis, along with the services of UC Davis graduate students Beverly Ajie and Val Brenneis a study was conducted at Putah Creek to test methods of treating boots to kill the New Zealand Mud Snail in order to prevent their spreading to other fisheries. What made this day so special was that volunteers came from all around the Bay Area, the Sacramento area and as far away as Shasta City. We walked a half hour course through Putah Creek and then turned our boots over to the study team for treatment.

All told there were 66 volunteers besides Ken, Bev and Val. While GBF members accounted for 35% of those who attended, the turn out from 11 different clubs was most impressive. Thanks to Gary Flanagan for coordinating the volunteer signups and assigning everyone to groups. It was great to have participants from California Fly Fishers Unlimited (Sacramento), Fly Fishers of Davis, The Lady Bugs (Cameron Park), Napa Valley Flyfishers, Mission Peak Fly Anglers, San Jose Flycasters, Shasta Mayflies, Peninsula Fly Fishers, Golden West Women Flyfishers, Delta Flyfishers, Gold Country Flyfishers, Bono's Guide Service, Buckhorn Caterers, the Putah Creek Council and the Putah Creek Bio-monitoring Group.

Following the field work we were treated to a wonderful Tri-tip BBQ with all the trimmings prepared by Buckhorn Caterers and made possible by a generous contribution

Art Hawkins



from Patagonia who is underwriting the cost of the study. We all look forward to the results of the study and hopefully a convenient way to treat our boots and waders.

The GBF annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off contest gets underway on Saturday, December 3rd at the Clubhouse. This is a great time to find some bargains in the form of used gear being sold off by members wanting spend more bucks at their local fly shop. Last year's Chili Cook-off winner, Nick Burnett, has graciously agreed to chair this year's event. So show up early to get some great bargains on used gear and stay for the chili feed.

Our membership renewal drive is underway. We've found that it is more rewarding to the membership and less effort on the part of the officers to hold a drawing with great prizes for those who renew their

see "President's Message" page 13

The Christmas Conservation Grinch

As the Sierra Club's Melinda Pierce says, "For them, they win once, and it's all over. For us, we win, and we just live to fight another day." I'm not in the habit of quoting the Sierra Club but Melinda's statement is right on. In Placer County one developer was encouraged to build more responsibly (and still make the same amount of money) but decided to level hundreds of acres of blue oak trees instead. Oak habitat that is lost forever. On the other hand, not all developers are irresponsible; Whitney Ranch developer Newland Communities in Rocklin purchased 1,000 acres of Swanson's Hawk habitat that was not required mitigation. Bravo.

So who is the environmental Christmas Grinch? California has two contenders, Congressman Pombo tops many lists (higher even on some lists than Alaska's Senator Stephens) and our own Congressman Doolittle is certainly a contender. Who gets your vote for the environmental bad cop?

Will the Delta be viable with more water removed? Does it matter if forests are logged down to the edge of a stream? Should we reduce the restrictions on dumping harmful chemicals into waterways or into the jet stream? I urge all Granite Bay Flycasters members to become more environmentally informed and politically active. I urge you to take a stand, speak out and write letters to your decision-makers. Don't wait for me to write for you – especially since I may not represent your views. Spend four hours per year (two hours credit for every let-

ter) letting others know your beliefs and you will make a difference. I guarantee it! Next month I'll write about who to contact so be thinking about those short, very short letters.

Classroom Egg Program - Participation Invited

Recognizing that the future protection of our fisheries and water resources ultimately lies in the hands of today's youth, the Club has organized an educational program which involves raising salmon and steelhead eggs in school classrooms. GBF donates fully-equipped aquariums and a 250 page curriculum to classrooms that vary from third grade through high school and, in conjunction with the California Dept. of Fish and Game, supplies them with fertilized salmon eggs in the fall, and steelhead eggs in the winter. Teachers are required to attend a 1-day in-service training session prior to participating in the program.

It's a simple but very effective program. Students observe and study first hand the fishes' development from the egg stage until they become fry. Once the fry reach plantable size the class takes a field trip to the Sacramento River where they are released. Students learn about the lifecycle of anadromous fish and the multitude of threats to their survival. Many of these factors such as erosion control, pollution, water quality and availability, and protection of the resource also affect human quality of life. We

continued on next page

hope the lessons learned in studying fish will become lasting impressions that some day, when the students become adults, will result in wise decisions being made regarding the future use of our natural resources. That's why this special program is important and what it's really all about

Over 75 teachers in local and regional schools in Sacramento, Placer, Nevada and El Dorado counties currently participate in the program. Since its inception in 1989 by GBF, more than 25,000 students have participated in this remarkable program.

The program's success depends totally on GBF members being

available to deliver salmon and steelhead eggs to the classrooms. This is a very simple process and entails picking up eggs at the Nimbus hatchery and taking them to the various classrooms. It only takes a few hours at most and is a very rewarding program to participate in, as anyone who has ever taken eggs to a classroom and faced an interested group of students will attest.

To keep this program at a high level we need your help. Our next delivery will be steelhead eggs on Feb. 8th. If you have any interest at all in participating or have any questions about this great program contact Frank Stolten at 725-6894.

AmericanFly.com

AMERICA'S ONLINE FLY SHOP

**AMERICAN
FLY FISHING CO.**

3523 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95864
916 483-1222 or 800 410-1222

Recommended by:

SAGE

REDINGTON

SIMMS



Our Web site:

- *Simple!*
- *Secure!*
- *Guaranteed!*

Sign up at
our Web site
for our
e-newsletter!

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

Observe a fly tying master tie this fly at this month's general meeting and bring it to next month's 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 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 November**

Beginners: - No Entries

Non-Beginners:

Best Tie: Bill Ahberg

\$25.00 - Ron English

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company

Pontoon Boat Reminders

(continuing from the November issue with item #8.)

8. It is common to encounter small waterfalls (drops) along the river and many times we become overly concerned when faced with this dilemma; "do I find a way around or do I go over?". If there is no other easy option, face the waterfall, aim straight forward, and normally the boat will porpoise straight through the falls. Going over/through a waterfall sideways usually results in flipping the pontoon boat.

9. Hydraulics are similar to depressions except they are created by objects under water and are not always visible. Hydraulics can be scary. They are rough, and can bounce you around, spin, or otherwise hold you in place for what seems like an incredible length of time. Rowing either forward or backward will help stabilize/control the boat and eventually will carry you out/through the rough water.

10. Holding the oars down into the water can assist in aiding the current to carry you down stream

and stabilize the boat. A hard upstream wind can halt your progress and may even push you backwards. Just holding the oars submerged in the

continued on next page



The Fly Shop

America's Flyfishing Outfitter

www.theflyshop.com

4140 Churn Creek Road Redding, CA 96002

530-222-3555 Toll Free: 800-669-3474 Fax: 530-222-3572

email: info@theflyshop.com

continued from previous page

water can be more effective than rowing, assists in offsetting the wind influence, and can keep you moving down stream.

11. If you fall into the water, don't panic, roll onto your back and face down stream so your legs will protect you from objects. In this down stream sitting position pull backwards with both hands and eventually you will get to shore.

... John Peterson

Denny Welch Attorney at Law

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

TRUSTS

WILLS

PROBATE

ESTATE PLANNING

916-786-2070

email: dennywelch@jps.net

To make the club an active club, it takes volunteers. Help GBF remain active. Take the time to volunteer.

Rod Building Seminar

On Tuesday, January 17, 2006, Dave "Buff" Hendrickson will present a seminar for interested rod builders on how to put on thin "highlight" wraps to enhance rod appearance. Buff is the resident rod-building expert of the CFFU club and has taught many of its members the art of rod building during his 30 years of rod building. There will be extra rod wrappers, thread, and blanks for members to try their hand at making "highlight" wraps. The seminar will begin at 6:30 P.M. and will be located at the Granite Bay Clubhouse. If you have any questions, contact Larry Lee at 916-962-0616 or email at larrylee@L3rods.com.

Your Headquarters for Northeastern California and Northern Nevada.

- Weekly on-line fishing report for our local waters
- Tahoe-Truckee guide service
- Pyramid Lake guide service

For more information:
www.renoflyshop.com
e-mail: info@renoflyshop.com



RENO FLY SHOP

294 E. Moana Ln., #14
Reno, NV 89502

(775)825-3474



**TRUCKEE RIVER
OUTFITTERS**

Open April 29
thru Sept 30

10200 Donner Pass Rd.
Truckee, CA 96161

(530)582-0900

Rod Building 109C: Two-Handed or Spey Fly Rods

This is the fourth article in a series about building two-handed fly rods (also called Spey rods). This month we cover guide spacing and selection of handles and reel seats. The next article will discuss selection of reels and fly lines for the two-handed fly rods.

Guide Spacing for Two-handed Rods:

Guide spacing for two-handed rods varies from manufacturer to manufacturer, so there is an opportunity for you to be a little creative, if you so desire. In general, fewer guides per running foot are used than one-handed fly rods. For example, one-handed fly rods use approximately 10 guides (excluding tip-top) for a 9'-0" rod, while most 8'-0" rods will use 9 guides (excluding tip-top). Two-handed fly rods will use 10 to 11 guides (excluding tip-top) for a 12'-6" up to a 14'-0" length rod. There is usually also a longer distance between guides on the two-handed fly rods.

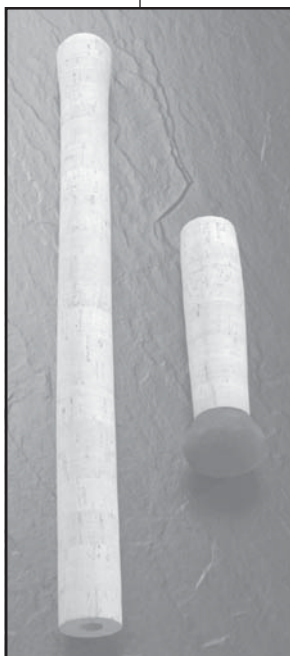
Most two-handed rods have the first stripping guide approximately 36" above the bottom of the rod. With this information, you can space the guides in a propor-

tional manner. Simple mathematical formulas have been developed for proportional guide spacing, but it is beyond the scope of this article to discuss them or their derivation. If you are interested in learning about them in more detail, feel free to contact me or refer to "[The New Advanced Custom Rod Building](#)" by Dale P. Clemens, page 194. If you are only interested in the numbers, the following web site provides a calculator for a couple of good methods (you supply the length, number of guides, and length of first guide to tip top): <http://www.uwm.edu/~stetzer/guideN.html>.

For most casts with a two-handed rod, the line does not really slide back and forth as much in the guides as with a one-handed rod. The caster mostly uses casting techniques that work with 75 feet to 100 feet or more of line that is literally out past the tip-top. This being the case, over-sized guides will not help you cast greater distances.

Reel Seats and Cork Grips:

Two-handed rods use a fore grip and a rear grip made of a good quality cork (see picture of Batson Enterprises cork grips). The rear grip is located at the bottom of the rod and is approximately 5 1/2" in



Continued on next page

continued from previous page

length with a rubber end. The fore grip is located above the reel seat and is approximately 13 1/2" in length

Reel seats used for two-handed rods are larger in diameter and longer than those for one-handed rods. For example, the reel seats shown (see picture of Batson Enterprises reel seats on next page) have an inside diameter of 3/4" to accommodate the larger blank diameters. These reel seats are also longer (approximately 4 3/4") to accommodate large reels required to hold large diameter fly lines needed

Continued on page 10

Beginning Fly Tying

The leaves are turning color and the days are getting shorter. This time of year we have less time to fish and if you have a passion for this sport like I do the dark cold evenings of winter can be filled with cozy times in your pajamas and slippers, sipping hot coffee at your vise, spinning thread, feathers, hair, and all sorts of materials around a hook. This can be fun and relaxing, or it can be confusing and frustrating. The clinic will cover fundamental procedures and techniques you need to know. They will enable you to tie well-constructed and productive flies. We will also cover basic knowledge you will need when selecting materials and tools for your fly tying endeavor. We will tie several old standard flies, and some new innovative patterns, including Mike Mercers infamous Micro May Fly Nymph. The selected patterns will demonstrate the basic techniques needed for a foundation to build upon for years of



Paul Egan

wonderful adventures in fly tying. You need no prior experience for this class. We will start with explaining how to put the hook in the vise and end with the whip-finish. In addition, you don't need to buy any expensive tools or materials. G.B.F. has loner vises available with a fully refundable deposit of \$20. And all the materials used in class will be provided. This clinic will be held on five consecutive Mondays starting January 16th and ending on February 13th. We will meet in the clubhouse (Folsom Lake Activity Center) at 6:30pm the class will run until 8:30. The cost of the class is \$30 to cover materials and club participation fee. This clinic is limited to eight members and filled very fast last time, so sign up early and mark your calendars. For more information on this clinic or loner vises please call me at (916) 919-2221 or e-mail me Paulegan@aol.com

Thank you all again for allowing me the opportunities to give something back to the sport that has brought so much joy and relaxation into my life.

. . . Paul Egan

New Members
Single membership: Greg Tift
Welcome Back: John Moore

December General Meeting is a Party



GBF has a tradition of celebrating the holidays with a Pot-Luck Banquet at our December meeting and this year the tradition continues. There won't be a speaker and only a minimum of announcements. Instead Roger & Phyllis Matson, our Refreshment Coordinators, have requested members to bring a dish per the chart below.

- A-H Appetizers
- I-R Main Dish
- S-Z Salads

The Board will provide the beverages and dessert. This is an opportunity to socialize with our fellow fly fishers, reliving the fun times we've had the past year and telling a tall fish tale or two. We also plan on presenting the slide show that was shown at last year's Annual Dinner. This is a great way to kick off the *Holiday Season* and we hope to see you there. While spouses and children may shy away from attending a regular meeting where "they talk about fishing" they are encouraged to attend and hopefully



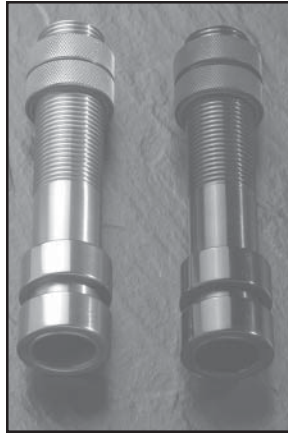
meet some of your fishing buddies as well as maybe see you featured in the slide show.

When: December 8, 7:00 PM

Where: GBF Clubhouse

Rod Building 109C:

continued from page 9



for two-handed casting. The reel seats are also equipped with two locking rings so the reel will not come loose.

In the next article of this series about two-handed fly rods, we will discuss the selection of reels and line sizes. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at larrylee@L3rods.com or telephone at (916) 962-0616.

International Sportsmen's Exposition

Coming to Cal Expo
January 19th - 22nd

Exhibit Hours:

Thursday/Friday	12 PM TO 9 PM
Saturday	10 AM TO 8 PM
Sunday	10 AM TO 5 PM

There is one building devoted to all aspects of fly fishing.

Sportsmen's Expo Volunteers Needed

The International Sportsmen's Exposition is coming to Sacramento on Thursday, January 19th through Sunday the 22nd. This is the only sports show that comes to Sacramento and it has a building devoted to fly fishing in addition to other buildings and exhibits featuring boats, RVs, hunting, travel destinations, guides, outfitters and of course "Fishing from the Dark Side". Attending the Expo provides you with an opportunity to learn about and see new gear and talk with factory reps. There are demonstrations put on by some of the biggest names in the sport. In addition, several of our members participate doing fly tying demonstrations in the Fly Tying Video Theater.

Jeff Burkholder has once again volunteered to coordinate the staffing of the GBF booth. We need vol-

unteers to work one or more two-hour shifts in the booth to extol the many benefits of our active club to individuals who are looking for a club home. Those who work the booth benefit by getting free admission which allows you to tour the entire exhibition.

As in the past, Jeff has gone to great lengths to make it interesting to both members working the booth and those who stop by to learn about our great club. During each two-hour shift, manned by two-members, there is a topic that is displayed and/or demonstrated (Net Building, Rod Building and Fly Tying) and one shift where Club Members need only to discuss the activities of the Club.

In addition to working the booth during the 4-day expo, two volunteers are needed to assist Jeff in setting up our booth on Wednesday evening from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Then on Sunday afternoon at 5 pm three members are needed for up to one hour to take down the booth and load it in Jeff's van.

Jeff has posted the shift schedules and information for volunteers on his webpage at <http://www.nmvinc.com/proofs/gbfc/expo/>. When you log on be sure to read all the information carefully that Jeff has provided and then see what shifts are available and email Jeff letting him know what date and times you are available to work. If you have any questions you can reach Jeff by email at jburkholder@nmvinc.com or by calling him at work (916) 852-7716 or on his cell phone (916) 806-7718.

keep up to date
www.gbflycasters.org

Annual Dinner Update

If you haven't already marked your calendar to attend our biggest club event of the year (happening Sunday, April 2, 2006), here's one more reason to do so....

Earn five free raffle tickets for each raffle prize donation* you secure.

Here's how it works... You ask your local grocer to make a donation to our raffle, they do, and you get five free raffle tickets. You get your favorite restaurant to pitch in a 'dinner for two' – and you get five free raffle tickets. You tell your neighborhood hardware store about us and they donate a prize – you get five free raffle tickets. It's that simple. *These donations must come from someone other than you.

To help with this, we have a proven solicitation letter you can use to seek business donations. Copies of the solicitation letter can be downloaded from the club website. Bottom line... for each donation you turn in over the next few months, you'll get five free raffle tickets at the dinner – and five more chances to win some of the thousands of dollars worth of prizes that will be raffled off that night. Don't miss out on this!

Everyone knows *someone* who owns or works for a business that might contribute something to help Granite Bay Flycasters continue its 20-year tradition of serving the community. Raffle donations can range from gift cards, gift certificates, and coupons to actual merchandise. Almost anything over

\$20 (value) is helpful, and donors/businesses who contribute over \$100 (value) will receive special recognition at the dinner.

Other news... Dinner tickets will be available at the January club meeting for \$35 each. The dinner will be at the Dante Club again; no-host bar opens at 4pm, dinner at 5pm. Don't forget... We need your photographs for the dinner slide show. Save your shots for now and wait for further information on how to submit them. Lastly...personal donations of funds to help finance the dinner event are always greatly appreciated!

Remember...April 2, 2006 for good food, great friendships, and fantastic raffle prizes!

... Joe Aichroth



KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

Craig Robertson

Realtor®

"Say you are with GBF and I will donate \$250 after close of escrow."



3001 Lava Ridge Court, Suite 100
Roseville, CA 95661

Office: 916-960-5043
Cell: 916-765-4971
Fax: 916-960-5083

VIEW MY WEB SITE FOR VIRTUALLY ALL
CURRENT LISTINGS IN THE AREA!

www.CraigRealEstate.biz

With Integrity, Commitment, and
Communication, We Succeed!



President's message

Continued from page 3

membership early than it is to spend money and time on reminder notices and postage. See the article from Paul Meyers, VP Membership in this month's Leader regarding our renewal program.

Since we have started renewing memberships it means that 2005 is coming to a close. By the time you read this you will have devoured your Thanksgiving turkey, started shopping for the holidays and begun planning what to do for New Year's Eve. And lastly, there are those New Year's Resolutions that crop up. I encourage all of you to take heed of Heath Wakelee's request (our VP of Conservation) "contribute a minimum of four (4) hours per year to some sort of conservation effort", and make it the number one item on your list of resolutions. We have a great sport that allows us to enjoy nature at its finest and we should all do something each year to insure our wonderful environment will be there to enjoy in the years ahead

for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. So make it a point to put this at the top of your list and don't let it go by unfulfilled; get involved in some way or another.

Wishing all of you a very happy and joyous holiday season,

....Art Hawkins

Granite Bay Flycasters
Classifieds

For Sale: Leer camper shell, truck rack, and bed liner for Tundra extra-cab truck. All are in like-new condition. Shell is factory dark grey color. Will sell as a package. Call Bill Carnazzo at (916) 295-9353, or send an email to humpyfly@yahoo.com.

For Sale: Minolta Weathermatic 35mm camera. Totally waterproof to 30 feet, has Two Lenses. Price: \$125 firm. Marc Longwood (916) 635-0652.

To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of *The Leader*, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: artlivings@comcast.net with subject line: 'GBF: Classified'. Or mail your info to: Art Livingston, 8330 Newbridge Way, Citrus Heights, CA 95610. All ads must arrive by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.



6412 Tupelo Drive, Suite C

Citrus Heights, CA 95610

916-722-1055

info@flyfishingspecialties.com

2006 Membership Renewals

If you attended the November General Meeting or read The Leader, you know that the Granite Bay Flycasters' membership drive is in full swing. You also heard that we were going to have two drawings. One for those that renewed before December and one for everyone that renews before the New Year.

In cooperation with American Fly Fishing Co, Granite Bay Flycasters has purchased two prizes. The prize for those that renew in the month of November is an Abel travel bag valued at \$225. For those who renew before the New Year (i.e. in November or December), you will be entered to win a large wet/dry bag with an MSRP of \$135.

If the prizes don't encourage you to renew, then let me offer a few other reasons to renew your membership.

For starters, access to fishouts, clinics and other activities that Granite Bay Flycasters host on a regular basis. There are at least two fishouts a month to both local and remote destinations. This is a perfect way to learn new waters or show others waters you already know. And if you are new to the sport or looking to hone your skills, clinics might be the ticket.

The Club puts on a double digit number of clinics that range from basic casting to advanced fly tying. These are put on by some of the most knowledgeable people in the business. This upcoming year will be no different.

If you cannot make the clinics, some of the monthly speakers at

our meetings are the top people in fly fishing. This year's list of speakers included names like Jay Fair, Dan Blanton and Mike Mercer. In the upcoming year we are going to have speakers with reputations just as big.

In addition to the items above, there is our monthly newsletter, The Leader. Many of the articles have had a wealth of information. For example, the series of articles on rod building which not only covered how to build a rod, it also covered many aspects of fly rods that were valuable to anyone that has wondered about the technologies that are going into the newest rods.

While we're on the topic of fly rods, is it me or has the amount of change in fly fishing increased dramatically lately? To me, I'm reminded of the 90's and the computer boom. Look at all of the different rods some of the major manufactures are producing, and I'm not even considering Spey rods. Add to the different types of rods, the number and types of fly lines some of the line manufacturing companies are producing are incredible. Not too long ago, the major question was do you want a double taper or weight forward. Now the choice of line is a lot more complicated. Therefore, one of the advantages of belonging to a club this large is that there is a vast group of people that is more than willing to help wade through this technology explosion.

I guess that is the real reason I'm a member in this Club. The people make the Club, not the other way around. This Club would not be what it is today without the people

continued on next page

continued from previous page

who willingly share their knowledge and skills. Therefore, I hope that everyone renews their membership and helps the Club move forward. Here are the details on how to do that:

Individual membership renewals are \$30.

Family membership renewals are \$35.

Please make checks payable to Granite Bay Flycasters and send them to:

Granite Bay Flycasters
Attn: Membership Renewal
4120 Douglas Blvd #306-356
Granite Bay, CA 95746-5936

If you have any questions please contact me at 916 797 1969 or paul.meyers@hp.com.

....Paul Meyers
VP of Membership

Steve Mueller

Financial Planning
Specialist

Smith Barney

155 Cadillac Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95825

- Retirement Planning
- Estate Planning & Preservation
- Education Funding
- Net Worth Analysis
- Asset Allocation
- Income Strategies

916/567-2036

steven.mueller@smithbarney.com

Kiene's *fly shop*



SCOTT FLY RODS SAS & VOYAGER

G LOOMIS GLX, GL#3, ADVENTURER & TRILOGY

ROSS "GUNNISON" FLY RODS

ORVIS
Clearwater
Waders
\$99.95

ROD & REEL, CASES

2654 MARCONI AVENUE, SACRAMENTO CA 95821

916/486-9958 800/4000-FLY

email: info@kiene.com

www.kiene.com

“Skyhomish Sunrise”

Steelhead season is here, and for veteran steelheaders it brings memories—some fond, and some nightmarish. The latter type generally conjure up nasty, cold, wet weather, swollen rivers, and days with maybe one take and if luck abounds, one fish. The former type recall halcyon days swinging flies through fishy water, eager, strong takes, and leaping, struggling, tackle-testing wild metalheads.

A lot of hoary legend and tradition surround steelheading and the sometimes-half-crazy fly casters who fall prey to its lure, similar to that found among Atlantic Salmon fly fishers. Endless debates occur in lodges, in drift boats, around campfires, and in long phone calls over the merits of rods, reels, lines, leaders, technique, spey-vs-single handed casting and, pertinent to this column, fly patterns.

As in virtually all categories of fly patterns, individual designs and styles come and go. But there is always a stable of known fish-catchers that have stood the test of time. Pick up any good steelhead fly fishing book and you will see them. One of those is the Skyhomish Sunrise—a truly beautiful, sleek, productive pattern. I have used it on rivers such as the North Umpqua and the Rogue, to name a few. I don't know why the fish like it—I just know they do. I suggest that you tie some of these in various sizes and tuck them into your steelhead box for those days when nothing seems to work. You may be pleasantly surprised. They also look good as Christmas decorations.



“Skyhomish Sunrise”

Tying instructions:

1. As I have emphasized in the past, the normal tail tie-in point is directly above the back of the barb. Traditional steelhead flies are tied with a short body, and the tail tie in point just above the point. Cover the hook with thread back to that point.

2. Tie in a strip of flat silver tinsel and take three wraps rearward and over-wrap it back to the same point. Tie it off. This is called a tag; it is common among traditional

Continued on next page

MATERIALS

Hook:	Tiemco 7999, Mustad 36890, or similar hook, #2/0 to 8
Thread:	Red 6/0 pre-waxed
Tag:	Flat silver tinsel
Tail:	Red and yellow hackle fibers, mixed
Body:	Medium red chenille or goat fur dubbing
Rib:	Fine oval silver tinsel
Hackle:	Red and yellow hackle wound together
Wing:	White polar bear or calf tail
Cheeks:	(Optional) Jungle cock-eyed feathers

Continued from previous page

steelhead patterns. The thread should be back to a point just above the point of the hook.

3. Build up a very small thread lump and tie on a mixture of yellow and red hackle fibers for the tail, right in front of the lump. Wrap back to the lump, forcing the hackle fibers to cock upward slightly. Hold the fibers tightly while performing this step, to keep the hackle from splaying out. The tail should extend rearward to a point just a bit longer than the bend of the hook.

4. Tie in a piece of fine oval tinsel and let it hang. This will be used as ribbing. At the same point tie in a piece of red medium chenille. Alternatively, if you are using red goat dubbing, build your dubbing rope. Wrap the chenille or rope forward to a point about 3/16" behind the eye. Leave this area free of thread for now.

5. Wrap the rib forward, using no more than 4 wraps. Tie it off.

6. Tie in a yellow and a red hackle of matching size and shape. Wrap these 3 or 4 times wet-fly style, moving forward slightly as you do. Tie them off and wrap rearward a few times to sweep the hackle back.

7. Tie in a small bunch of white calf tail or polar bear directly on top of the hook, to form the wing. The wing should extend rearward to about the middle of the tail. Remember, traditional steelhead flies are tied sparsely, so keep the size of the bundle of hair small.

8. If you have jungle cock eyed feathers and want to spare a couple, tie one on each side of the hook as eyes. This step is optional.

9. Form a nicely tapered thread head and whip finish. Coat the

head with a thick, shiny head cement such as Loon Hard Head.

Swing this jewel through steelie water, and hang on. See ya on the creek.

Yuba River Steelhead Fishouts

It's that time of year. The days are short, cold and wet and most importantly Steelhead have returned from their journeys at sea. Since they have been gone for months, they are looking for fly fishers to tell stories about their journeys. Therefore, being kind and considerate soles, 20 GBF members on two different days will make the trek to welcome the steelhead back to their birthplace.

Ok, so the above is not the totally true. 20 GBF members will be welcoming the steelhead on two occasions and hopefully enjoy their company for a few moments and then parting company so that someone else may enjoy the same thrill.

For several years, GBF has had a relationship with the University of California, Davis to get access to waters that are typically unavailable to the general fly fishing population. UCD runs a research property that is covered with oak forest that contains deer and turkeys everywhere and best of all at one end of the property is the Yuba River. The property is a few miles above the Highway 20 Bridge and it has no general public walk in access. As a result, this area gets very little fishing pressure. This is a unique opportunity for 20 GBFers to fish for this wonderful and hard fighting fish.

Continued on next page

continued from previous page

On two different Saturdays, January 7th and February 25th, the Club has received written permission to take some of its members onto the property. The Fishout Leader for January 7th is Paul Meyers and he can be contacted at 916-785-9446 or paul.meyers@hp.com. The Fishout Leader for the February 25th is Pete Koistinen and he can be contact at 916-780-0925 or peterkoistinen@comcast.net.



Paul Meyers

This is a limited access area and a limit of 20 fly fishers has been placed on the Club by UCD; the following is list of requirements to help insure a successful fishout.

- 2006 GBF membership dues need to be paid prior to the fishout. Those that don't have their dues paid will be moved to the bottom of the wait-list. This is a requirement for insurance purposes.

- Cancellations are always difficult both for the person that is canceling and the person leading the fishout. However, in this case, I think the person most affected is someone on the waiting list that could go. I'm hoping that on each

fishout above, we have 20 fly fishers. To accomplish this in the past, we have requested a \$10 commit fee. However, due to logistics this year, this is not possible. Instead we are asking each fly fisher to be honest. If you cannot or don't think you can go, please let the Fishout Leader know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Early notice means that the Fishout Leader has time to contact and confirm that the next person on the waiting list is available to go.

Steelhead on the Yuba are not as big as the ones on the American; however, they fight as hard as any other fish their size. Their jumps and long runs place you into the backing. This is what fly fishing is all about, that huge rush of adrenaline! Thoughts like "Is my tippet strong enough?", "Hum, did I test that knot?", "Ah, do I have enough backing?" and "Wow, this is a beautiful fish!" go through ones mind.

The equipment needs for this river are simple:

Length: 9 to 9.5 foot

Weight: 6 or 7 weight rod

Reel: good adjustable drag with 100 yards of backing capacity

Line: floating

Leader: 3 or 4X, 7.5 to 9 foot leader (fluorocarbon optional)

Tippet: 4 or 5X (fluorocarbon optional)

Nymphs: mayfly nymphs, stone fly nymphs, caddis lava and pupae under a large indicator that can support a few split shot. Usually this fishout is too late in the year for egg patterns to be effective.

Dries: elk hair caddis and yellow stimulator (to imitate the Skwalla stonefly) can be effective

continued on next page

continued from previous page

if there is a hatch or insects on the water.

One thing we would like to stress is that this is big water and it is moving. Depending on power requirements, the water flow might change throughout the day; therefore, keep one eye on the water level so you don't find yourself on the wrong side of the river and no way to get back. A couple of things I think about before hand can help if you are going to venture into the water:

- Boots with felt and studs
- Wading staff
- Fishing Partner
- Personal flotation device
- Common sense

In order to keep things fair, signups will start at the December meeting (no pre-signups) for the January fishout and one at the January meeting for the February fishout. A signup sheet will be placed at the front of the room and at break people can sign up for one of the trips. Additionally, to create as much access for the membership as possible, we are requesting that people only signup for one of the fishouts (not both). A wait list

will be managed and people on the wait list will be called if someone drops. However, managing a wait list is difficult work, so if you know you cannot go, please don't sign up. Regards,

. . .Pete Koistinen and
Paul Meyers

MOUNTAIN HARDWARE



TRUCKEE . BLAIRSDEN . SQUAW VALLEY
EMPLOYEE OWNED

TAHOE TRUCKEE'S PREMIERE FISHING AND OUTDOOR STORE

**Area's largest and most
complete year-round
selection of fly tying
material and fly fishing
equipment**

Come visit us at:	282 Bonta St.
11320 Donner Pass Rd.	Blairnsden, Ca
Truckee, Ca 96161	96103
(530) 587-4844	(530) 836-2589
Mon-Fri 7am-7pm	Mon-Fri 7am-5pm
Sun 8am-6pm	Sun 9am-5pm

Officers

President	Art Hawkins	916-725-3026
VP Membership	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
VP Conservation	Heath Wakelee	916-870-5253
Secretary	Nick Burnell	916-488-3725
Treasurer	Larry Lee	916-962-0616

Directors:

Thorough June, 2008	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Through June, 2008	Mike Kaul	530-677-8022
Through June, 2007	Kent Ripley	916-797-6940
Through June, 2007		
Through June, 2006	Art Livingston	916-722-2992
Through June, 2006	Craig Robertson	916-786-4674
At Large, 2006	Mike Lang	530-677-7491
Past President	Gary Flanagan	916-223-4240

Committees:

Annual Dinner	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Casting Instruction	Sturmer White	916-791-2618
Classroom Egg Prog.	Rick Radoff	916-624-2107
	Frank Stollen	916-725-6894

Fishmaster	Gary Flanagan	916-223-4240
Fly Tying	Bill Carnazzo	916-663-2604
Fly Tying Jam	Jim Holmes	916-967-6709
Gatekeepers	Michael Gervais	916-783-5477
	Jack Peuller	916-797-1547
Golden Trout Program	Larry Goodell	530-268-8160
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Leader Editor	Art Livingston	916-722-2992
Leader Layout	Vivian Mevorah	916-408-0678
Webmaster	Kent Ripley	916-797-6940
Librarian	Bob &Carolynn Williams	916-782-7059
Merchandising	Jim Bitcon	916-784-1162
Monthly Programs	Paul Meyers	916-797-1955
Monthly Raffle	Bob DeRoss	916-933-4716
New Members Coord.	Joe Aichroth	916-772-4177
Youth Program	Position Open	
Refreshments	Roger & Phyllis Mattson	916-632-8802

www.gbflycasters.org

The Leader

The Newsletter of The Granite Bay Flycasters

Granite Bay Flycasters
4120 Douglas Blvd. #306-356
Granite Bay, CA 95746-5936

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 Art Hawkins at 916-725-3026.

Doors open between 6:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. 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 on-line at 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 prorated throughout the year. For membership information, call Paul Meyers at 916-797-1955, or visit the website at www.gbflycasters.org.

The Leader: To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Art Livingston at artlivings@comcast.net. Please put *GBF Leader* in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month. Thank you to Alpha Graphics, 916-638-2679 for printing the *Leader* at cost.

please notify if address change