

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo by Nick Marmolejo

GBF Fly Tying Station at the Salmon Festival  
supervised by Pete Peterson (blue shirt).

*November 2005*



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

# NOVEMBER 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5. Beginning Casting Clinic
6.	7.	8. Conservation Committee Meeting	9.	10. Gen'l Mtg. 7:00 P.M.	11.	12. Intermediate Casting Clinic NZMS Study Putah Creek
13.	14.	15. Fly Tying Jam	16.	17. Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.	18. Rogue River Fishout	19.
20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
27.	28.	29.	30.	1. December Lake Amador Fishout		

# President's Message

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Salmon Festival was held last weekend. We had two tent-booths set up, one for helping kids 8 years and older tie a wooly bugger fly, and the other being a Club information booth as well as getting those interested assigned to a fly casting instructor. Pete Peterson did an outstanding job getting things set up as well as coordinating the Club's activities both days. As usual when Pete is involved everything ran smoothly aside from him forgetting to schedule a calm (no wind) day on Sunday.

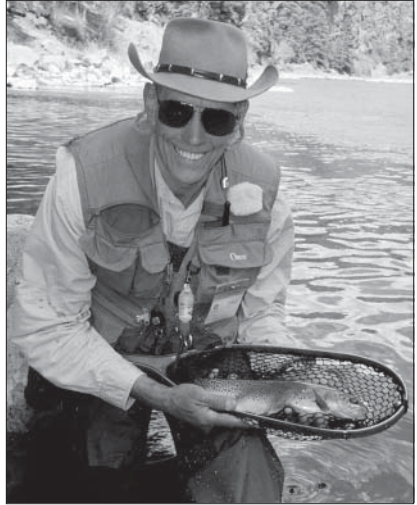


Photo by Nick Marmolejo

We had a total of 341 youngsters tie a wooly bugger over the two days thanks to the many club members who volunteered to be instructors. Those who participated in the fly tying say that they had more fun than the kids. While volunteers were only requested to work one 3 hour shift many worked two shifts and some worked both days. A special thank you goes to Kiene's Fly Shop, American Fly Fishing Co, Paul Egan, Paul/Deena Meyers and Joe/Barbara Bania for donating the materials used to tie all those wooly buggers.

Our fly casting mini-lessons re-

## Art Hawkins



ally pulled in a bunch of adults as well as a few youngsters over the age of 10. We had 6 instructors that were kept busy non-stop on both days. Several ladies took advantage of the opportunity to give casting a try even though their husband/boyfriend wasn't interested. When you think about it, this may be the only opportunity that most of these people will have to try casting and possibly get them into the sport if they don't have a family member or friend that is a fly fisher.

Lastly, we had a lot of visitors spend time in the booth to learn more about the many benefits that GBF membership provides. At Thursday's General Meeting some of these Salmon Festival visitors showed up and joined the Club. I want to thank all the members who manned the vises, fly rods and information booth over the weekend.

see "President's Message" page 12

## Conservation Corner Four Hours Per Year

Whether it is spending a Saturday morning cleaning up a stream, counting salmon, electro-fishing, helping in an information booth or classroom project, we urge all members to spend at least one morning or afternoon per year on a conservation project of their choosing. If you can't get out because of family obligations, there is a lot you can do from home, and the most effective option may be writing one letter in support of legislation that protects a fishing opportunity. The major point here is to do something each year in support of our fantastic sport.

Why is volunteering important? Someone came before us and worked to establish and preserve

the fishing opportunities we enjoy today. If we don't carry on that effort, future generations may lose the thrill of being outdoors, feeling clean cold water rushing against their waders and catching a bright, healthy rainbow trout. That picture is worth a lot to me today, and I hope future generations will have a similar opportunity. Unless we all work to preserve what we have, we can pretty much guarantee that it will not be there for future generations.

We now have over 350 members in our fly fishing club and without much effort on any one person's part, we can make a very significant difference in the future of our sport. Please join with me in volunteering four hours per year.

. . .Heath Wakelee  
VP Conservation

## SALMON · STEELHEAD · TROUT



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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## Lake Amador Fishout

Granite Bay Flycasters has scheduled a trip to Lake Amador on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and is our last outing of the 2005 season.

Amador has been a constant fly-fishing destination for our Club for the past several years. The reason we go is that Amador provides the float tuber the chance of catching really big trout. Four to five pounders are not uncommon and beginner and advanced anglers both have the same opportunity to score on size and numbers of fish.

In the past, the most popular flies have been a black leach pattern or a black or dark green wooly bugger. A 5-weight rod with floating line and a long leader usually works well. The trout feed near the surface or at about 5 feet depth, so I would bring an intermediate and a sinking line also.

Car-pooling is the way to go because they increased rates and charge \$9.00 a car to park plus about \$10.00 each to fish from a float tube or pontoon boat. The Thomas Brothers Guide will give you directions. Driving distance from the Granite Bay area is a little less than an hour.

If you are interested in joining everyone for a hearty breakfast at the Lake Amador Tackle Box Cafe, the grill opens at 8:00 AM on Thursdays, so if you plan to have breakfast figure 8:00 AM.

The fees are:

\$9.00 a car for parking

\$8.00 to fish (\$7.00 if you're over age 55)

\$2.00 more for a float tube (discounted for GBF Members)

If you have any questions you can reach me at: [916] 434-1951 or [richarddavis311@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richarddavis311@sbcglobal.net)

...Dick Davis

## Fishing on the Lighter Side

As a novice fly fisher I often marvel at the skill and the zeal of many of our members as they approach this great art. It can indeed be serious business when a trophy fish is carefully pursued, with a deft presentation—yes, I've learned much about the value of presentation and will no doubt spend years incorporating the finer aspects of this key to success. But there is also a lighter side to all of this—the side that has more to do with the surrounding experience. It's about the sights, the smells, the sheer beauty of where we fish, and particularly the experiences we share at the fireside after a day of fishing. The time simply enjoying the great outdoors and swapping fish stories is what I mean about the lighter side of fishing. I'm sure many of these stories are embellished, and perhaps surpass the realm of possibility as they are retold. Nonetheless, I've heard some really good ones in my short time with the club. And here is my story from the most recent Bridgeport Fishout, on the lighter side, of course.

Having arrived in Bridgeport and completed a half-day of fishing on the Lower Twin Lakes, my friend Art and I began collecting the usual fishing intelligence about the East Walker River—water flows, hatches, particular patterns, locations, etc. With a trip to the local fly shop for any final tips and a few flies, we headed for the legendary East Walker. Art chooses a run about 100 meters above the nice flat on a bend I have selected. I've heard the

*Continued on page 18*

*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 October**

**Beginners:** - No Entries

**Non-Beginners:**

Bragging rights: Jim Holmes

\$25.00 - Michael Gervais

\$25 gift certificate from American Fly Fishing Company

## Park Closes Earlier

Folsom Lake Park has switched to Winter Hours and they close the park at 7:00 p.m. Thanks to Michael Gervais, our volunteer Gate Keeper, you can gain access to the park until 7:30, but not a minute later. It is best for you to arrive by 7:15 or earlier so that you have time to park and get to the Clubhouse prior to the start of the meeting.

## Missing Emails?

Have you been missing out on the GBF Email Blasts providing last minute Club information and upcoming event reminders? If so, I don't have your correct email address. To get on the distribution, send me an email addressed to [art.hawkins@rcsis.com](mailto:art.hawkins@rcsis.com). Don't overlook the "dot" between my first and last name.

## Fishing Photos Wanted

We need photos for our Annual Dinner slide show. Your shots of club events, including fishouts, classes, fly-tying jams, and other activities are what make the Annual

Dinner slide show special! Save your photos for now (digital, film, or slides) and keep your eye on future issues of *The Leader* for information on how to submit them for the show.



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## December Holiday Pot Luck

Every year at our December Club Meeting we get together for a holiday potluck banquet which is provided by the membership. The GBF Board will pay for and provide Drinks, Coffee and Desserts. So plan on joining us for food and the sharing of a fish "tale" or two.

Our monthly Snack Coordinators, Roger & Phyllis Matson, have divided up the membership by last name and asks that everyone bring a dish according to the table below:

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

If you have something special you want to bring contact Phyllis at 916-632-8802.

## Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off—December 3

There's something about cooler weather that gets me thinking about chili! It is time to start gathering those ingredients together because the GBF Annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off is scheduled for Saturday, December 3. Come and browse for bargains and then sample some of the nastiest, hottest, tastiest chili on the West Coast (of Folsom Lake). Chili entries should arrive no later than 10 AM with tasting to begin shortly thereafter. The winner of the chili cook-off (by popular vote) wins \$50 and the bragging rights for an entire year!

For those of you who can't resist a bargain, or who are looking to clear some things out of the closet before the spouse disowns you,

here is your chance to find that spare spool, pick up that terrific rod, find a backup outfit for that saltwater trip or stock up on some of those flies before the Holidays. Sales space may be limited so those interested in setting up a sales table should contact Nick Burnett at [nickcsus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nickcsus@sbcglobal.net) or at 916-488-3725 to reserve a space. You should also check for sign up sheets at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Look for more details about starting times for set up and shopping/tasting on website and at the November meeting. See you there!

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

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

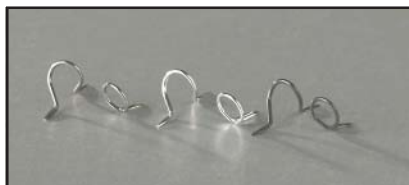
This is the third article about selecting guide types, guide sizes, and guide spacing for two-handed fly rods (also called Spey rods). I was intending this to be the last article of the series on two-handed rods, but realized there is much more information that I realized that needs to be covered.

### Guide Selection for two-handed Rods:

Two or three stripper double foot guides typically make up the first two or three guides above the handle. These guides have a ceramic-ring located in the center of a stamped metal guide (see photo). This type of guide is also sometimes used on single handed fly rods, but are primarily used with bait casting or spinning rods. There are a number of materials used to make the ceramic ring such as aluminum oxide, silicon nitride, and silicon carbide (SiC). Each type of ceramic ring has a hardness associated with it, dependent upon the ceramic material. Of the materials listed above, SiC is the hardest material. Diamonds are used to polish the surface of a SiC guide to get the required smooth surface. A very hard ceramic insert provides a smooth surface for the fly line to slide on, one which will not be worn by line contact. The metal frame set for the stripper guide is coated in either titanium carbide, chrome, or black chrome as illustrated in the photo (shown from left to right). Typical stripper guide sizes used for

two-handed rods are size 12, 16, 20, and sometimes 25. Two-handed rods with line weights of 5, 6, 7, or 8 typically have stripper guide sizes of 12 and 16. Two-handed rods with line weights of 9 and 10 will tend to have stripper guide sizes of 16 and 20.

Snake or single-foot wire guides (see photo) make up the majority of the guides on a fly rod. They are located between the stripper guide or guides and the tip-top guide. Snake and single-foot wire guides come with different coatings such as titanium carbide, chrome, and black chrome (as illustrated in the photo from left to right). The titanium carbide coating is the hardest, and therefore causes the least amount of line sliding resistance. However, chrome and black chrome coatings are also quite hard and durable. Snake or wire guides used on two-handed rods are typically sized as 3, 4, 5, and 6. Two-handed fly rods with line weights of 5, 6, 7, or 8 will typically use snake or single foot wire guides sizes of 3, 4, and 5, while two-handed fly rods with line weights of 8, 9, or 10, will typically use snake or single foot wire guide sizes of 4, 5, and 6.



Tip-top guides (see photo) are made of the same materials and coatings as snake and single foot wire guides. A tip-top guide, as its name implies, is located at the tip of the rod. The guide typically con-

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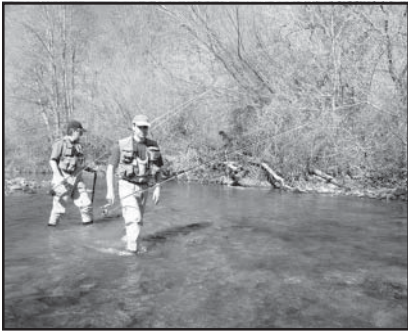
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sists of a large sized loop. The tube section of the guide, which fits over the blank, is constructed in various diameters, which range from 3.5 to 7.5.

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

## Walk Putah Creek and get a chance to win free Patagonia wading boots

As a volunteer group, Granite Bay Flycasters has been the clear leader in supporting New Zealand Mudsnaill research and support actions. Those actions have included education, posting stream-side alerts, governmental advocacy, field assistance, and most recently providing support for scientific research.



These actions are remarkable considering the lack of action taken in other states and the destructive

potential of New Zealand Mudsnaill infestations. I am frequently presented with opinions from fly fishers that question the need for research. Recent work in the Green River (Wyoming) shows a dramatic increase of mudsnails in trout stomachs especially browns. Seventy-eight percent of brown trout caught in the study area downstream from the Flaming Gorge Dam had mudsnails in their digestive system. Forty-three percent of those mudsnails were alive. Back in the lab, trout were allowed free-swimming space and unlimited food. Trout limited to mudsnails lost 0.2% of their body weight over three 100-day studies. Trout fed a diet of natural scuds gained 1% of their weight daily. This original work is concerning and certainly supports the need to slow the spread of mudsnails.

To help prevent the spread of mudsnails (and other organisms) to clean waters, we still need to clarify certain aspects of treating our wading boots. The NCCFFF is requesting volunteer assistance from fly fishers. On Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, we plan to meet at Putah Creek (Fishing Access #5) to walk a course through the mudsnail infestation and test two products that have the potential to be effective, easy-to-use, and non-damaging to equipment or the environment. Patagonia Corporation has contributed \$2,100.00 to assist with expenses. Volunteers will be treated to a barbeque lunch, several generous give-away items, and the secrets to fishing Putah Creek. The main objective of this program is to identify a product that can be

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF PATAGONIA CHILE

Mike Mercer was born and raised amidst the blue ribbon trout streams of Northern California, learning stream craft on the lesser-known fisheries surrounding Chico and Oroville, then graduating to the more renowned waters outside of Redding, where he still lives, and works for The Fly Shop. During his nearly 3-decade tenure with the Shop, he has been fortunate to ply some of the finest and most famous of the world's fly fishing destinations, including Alaska, Canada, Russia, Christmas Island, Venezuela, Mexico, Belize, the Bahamas, Argentina and Chile.

### *Mike Mercer*

ONE OF UMPQUA FEATHER  
MERCHANTS' TOP FLY DESIGNERS

In addition, Mike Mercer is one of Umpqua Feather Merchants' top fly designers, His innovative patterns are well regarded around the world. In response to that,

Mike authored the book *Creative Fly Tying*, published by Wild River Press (July 15, 2005). This is the book serious fly tiers across the country have been waiting for. Mike, whose highly original trout patterns have made him one of Umpqua Feather Merchants' top fly designers, offers fresh and thought-provoking insights to the art of fly tying in *Creative Fly Tying*, his first book. These concepts are drawn from a lifetime spent on the water fishing and guiding, studying the prey and feeding habits of fish. Mercer shows how to think differently about trout flies; he explains



which materials to use and why. He reveals the evolutions and epiphanies that went into the creation of 12 of his favorite innovative patterns:

- Gold Bead Poxyback Green Drake Nymph
- Copper Bead Micro Z-Wing Caddis
- Profile Spinner
- Rag Sculpin
- Micro Mayfly Nymph
- Alaska Lemming
- PMD Trigger Nymph
- Gold Bead Biot Epoxy Golden Stone Nymph
- Sac Fry
- Rag Hex Nymph
- Zebra Midgeling
- Glasstail Caddis Pupa

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Very little is left to chance in these deadly flies—they are truly designed, head to tail. Tying sequences are elaborately and exquisitely photographed in super-sharp detail by Ted Fauceglia, America's foremost macro-photographer of aquatic insects.

His show tonight will encompass some of the highlights of Patagonia Chile - the fishing, people and remarkable beauty of the country, as well as details on the specific lodge programs. In addition, Mike will cover 3 or 4 of the fly patterns detailed in his book.

Mike has offered to bring several books with him to the meeting.

When: November 10, 7:00 PM

Where: GBF Clubhouse

## New Member Orientation

New to the Club? ...the area? ...to the sport of fly fishing? ...or all three? Want some help—or just some specific information? Here's a chance for new (or existing) GBF members to get valuable one-on-one time with more experienced members who'll share their knowledge. We'll meet at the Clubhouse at 6 PM and talk until the November meeting gets underway. The meeting will be Q & A format, so bring any / all questions regarding the Club, equipment, resources (tackle & information), skill development needs / opportunities, and of course where to fish. Learn how to get the most out of our great club...and this wonderful sport. Interested members need only to show up.

... Joe Aichroth



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**President's message**

*Continued from page 3*

There were far too many volunteers to mention by name in this column, but please know your assistance



Photo by Nick Marmolejo

was greatly appreciated.

Those who attended the October General Meeting were treated to a great presentation by Dan Blanton. Dan shared many of his "secrets" on fishing for stripers in the San Luis Reservoir and O'Neill Forebay. He covered where stripers like to hold, where to find these holding spots in both bodies of water, what flies to use, and how to fish those flies. He also reminded everyone that the wind on these lakes create very dangerous conditions. You should always wear a personal flotation device when underway and when wind stronger than a gentle breeze comes up – get off the water.

Don't forget to mark you calendar for the GBF Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off Contest to be held at the Activity Center (Club House) on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. This annual event provides members with a chance to sell their surplus equipment. I've often thought some of you do this just so you can create a wish list and get new equipment as Christmas gifts. For those who are new to fly fishing, this is a

fantastic opportunity to buy a variety of used equipment at a fraction of the cost of buying new. Then there is the outstanding Chili feed that takes place as members vie for the \$50 first place prize. See the article by this year's coordinator, Nick Burnett, for more details on both the Swap Meet and Chili Contest.

The International Sportsmen's Exposition is coming to Sacramento's Cal Expo on January 19-22. For those not familiar with ISE, this one event provides an opportunity to check out many different sporting activities and associated equipment that includes boats, travel destinations, RV's, camping gear, guides, lodges, etc. GBF will once again have a booth in the Fly Fishing Building promoting the Club. Jeff Burkholder has volunteered to coordinate GBF's participation as he has done for the prior two years. Look for more details in December's *The Leader* and mark your calendars to save the date.

Wishing you and yours an enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday.

....Art Hawkins

**Granite Bay Flycasters  
Classifieds**

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](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.

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Rogue River Fishout  
November 18th - 20th

#### New Members

Single membership: Deborah  
Stewart, David Staydohar I, Dave  
Staydohar II, Dan Brear



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[info@flyfishingspecialties.com](mailto:info@flyfishingspecialties.com)

## Rogue River Fishout

The Rouge River trip has been scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be staying in Shady Cove at the Edgewater Motel. Shady Cove is a leisurely five-hour drive from Sacramento on Interstate Five.



The motel is right on the water and is next to a small park that has a launch ramp. Depending on which section of the river you float, this launch ramp will either be our take out point or the beginning of a downstream float trip. There are actually three different floats that we will be taking during the trip and I found them all productive.

Although indicator fishing is very productive and angling style is your choice, I prefer to swing a black, size 6 articulated leech through the various runs. There is nothing like the feel of a large bright Steelhead smacking your fly as it swings on a tight line in front of a fresh run Pacific Steelhead.

A drift boat or a pontoon boat, (at least eight foot), is required to fish the Rogue River. This River is not difficult to float and is comparable to floating the Yuba from Highway 20 downstream to Sycamore.

If you are interested in booking a guide and don't have a watercraft but still want to go, please let me know and I will give you a few

names of guides that specialize in fly-fishing the Rogue River.

I have placed more information on the GBF Website regarding equipment, maps and other specific items. If you have any questions you can call me at (916) 223-4240.

You can make reservations at the Edgewood Motel by calling (541) 878-3171. This Rogue River is nationally known for exciting fishing opportunities.

. . . Gary Flanagan  
Fishmaster

## 2006 Membership Renewal Drive

Do you want a chance to win a prize? Do you want to avoid being hassled to renew your annual membership with the best fly fishing club around? I know for me, the New Year is very busy and contains many distractions, like how fast I can give up on my New Year's resolutions.

Therefore, Granite Bay Flycasters starts its membership renewal drive prior to the end of the calendar year. Thus, November marks the start of the 2006 Membership Renewal Drive. Renewing your membership is quick and simple. No forms to fill out. No physicals to take. No tests to pass. (If there were, this might be my last article in *The Leader*.) All that is needed is to follow a couple of simple directions.

The first is to have a check (made out to "Granite Bay Flycasters") or cash in the following amounts:

\$30.00 for individual membership; or,

\$35.00 for a family membership

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These are the same amounts that they have been for the last few years.

The second is to get the above money to the Club. This can be accomplished by mailing a check to:

Granite Bay Flycasters  
Membership Renewal  
4120 Douglas Blvd #306-356  
Granite Bay, Ca. 95746-5936

If sending a check by mail is not your thing, you can drop by the Membership Renewal Table that will be set up at the November, December and January meetings. At the table, I'll have a membership list with the status of every member. If you are not certain that your check was received or you want to

check the status of your membership, please drop by.

This year, the Club is offering two prizes for those who renew their membership before the New Year. At the December General Meeting, a name will be selected from the members who renewed their membership before December 1, 2005. The winner will have a choice of one of the two prizes. Then at the January General Meeting, a name will be selected from all the members who renewed their membership before January 1, 2006. The only exception is the first winner will not be in the second drawing.

. . . Paul Meyers  
Vice President of Membership  
Phone: 916-797-1969.  
Email: paul.meyers@hp.com

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## “Biot Emerger”

Here is a very simple emerger pattern that also qualifies as a soft-hackle fly if modified slightly. The Biot Emerger has a tail; many soft-hackle flies have no tail, so the modification would be to simply not include a tail. Otherwise, the tying techniques for this fly mirror those for a typical soft-hackle pattern. Both emergers and soft hackle flies can be extremely effective during a hatch if fished properly. I like to fish them either with an indicator or on a swing.

This month's selection is generic, but the idea for it came from an article by Dave Klausmeyer in a recent issue of *American Angler*. Let's tie it in a pale yellow color.

### Tying instructions:

1. Wrap the front half of the hook with lead wire and cover the hook shank with thread after de-barbing it. At a point on the shank just above the back of the now smashed barb, tie in two biots to form the tail. The concave side of the biot should be facing out as in the case of a Prince Nymph. The tail should be no longer than the hook shank.

2. Tie in the gold wire at the base of the tail. Tie in a biot at the same point. It should be tied in by its tip.

3. Wrap the biot forward in nice even wraps. Cover the rear two thirds of the hook and tie it off. Now counter-wrap the gold wire forward to the same point and tie it off.

4. Apply a small amount of dubbing to the thread and form a small thorax, leaving at least 1/6 of the hook shank behind the eye for the hackle.

5. Strip all of the barbs from one side of a small brown partridge hackle, and remove any fluff from



“Biot Emerger”

the butt end of the feather. Tie it in by its tip at the front of the thorax.

6. Take two wraps around the shank, tie it off, and clip the excess. Apply a drop of head cement, being careful not to clog the eye of the hook.

To change this fly to a soft hackle pattern, simply eliminate the tail and thorax. You can also substitute dubbing for the biot abdomen. You can change the color to match the hatch.

Try swinging one or two of these through fishy water during a hatch. The grab will excite you. See ya on the creek!!!

### MATERIALS

Hook:	Tiemco 100 or similar hook, #10-18
Thread:	Pale yellow 8/0 Tail (optional) Red deer hair
Abdomen:	Pale yellow goose or turkey biot
Thorax:	Pale yellow rabbit dubbing
Weight:	.010 lead wire
Tail:	Pale yellow goose or turkey biots
Rib:	Fine gold wire
Hackle:	Brown partridge
Head:	Thread

## Advanced Tying Class

We will be offering an advanced tying class in January, 2006. This class is for solid intermediate tiers who want to increase their skill level. Please don't sign up unless you have actually achieved the intermediate level, as the class syllabus will assume the basic ability to easily and quickly perform many standard tying techniques.

The class will be conducted on five or six consecutive Monday evenings commencing January 23, 2006. I have reserved the Event Center at Raley's Market in Granite Bay for this class.

The plan for the class is somewhat atypical, but is organized to introduce a variety of styles taught by different instructors. The lineup is as follows:

- Tying with hair  
Sturmer White
- Tying effective bass bugs  
Pete Peterson
- Tying salt water poppers  
Leo Gutterres
- Tying still water patterns  
Jim Christensen
- Tying better dry flies  
Bill Carnazzo
- Surprise session  
To be named

This is going to be a great class. We will limit it to the first eight members who sign up and pay the \$25 fee that has been set by the Board of Directors. It's first come-first serve, and the first sign up sheet will be at the November general meeting. Call me with any questions at (916) 295-9353 (my cell number, because I am moving during this month and my land line number will change), or send me an email at [humpyfly@yahoo.com](mailto:humpyfly@yahoo.com).

. . .Bill Carnazzo

## Walk Putah Creek

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recommended and made available through the NCCFFF.

We plan on using staggered walks to reduce the treatment workload at the parking lot. Volunteers will be asked to remain at the site for at least one hour to allow for secondary boot testing. To volunteer, contact Gary Flanagan at (916) 223-4240.

. . .Ken Davis  
Aquatic Biologist  
NCCFFF Board Member

## Pontoon Boat Reminders

The time is prime for fishing many local rivers. Drifting in a pontoon boat can be an enjoyable experience. Following common sense rules and these simple reminders will go a long way in keeping you out of trouble on the river.

1. Learn to read the water. The real secret to successful drifting is to let the natural flow of the river do the work. Use it to your advantage!

2. Safety is always a concern. A personal floatation vest is mandatory on most waters. Caution: some states/rivers do not allow inflatable life vests. Vests should always be worn in rough/unknown water or windy conditions. It is a good idea to tie down your oars as they can easily be pushed out of the oarlocks if struck by an object. A spare oar is not a bad idea. I always tie a loose 10ft. line between the bow-stern pontoon rings which can be used to secure the boat when exiting/

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*The Lighter Side*

*continued from page 5*

two mile stretch below the Bridgeport Lake spillway yields some very large fish, but they are wily and have been tested by some great anglers. I'm still new to all of this, but I figure I've got a chance and that practice is indeed what I need most. I'm going to give it my best; so I begin to work on my presentation, casting upstream, mending the cast, and trying to maintain a natural drift, while carefully monitoring my indicator. After a few casts I'm feeling pretty good, and then it happens—the light side to all of this. I look upstream about 15 meters from my fishing run and see a rather substantial guy with a spinning rod in hand fording the river, one big wader splash followed by another. He's in about two feet of water and beating a good path across the top of my run. I know all this agitation isn't good for my fishing a few meters downstream. I briefly cast a glare his way, take a quick look at my indicator, and then pan back to see where he is headed. But the spinning guy has vanished!!!! He was three quarters of the way across at last check, and then he disappeared. The first clue is a leather hat that emerges at the tail of a water pocket and is rapidly floating toward me. And then the spinning guy emerges from what turns out to be a six foot deep pool near the river's edge. His thinning hair pasted to his scalp and gasping for air, he thrashes his way to the bank. (As an afterthought, there isn't a wader belt made to prevent water gravity from saturating every inch of his anatomy. I already know this from experience.)

At this point I use my wading staff to snag the guy's leather lid as it passes by. As he approaches me, I hand him his hat and politely ask: "Any fish in that hole?" He grumbles something and sloshes off across the sage brush to his vehicle.

I stood in the river, began to laugh, looked skyward, and smugly thought that there is justice among fishers after all. I took a deep breath, gazed at the majestic snow-capped Sierra's to the west, and reflected ...life is indeed good. And to me, this is the lighter side of it all. I didn't catch a big trout that day, but I got a great laugh and left with a whopper of a story.

... Tom Pettey

*Pontoon Boat Reminders*

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tethering the boat or otherwise can be grabbed easily if needed in an emergency. I usually carry a hand pump as air pressures change during the day. A patch kit is optional, but I always carry a Leatherman-type tool in my side pouch. Periodically check for loose rubber doughnut retainers on your oars.

3. Anchors are another issue. They should always be used when the boat is beached. Throw out at least 8ft. of rope, regardless of water depth. I have chased several boats down river when anchored too tightly. Anchors can be used midstream in mild flowing water. Always deploy the anchor when the boat is facing straight down stream; if the boat is angled, a pontoon can dig in or otherwise tip you over. Take care when anchoring in very

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fast water. My motto: "If not sure, don't anchor." Caution: Anchors do get caught in rocks & may not be retrievable; cutting the rope & abandoning the anchor may be the only option.

4. What to do about rods? Tie them down or tether if in unknown or questionable water. I personally do not care for vertical rod holders as I have seen many rods lost when pulled out by overhead branches. My preference is to lay/string my rod lengthwise along the pontoon. A plastic case, rope loops or shock type cord all work well. Remember to pay attention to what is above and below you when floating down a river. Banging into obstacles in the river or on the bank can expose rod tips to breakage.

5. While drifting down river it is common to get into shallow water, to graze the bottom, hit a rock or bank. The pontoons normally are rugged enough to withstand most impacts. Always face down river and let the natural current do the work. The key is to keep away from sharp objects! Watch out for sticks, sharp rocks and overhead sweepers (trees or branches hanging over

the water). Keep your feet on the pegs, out of the water when drifting or they may get caught and pull you out of the boat. I do not use fins on moving water for similar reasons.

6. Reading the water is important. As the river flows you will encounter fast, slow, shallow & deep water. Water will form a natural "V" indicating the channel, follow through the "V" where practical. An inverted "V" indicates a submerged object, pass to one side or the other. When there is a bend in the river the deeper channel is usually towards the outside bank.

7. When faced with an obstruction or anything else you want to avoid, point the boat towards the object and row away from it. Short, shallow, strong strokes work well for adjusting boat direction. Many times the above-water obstruction creates a "bow wave" which may help by pushing you away from the object. In a very swift water flow, the current can carry you directly into the object. There is usually a depression after passing an object midstream and you may be drawn back towards the obstacle (back eddy).

*(Items 8 thru 11 in the next issue)*

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# 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.gbflycasters.org).

**The Leader:** To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Art Livingston at [artlivings@comcast.net](mailto: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.

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