

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



Photo taken by Karl Wolff

Bill Carnazzo with a 35 lb.  
Dorado taken at Baja.

*February 2007*



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

# FEBRUARY 2007

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.	7.	8. Conservation Committee Mtg. 6:00 pm General Meeting 7:30 P.M.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14. Steelhead egg deliveries Nimbus Hatchery 8:00 AM	15. Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.	16.	17. Yuba River Fishout
18.	19.	20. Fly Tying Jam 6:30 P.M.	21.	22.	23. Fly Fishing Show Pleasanton Fairgrounds	24.
25. Fly Fishing Show Pleasanton Fairgrounds	26.	27.	28.			

# President's Message

Rick Radoff

Fran and I just got back from the ISE Show at Cal Expo. I took some pictures of our booth, with Larry Lee wrapping a rod, and Frank Stolten looking busy, also. It was time for a shift change, and Taylor Yates was standing ready to take over Frank's position.

Caddie corner from our booth was Bill Carnazzo in the Fly Tying Theater tying one of his patterns. We walked over to the Fly Tying demonstration area, and there was Paul Egan and Isaac English, along with others, tying flies for an audience. Ron and Jeanne English were at the Youth Fair helping Floyd Dean with casting for our younger generation. I would say that the Granite Bay Flycasters were well represented at the show, and I would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped with our representation at the Sacramento ISE Show at Cal Expo.

I announced at the last meeting that we need someone, or even a couple of people, to take over the Librarian duties. Bob (Not Joe) and Carolyn Williams have done a great job, and I would like to thank them for their time and effort that they have put into our library. Please contact me if you are interested in the Librarian position. Don't forget those New Year's Resolutions—volunteer and get more involved in the Club.

By the time you get this *Leader*, I will have sent out a Membership



Survey via an e-mail blast. Please fill out the survey and mail it back, or turn it in at the February or March meeting. There is an incentive for doing this. There will be a TFO fly rod given away at the Annual Dinner, drawn from the names of all that turned in a survey (you don't need to be present to win). That is pretty good odds for winning a prize of that caliber. The Board of Directors will use the information gathered from the surveys to help guide the direction of the club in the future. So, it is important that we get a large response (hence the incentive).

It has been said many times by many clubs, that the same ten percent of the club's membership do all of the work. We would like to change that in our club, and invite you to volunteer and get more involved with the operations of the club.

Thank you all, and I hope to see you at the next general meeting in February.

Tight Loops...Rick Radoff

## 2007 Annual Dinner

### Be a Recognized Sponsor

The financial success of the Annual Dinner funds our conservation programs, speaker fees and other activities as well as allowing us to keep our membership dues low. Member cash donations added together allow us to purchase some pretty spectacular raffle prizes. So, do your part to make the evening a huge success whether or not you can attend the evening's festivities. In the past we have had great support from many members and we want to recognize those whose contributions make it possible for us to have such an outstanding club. This year the printed program and our website will recognize members who contribute cash and/or merchandise as follows:

- \$25 Level = **Rainbow Trout Sponsor**
- \$50 Level = **Brown Trout Sponsor**
- \$100 & up = **Golden Trout Sponsor**

Make a donation and let your fellow anglers know that you support GBF and help make it successful. Mail your check to GBF, attention Bill Hagopian, or contact Mike Howes, [Lifisreel@aol.com](mailto:Lifisreel@aol.com) to donate raffle merchandise. You can make a difference and help keep our membership dues at a nominal level and activities endless.

Monthly Fly Tying  
Winners for January

**Beginners:** - Jim Northup

**Non-beginners:** - Jim Holmes

#### **\$25.00 Gift Certificate:**

Jim Holmes

\$25 gift certificate from  
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## Annual Dinner Day Program

What's a 'Day Program'?

This is where we invite a famous fly-fishing expert to come to the GBF clubhouse during the day for a free hands-on, one-on-one, eye-to-eye, ear-to-ear (you get the point...it's intimate) session on one or more aspects of our beloved sport.

Day program attendance is always limited to Annual Dinner ticket holders – and always occurs on the day of our Annual Dinner (this year on Sunday, March 25th). Not coincidentally, the day program 'expert' is always our Annual Dinner guest speaker!

The day program is your chance to mingle and munch (yes...snacks are provided) with a fly-fishing 'personality' whose insight and advice are otherwise available only in the books, magazines, videos, and other programs they produce.

This year we're lucky to have FFF-Certified 'Master' Instructor and pro fly-fishing lecturer and photographer Brian O'Keefe join us for this event. Brian's dinner presentation will include amazing images and affable anecdotes.

The day program will focus on two of Brian's favorite topics...getting more distance out your fly casts and wildlife (trophy fish?) photography. To get a sense of Brian's qualifications, check out his website at [www.brianokeefephotos.com](http://www.brianokeefephotos.com).

The Annual Dinner speaker presentation is intended to entertain and inspire. The day program is designed for asking questions, getting individualized advice, and learning first-hand from a world-class expert. Don't miss either one!

## Annual Dinner Guest Speaker

Who's Brian O'Keefe?

Brian O'Keefe, our Annual Dinner guest speaker and day program instructor, has been serious about fly fishing for the over 30 years. During the past 20, cameras have played a significant role in his outdoor lifestyle.

At age eight, Brian's interest in fly fishing was born during summers spent in Montana with his grandparents. There he learned the art of fly fishing from his grandfather, a dry fly purist. From those first years fishing the Northwest and Montana, he has spent the majority of his free time fishing and taking advantage of all the outdoors has to offer.

Brian's interest in photography began as a means to document what his family thought might be "tall tales" of his fishing successes. He started fishing the world in the fall of 1973 with a solo trip through New Zealand and Australia - and then a quick trek to the Himalayas to fish for brown trout. After returning from this two-year adventure, Brian spent his summers guiding in the Northwest and Alaska for salmon, steelhead, and trout.

During those years he accumulated a large collection of slides, occasionally selling one to a fly-fishing publication. At age 30, he began his career as a fly fishing tackle rep. Brian is also an accomplished fly caster, earning the title of Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor from the Fly Fishing

Federation (FFF). He has also won (and placed in) many fly casting competitions.

Brian has traveled to some of the wildest and most remote angling destinations in the world, including Bikini Atoll, the Seychelles, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Tonga, Cuba, and Kashmir. He's also traveled to more accessible locations, such as the Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Chile, New Zealand, Christmas Island, and more. In many of these locations he ventures off the beaten path... hiking, floating, sea-kayaking or boating into the backcountry.

Brian lives with his wife and fishing partner, Judith, in Powell Butte, Oregon and continues to work as an angling and outdoor photographer. He's had photographs published in periodicals such as the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, the Miami Herald, USA Today, and many others. He's also had cover shots in Field & Stream, Outdoor Life, Fly Fisherman, Fly Rod and Reel, Fly Fishing Salt Waters, Fly and Fish Magazine, Outside Magazine, and Mens Journal. In addition to photography, Brian works as a tackle rep for Scientific Anglers in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska.

Today, you could just as easily run into Brian on his way to a presentation at your local fly fishing club as you could in an airport on his way to some island in the Pacific. For more information on Brian's incredible photographs and presentations, visit his web site at [www.brianokeefephotos.com](http://www.brianokeefephotos.com) (from which this text was adapted).

## Annual Dinner Update

The dinner is Sunday, March 25th (THAT'S NEXT MONTH ALREADY)! Here's the latest on this 'must-at-event...' event...

- Tickets are \$35 each until 2/28/07 (\$40 after that). Buy tickets at the February or March club meetings or by mail (just call Bill Hagopian at 916-771-5837).

- Dinner location is The Dante Club in Sacramento at 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd, between Howe & Fulton. No-host bar opens at 4:00pm - Dinner served at 5:15pm.

- Our famous raffle and silent auction is incredible! Thousands of dollars worth of gear, trips, and more will definitely be going home with dinner attendees.

- Our guest speaker for the evening, Brian O'Keefe, will lead an instructional 'day program' - exclusively for dinner ticket holders - at the clubhouse that day.

- Club member donations are still needed! Bring merchandise, gift certificates, funds, etc... to a club meeting or call Mike Howes (916-863-6795) for other options.

- We want your photos in our 'Members in Action' slide show. Bring them (any format OK) to a club meeting or send to Mike Brune ([go.fish@comcast.net](mailto:go.fish@comcast.net)).

- We need 'Wet Fly Award' nominations (a club member who's gotten very wet while fishing). Send your best stories to Mike Brune ([go.fish@comcast.net](mailto:go.fish@comcast.net))

- Please attend this special event to show your support for the club... to get to know other club members better... and to celebrate the fellowship of fly-fishing!

## Intermediate Fly Tying

Several members have been asking about an intermediate fly tying class. This format should be what you are looking for. This class will cover specific patterns and some more advanced techniques. We will be moving at a moderate pace in order to cover all the information. You will also get detailed instructions for patterns used on our local waters. Some of the patterns we will tie are the Egg Sucking Leach, Supper Minnow, Paul's 3D, The Egg, Scared Minnow, Paul's Pseudo Seal Nymph, Hair Spun Diver and more.

This class will be held on **five consecutive Mondays beginning February 26th** and ending March 26th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Folsom Lake Activity Center. Please arrive early and be ready to tie promptly at 6:00 p.m. You will need to have some basic tying skills, knowledge of the terminology, and be able to identify materials. If you have any questions regarding the skill level needed, please contact Paul Egan at (916) 640-5126. **Cost for this class will be \$15.** Again, **space is limited to 8 participants** and the first to turn in their payment **at the February general meeting** will be signed up.

... Paul Egan

**YUBA RIVER FISHOUT**

**FEBRUARY 17TH**

## Baja in The Winter

Want to escape the doldrums of cold, foggy days? Why not try fleeing to Baja where the winter days are mild, the nights are balmy, and hungry predatory fish are just waiting to try and yank your number 10 or 12 rod right out of your hands?



*Karl Wolff with a Rooster Fish*

The possibility of such a trip was hatched sometime this last summer when Karl Wolff and I were reminiscing about our previous trip to Loreto, Baja California Sur, where we caught Dorado and other species. Due to family and job responsibilities, Karl hadn't been able to drown many flies of late, he said, and ventured that he wanted to try a winter trip to Baja. "But that Loreto trip was during prime time—i.e., early summer—and I don't know of anyone who has fished Baja during the winter months," I said. We agreed to do some research on it and talk later.

Karl jumped on it and contacted Fishabout, a travel company that arranges many different trips, including Baja expeditions. Things looked good—reasonable hotel rates, the prospect of some good fishing with experienced guides, and decent air

fares. Ron and Jeanne English said they were interested in going, so the four of us booked it for November 1-9, 2006—four days of fishing in La Paz, and three at Punta Colorada, which is about an hour and a half south of La Paz.

As the time approached, we turned our attention to the weather situation. During the several months before our trip, Baja was hit by three large storms, two of which I believe were actually hurricanes—the last occurring not too long before our trip was scheduled. So we fretted awhile, but soon quit worrying—as Ron says, you get what you get.

Ron and Jeanne decided to leave a week early to drive and fish their way to La Paz via Cabo San Lucas. That's a three day ride, in case you don't know your geography. Karl and I opted for Alaska Airlines, with a five hour flight to Cabo and two hour shuttle to La Paz. After a small snafu at the Cabo airport, we were whisked off to our beachfront hotel at La Paz in a shuttle van. We met up there with Ron and Jeanne, who were already in the advanced stages of tanning.

They had, however, been unable to fish the previous day because of an intestinal disorder. It turns out that Ron can't pass up roadside stands where the hot dogs roast and the salsa will bring tears to even the most macho gringo eyes. So, they visited a Mexican clinic and got Montezuma's Revenge medicine—and it seemed to be working (apparently more so on Jeanne than Ron).

The next morning we were met by a van driver whose job it was to load our tons of gear and drive us

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an hour and a half south to Bajia de los Muertes ("Bay of the Dead"). Did that mean dead anglers, I wondered silently? Probably not, but it got my attention. On arrival, we were met by our very-much-alive boat guides who spoke not a word—of English, that is. But Ron and Jeanne—and I to a lesser extent—speak and understand enough to get by. I immediately looked for the pangas that would be ferrying us to the fish for the next four days, and was overjoyed to see that they were the "superpangas" meaning, I think, that they are long, wide, and stable, and come equipped with real seats, no less.

The bay was full of boats and guides gracefully tossing their bait nets to snare Sardinas—the Baja baitfish de jour. Once our gear was aboard, our two pangas (Karl and I in one, Ron and Jeanne in the other) joined them, our guide quickly filling the bait well. Contrary to some other places in Baja, the guides don't charge the usual \$20 per bait load at La Paz. Not knowing this at the end of the first day (we had been informed that there would be a charge), Karl and I figured that we owed for two bait loads and paid accordingly, in addition to the regular guide fee and tip. Jose, our guide not only didn't object but was grinning from ear to ear. Ron and Jeanne set us straight on this point and we were suitably embarrassed. I think Jose was a bit confused by the reduction in his "tip" during the following three days.

Our first day was a bit windy but we caught some nice Roosterfish, Ladyfish, and other species. During the next three days, Jose did an outstanding job of moving us around,

usually first out to where the Tuna were—and that was a blast. When the Tuna action tapered off, Jose moved to the reefs where Karl and I took so many different species that it was almost dizzying. There were Roosterfish, Sierra Mackerel, Ladyfish, Needle fish (pests, almost), Trumpet fish, Cabrilla, and many exotic reef fish. The interesting thing about reef fish is that if you've got the right line—i.e., on-the-bottom-right-now clunker—you will get a strike almost every cast and you never know what it will be until you boat it. I even managed to get a large Pufferfish—all spiny and stuff—much to Jose's dismay (his job was to get the hook out of the nasty little critter).

At one point Jose looked at us and said, with a wry smile, "Dorado?" Seeing the crazed look in our eyes, he cranked up his 85 horse Yamaha and set out for the blue water. We

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## THE ROD DOCTOR

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found some Dorado and boated 7 or 8 within a couple of hours. Dorado are not plentiful at this time of year and the guides have to hunt them down. Most of the ones we encountered were smallish—15 to 20 pounds—but we jumped two bigger fish that were hanging out near a big tree branch that one of the storms had washed out from shore. Karl hooked one of them right away and was just landing it when I hooked the other. I knew right away it was the bigger of the duo, because within seconds it had taken all of the line and a hundred yards of backing off my Ross Big Game, and my #12 Sage Xi2 was throbbing. As I was playing the fish in a southerly direction, it leaped furiously way off to the west—it had moved so fast that my line had taken a 90 degree turn. I finally got it to the boat, where Karl kept encouraging me to “pull up and reel down.” I literally had to winch the 35 pound beauty up to the surface, where Jose unceremoniously gaffed it in the belly and dragged it aboard. He looked at me and said “por favor?” In other words, “Can I put it into the hold?” I said “Fine, go ahead” in a desultory way, since he’d already preempted me by gaffing the magnificent beast. So, pictures taken, it was dumped into the hold. I sat down for the next hour and savored the memories while Karl kept fishing.

A couple more quick stories before we move along to Punta Colorada. We did have to deal with wind which can be a problem during this time of year in Baja. Wind, of course, can pose problems for boat occupants when large flies are being cast, especially when the fishing is hot. One particularly frisky gust

caused Karl’s line to blow in the wrong direction. I saw Jose duck, and the next thing I knew I had a 2/0 Sardina fly buried deep in the inside of my left elbow—about a hair away from a big vein. With Jose’s eyes popping out of his head, Karl and I spent the next half hour trying to push the monster hook with its evil barb on through. It finally popped out and Karl (quite pale by now) cut the hook. I backed it out, grabbed my first aid kit, slathered on the antibiotic ointment and applied bandages. That evening Ron and Jeanne took me to a hotel-recommended clinic where I received a Tetanus shot at the hands of a most attractive nurse. As I rolled up my sleeve, she smiled, locked the door, and shook her head while pointing to my left buttock. Not knowing exactly what to think at this point, I slipped my shorts down and she did her thing. I told her—in Spanish—“We’re going to have to stop meeting like this” (just kidding—what I really said, and meant it, was “gracias”). Karl, it seems, will regale you with a few embellishments that he has decided to add to this story if you ask him about it.

In the meantime, Ron didn’t seem to be getting better, and in fact seemed to be getting worse. After visiting the same clinic the doctor diagnosed Ron as having a bruised intestine from fighting fish (Tuna) with the fighting butt of his rod shoved into his stomach. Ron’s looking for one of those belts you see the blue water bait guys wearing on the Saturday morning hero fishing shows.

So onward to Punta Colorada, with Ron and Jeanne in the front seat of their truck, Karl and I in the

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## February Program

### **Wilderness First Aid with Bobbie Foster**

Our February speaker will be Ms. Bobbie Foster who will talk about Wilderness First Aid emergencies specific to fly fishing. When you are fishing in a remote area and cannot count on 911 to provide help within an hour, it is important to be prepared. The talk will focus on steps you can take to prevent an emergency and how to be prepared if something should happen. She will also discuss the assessment and treatment for some common first aid emergencies. We all know that rock hopping is dangerous and accidents along the bank, in a boat or along the river bank happen all the time. Think about that and come to hear an expert tell you some of what you need to know.

For the last 18 years, Bobbie has been working and playing in the outdoors. She was an instructor in canoeing, skiing and leadership development and worked as an Assistant Director for Outdoors Unlimited, the recreation program at the University of California, San



Francisco for 11 years. But her true passion is in teaching first aid, especially wilderness first aid. For 12 years now, Bobbie has been teaching 16 hour and 80 hour wilderness first aid classes. She is also an urban American Safety and Health Institute instructor (was a Red Cross and American Heart Instructor) and is a current Wilderness -EMT.

In addition to teaching for Outdoors Unlimited, Bobbie has been teaching for other groups, mainly non-profits – Sierra Club (national and local chapters), California Floaters Society, California Department of Fish and Game, Bay Area Wilderness Training, camps, girls scouts and boy scout groups, etc.

More information can be found at [www.fostercalm.com](http://www.fostercalm.com).

When: February 8, 7:30 PM

Where: GBF Clubhouse

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## Fly Fishing Film Tour

The Fly Fishing Film Tour, presented by Fly Rod & Reel Magazine, will be held at the Crest Theater in downtown Sacramento at 7 PM on March 6. In a nutshell...it's a compilation of several fly fishing films touring the country. Sort of like a mini film festival. It sounds like it's designed for all fly fishing groups and enthusiasts. Please check the website for more information at <http://www.flyfishingfilmtour.com>.

### FLY FISHING SHOW PLEASANTON FAIRGROUNDS

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### Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

**For Sale:** 5 HP Briggs & Stratton 4-stroke outboard motor. Like new, only used twice for a total of 3 1/2 hours. Includes a 3-gal. gas tank and engine stand. \$495. Contact Jack Fleig at 482-8720.

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: [fstolten@comcast.net](mailto:fstolten@comcast.net) with subject line: 'GBF: Classified'. Or mail your info to: Frank Stolten, 8290 Country Lake Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662. All ads must arrive by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.

## Denny Welch Attorney at Law

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**Conservation Corner** *heath wakelee, VP Conservation*

Well a new year is upon us and those New Year's resolutions about losing weight and cleaning the garage have likely been put on hold. Too bad but that is how it always seems to turn out. Maybe next year...

One resolution that you need to move up on your list is completing that four (4) hours of conservation work everyone in the club should do each year. This year we will have many repeat activities like participating in "Creek Week," the Salmon Egg Program for the schools

and Salmon counting in our local creeks. We will also be looking to add some local activities in our streams to support Fish & Game, Fish & Wildlife, the Forest Service or BLM.

Locally we're winning a few and falling behind in others. Of concern is an attempt by the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) to hold secret meetings to decide water policy. Their reasoning, I believe, is that water matters are so

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litigious that it allows them, under the Brown act, to meet in private. This prevents public input in the development of policy and further promotes the use of the courts to resolve issues where the public has not had sufficient opportunity to provide input into the process.

The Brown act does provide for "closed door" meetings when personnel, real estate or legal matters are going to be discussed. OK, but is there justification for a "closed door" meeting, preventing public input into policy, because you just think you are going to be sued? Given this scenario I suspect that future City Council meetings will be "closed door" because they might get sued. A very big thumbs down to the local water agencies. I smell another expensive (for the taxpayers and ratepayers) lawsuit that should not have to happen. Water agencies - Open your doors and put your papers on top of the table.

On the positive water side, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) recently made some good decisions about how they will manage some of their water rights. After a lot of effort by SMUD and the interested parties a good agreement was made. Thumbs up on this round to SMUD.

In February our speaker will be Ms. Bobbie Foster ([www.fostercalm.com](http://www.fostercalm.com)) to talk about Wilderness First Aid. I've taken her course and highly recommend you coming to hear her talk and you don't have to ask why you should attend. We all know that rock hopping is dangerous and accidents along the bank, in a boat or along the river bank happen all the time. Think about the first aid

equipment you carry and how you would help someone that has gone down. Think about that and come to hear an expert tell you some of what you need to know.

Looking for fishing outings and tips?

Visit the GBF website and Message Board for the most up-to-date information

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

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## Jose's Mosca Negra

Jose guided Karl Wolff and me this last November for four days fishing in La Paz, Baja California Sur. I wrote an article for this month's issue of *The Leader* on that trip, so I won't repeat myself here on how we fared. When it came time for bluewater tuna fishing, Jose said something like "mosca negra?" after looking through my fly boxes. "You mean 'black fly,' right?" was my lame reply. He grinned and nodded affirmatively. So I scratched around—unsuccessfully—in my gear for awhile as he watched patiently. He then produced a trashed black-on-top, white-on-bottom fly and had me tie it on. It worked but I lost it, and we had no more.

The next day he produced a couple more that he said were tied by his brother. They were gorgeous. He declined my offer to buy them, handing me one to tie on. I did manage to talk him out of one of them on the last day so that I would have a sample to copy. Here, for your benefit, is the fly I now call "Jose's Mosca Negra." Ron and Jeanne English will correct my Spanish if I've blown it.

**NOTE: I will be adding "tying tips" at the end of the article text each month. The tips will usually relate to the fly featured in this column for that month. However, if the steps are self-explanatory the tip(s) might relate to a different technique or type of pattern.**

**Secondly, be sure to check the**



*Mosca Negra*

**web site for additional pictures of the fly and/or the tying steps. It is not possible to include more than one picture in the Leader, but there is no such limitation on the web site.**

### Instructions:

1. Cover the hook with thread back to the point of the barb—no further.
2. Bring thread forward to about 1/8" behind the eye. Cut and clean a pencil-size bunch of white bucktail. This bunch

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### MATERIAL LIST

Hook:	Any good, sturdy, saltwater hook w/ short shank and ring eye 2/0-4/0
Thread:	White 210 denier flat nylon
Belly/body:	White bucktail
Interior flash:	Pearl fine flash—abou or crystal flash
Eyes:	Silver 3-D stick-on eyes size 4.5"
Back/wing:	Black bucktail
Head:	Five-minute epoxy

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- must be long enough to extend about 2 shank lengths to the rear of the hook bend. Turn the vise so that the underside of the hook is up, and tie this first bunch on, holding it so that it does not roll around the hook.
3. Tie in a slightly shorter bunch immediately on top of the first bunch. Repeat this step with a third bunch, again slightly shorter. This will taper the body to resemble a baitfish.
  4. Turn the vise upright and tie in the flash; it should extend slightly beyond the longest bucktail tips. Keep the flash relatively sparse, as it is supposed to represent a lateral line.
  5. Tie in two bunches of white bucktail on top of the flash, with the second bunch being slightly shorter than the first.
  6. Tie in a half-pencil bunch of black bucktail on top of the last two bunches of white.
  7. Begin shaping the fly head with your thread; it should end up to be a bullet shape tapering to the eye. See "Tying Tips" at the end of this article.
  8. Mix a small amount of five-minute epoxy on a sheet of stick-on notepaper. Holding the fly in your hand, cover the head with epoxy, turning the fly in your fingers as you work it around the head.
  9. Once the epoxy has set but is still tacky, put the fly back in the vise and place the stick-on eyes on either side of the head.

Make sure that they are even vertically and horizontally.

10. Coat the head and eyes with a second coat of epoxy, allowing it to flow evenly around and over the eyes.

### **TYING TIPS**

1. As you are adding bucktail to the head of the fly, pay attention to the shape of the head. Don't blunt-cut the butts; cut on a taper so that when you finally shape the head you won't have a "step" effect that will make it impossible to create a smooth head.
2. Stir the epoxy with a needle or a glass cocktail stirrer. Toothpicks seem to cause excess bubbles in the mixture.



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# Rod Building 204B (1 of 3) Tying Guides to Blank

This is the first of three articles that provide direction for permanently tying the guides to the blank. The other articles in this series will describe how to: 1) tie the hook-keeper to the blank with thread, 2) reinforce the ferrules, 3) place thread onto or adjacent to the tiptop, 4) add some small single trim or trim bands, and 5) prepare the rod for epoxy application to the thread.

There are nineteen (19) pictures for these three articles. I was honored in having Mr. Sturmer White from Granite Bay Flycasters pose for the pictures. In this particular set of photos, I used a metallic colored thread that I hope shows the steps clearly. If you have a difficult time following the steps outlined here, it would probably be helpful to enroll in a rod building class and learn these techniques from the instructor. I must again say, this is not the only way to tie on guides, but it is a technique that learning rod builders seem to adapt to quite quickly.

## **Tying on the guide:**

### **A few general notes before I begin:**

Knots are not used in this technique, so you will need to place the end of the thread under each end of the wrap. In addition, during the final wrapping, threads should ideally not overlap, but should be as closely adjacent to each succeeding wrap as possible so that the blank does not show through.

As a first step, place the blank onto the rod wrapper and then

orient and secure the guide on the blank as detailed in a previous article. You should start the thread approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{3}{8}$ " away from the guide wrapping and spacing the thread and taping off the end as shown in the photo entitled: "Wrap



and tape off." Each side of the guide is wrapped separately. Next, shift the direction of the thread application by wrapping back the way you came, crossing over the original thread by spinning the blank in the same direction. Stop approximately  $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the guide tip. Do not make this distance much longer than  $\frac{1}{8}$ " prior to going up on the guide (see photo: "Back wrapping").



Now remove the tape and unwrap the thread as far as the last thread crossing. Your thread should now be secure without tape or knots (see photo: "Unwrap from tape").

You will now cinch up the thread

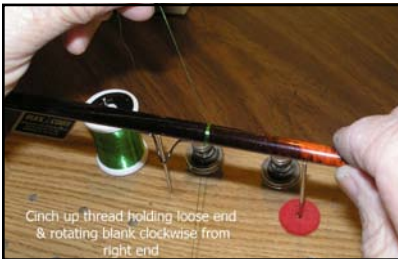
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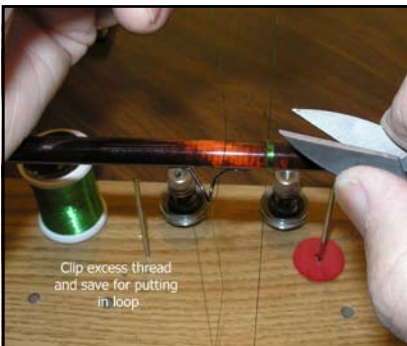
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(pull it closer together on the blank) by pulling the loose end of the thread firmly while at the same time spinning the rod blank in the thread-wrapping direction (in the photo: "Cinching up thread," the



direction is clockwise if looking from the right end). This will tighten up the thread winding. Now, clip the excess thread and save it for later (see photo: "Clip excess thread"). You will use it in another step.



Continue wrapping by twisting

the blank clockwise from the right end, winding up the foot. Stop when you have approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the guide foot left to wrap and place the foot in the down position (see photo: "Continue wrapping until").



Because of space limitations in this newsletter, this article will continue in the next issue.

As always, rod building classes are available for learning these processes. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Larry Lee at [larrylee@L3rods.com](mailto:larrylee@L3rods.com) or by telephone at (916) 962-0616.



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*Baja in the Winter - Continued from page 9*

back seat, and our gear stuffed into their camper shell and atop its roof. I'm sure we looked like refugees from the Ozarks—if that's a politically correct thing to say. Driving two lane Mexican highways is an adventure, to say the least—but that's another humorous story. We arrived safely in beautiful Punta Colorada and our hotel aptly named "Hotel Punta Colorada." Because it's in a remote location, all meals are provided. The good news is that we had a decent, safe place to eat; the bad news is that the food was, shall we say, acceptable. There was a treat one evening though, when the cooks did what they do best—cook Mexican food, and way too much of it.

My friend Tim Paxton (Paxton's Buggy Nymph dubbing) and his wife Roxie happened to be staying there also, so they joined us for the rest of our trip. The hotel was beautiful and located right on the beach—miles and miles of beach. We were up before dawn the next morning and

stumbled down to the beach with flashlights. As soon as the first sliver of light arrived, we could see fish working in the surf, only 10-30 feet out. So we casted, hooked, laughed, landed, and had a blast for two hours. Then the fish gods turned it off—period. When the sun hit the water the fish moved out of casting range and we were left to hunt the beaches for marauding Roosterfish. We didn't find many, though—but we enjoyed it immensely. I'd never done any surf flyfishing so it was a new and enlightening experience for me. Great stuff. The last couple of hours before dark found us catching fish again in the surf. There were Ladyfish, Sierra Mackerel, Jacks and Roosterfish, together with a few odds and ends. And so it went for the rest of our stay there.

Ron—still ailing—and Jeanne headed north and Karl and I boarded a van bound for the Cabo airport. Mexican airport security, by the way, can be a frustrating, enigmatic experience—but in a way it's a hoot

*Continued on next page*



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and one of those things you just tolerate and go your way.

In short, I'd recommend November Baja fishing without hesitation. But Montezuma's Revenge and the sun don't take a vacation just because it's winter in Baja, so get that Cipro prescription, have a good hat, and bring plenty of sunscreen. Oh, and you might want to avoid those roadside stands.

... Bill Carnazzo

## 2007 Renewals Due!

Renewals for 2007 may be paid to Jeanne English at the February and March meetings. The dues are a mere \$30 for individuals and \$35 for a family membership. Don't miss out on your access to clinics, fishouts, and the Leader. A check can also be mailed to the GBF post office box address. March 15 is the deadline for renewal. Thanks for your past participation and early renewals.

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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](http://www.gbflycasters.org), or call Rick Radoff at 916-624-2107.

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. All meetings are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to attend.

**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 Jeanne English at 530-677-7169, 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: Frank Stolten at [fstolten@comcast.net](mailto:fstolten@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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