



Photo taken by Kent Ripley

"Samantha the Salmon" (actually Mike Howes' granddaughter, Desiree Marie Ellis) welcoming everyone to GBF's Booth at the Salmon Festival, skillfully organized once again by Pete Peterson.

November 2007

Thycasters

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

|                          |           |    |          |                            |                |                 |               |             |                         |   | _ |
|--------------------------|-----------|----|----------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|---|
|                          | SATURDAY  | ю. | 10.      |                            | 17.            |                 | 24.           |             |                         |   |   |
|                          | FRIDAY    |    |          |                            |                |                 |               |             |                         |   |   |
| NOVEMBER <sup>2007</sup> |           | i7 | 9.       |                            | 16.            |                 | 23.           |             | 30.                     |   |   |
|                          | THURSDAY  |    | Monthly  | Members<br>Meeting<br>7:00 |                | Meeting<br>7:00 |               | 1           | <b>29.</b> Conservation | Meeting 7:00<br>Raley's<br>San Juan &<br>Sunset |   |
|                          |           | 1. | <u>%</u> |                            | 15.            |                 | 22.           |             | 29.                     |   |   |
|                          | WEDNESDAY |    | 7.       |                            | 14. Salmon egg | distribution    | 21.           |             | 28.                     |   |   |
|                          | TUESDAY   |    | 6.       |                            | 13.            |                 | 20. Fly Tying | Jam 6:30 PM | 27.                     |   |   |
|                          | MONDAY    |    | 5.       |                            | 12.            | Delta Fishout   | 19.           | ]           | 26.                     |   | - |
|                          | SUNDAY    |    | 4.       |                            | 11.            |                 | 18.           |             | 25.                     |   |   |

# President's Message

I am writing this just after the Salmon Festival, and would first like to congratulate Pete Peterson on a great job as chairman of the event for the Granite Bay Flycasters. Next, I would like to commend all of the volunteers that worked at the event. This is the first time I have been able to help, for I am usually in Montana fishing. I would especially like to thank Taylor Yates' grandson, Mike (Woody), for helping out both days teaching the young and the old how to tie a woolly bugger.

Just two weekends before, Pete Peterson, Tony Hamamoto, Paul Egan, Bill Carnazzo and I worked all Saturday at the Boy Scouts of America and U.S. Sportsmen's event at Beale Air Force Base. We were lucky that CFFU was there also, and we shared their pop-up shade, and they graciously let us hang our banner on it. When I was asked to do this, I was provided little information, and didn't know what to expect, but I learned from Gary Howard (CFFU Member) to be like a Boy Scout, and always be prepared. So, next time I will be prepared.

We were tying and casting for Boy Scouts from about 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM nonstop. We had little time for lunch, but it was a rewarding day. Thank you Pete,

### Rick Radoff



Tony, Paul and Bill for all of your hard work that day.

We have implemented a Mentor program for new members, and we hope that this will help new members get into the sport easier and sooner, and help them feel more welcome as new members. Look for the write up on this issue by Joe Aichroth in *The Leader*.

The Board is always looking for new ways to serve the members, and if you have an idea that would help in getting more members involved in the club activities, please let us know. Remember that the Board meeting is one week after the General meeting starting at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Don't forget that the annual dinner tickets go on sale November 1st, and will be sold at the General meetings by Bill and Bev Hagopian. I hope to see you all at the November General meeting.

Tight Loops . . .Rick Radoff

#### Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

#### Fly Tying Vise For Sale:

I have a near-new Dyna-King "Sidewinder" vise for sale. This true rotary vise is the top of the Dyna-King line. You can see it and review its features at http://www.dyna-king. com/flyvise dtl.asp?itemval=14&pv =0&pid=012 . At retail, with pedestal base, it sells for \$429.00. My vise comes with the following add-on items: Magnifier (\$45); trim bag (\$35); clamp base with long shank (\$79); midge jaws (\$40); Black Stream fly tyer's lamp (\$95); tool caddy (\$40). The grand total at retail would be \$723. I am asking \$500.00 for it. Contact Bill Carnazzo at 530-367-5209.

#### Pontoon Boat:

I'm selling an 8-foot Pontoon boat made by Water Skeeter. It's in excellent condition and comes with oars, pump and storage platform with a mount for an electric motor. Selling for \$225. Contact Frank Stolten at 725-6894.

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 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*.

### Annual Dinner Date Correction

The Granite Bay Flycasters 22nd Annual Dinner and Silent Auction is coming Friday, March 14, 2008. Last month's article in The Leader mis-stated the date. Sorry for any confusion.

Please plan to attend this special evening. Besides raising funds to pay for another year of club activities, this event is a great opportunity to break bread with fellow club members – and really get to know some of the wonderful people that make up our membership.

And don't forget about the famous raffle and silent auction occurring that night. Thousands of dollars worth of quality gear, guided fishing trips, and other great prizes will be raffled and auctioned off among lucky participants.

Tickets go on sale November 1st and are only \$35 again this year. There will be an early-bird prize raffle among those who buy their tickets before February. Tickets purchased after February will be \$40. Tickets usually sell out, so plan ahead.

More details to come. What's important now is that you get the correct date (March 14th) in your 2008 date book. Don't use a date book? No problem...buy your tickets at the next club meeting and stick 'em on the fridge to remind yourself!

You can also get tickets by sending a check (payable to Granite

#### Continued from previous page

Bay Flycasters) to the address below. If sending a check, please include each ticketholder name, telephone #, and meal choice (Baked ½ Chicken, Prime Rib, or Halibut).

> Bev Hagopian 7124 Secret Garden Lane Roseville, CA, 95747

### Classroom Egg Program Volunteer Participation Invited

It's that time of the year again, and we'll be making our annual delivery of salmon eggs to over 20 classrooms on November 14th. As always, the program's success depends totally on GBF members being available to deliver the eggs. 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 delivered eggs and faced an interested group of students will attest.

To keep this program at a high level, we need your help. No experience is necessary, and we always match up a new volunteer with someone who's done it before. A signup sheet will be at the November monthly meeting. If you have any interest at all in participating, or have any questions about this great program, contact Frank Stolten at 725-6894.

### Annual Swap Meet December 1, 2007

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, and start getting your "stuff" ready to sell at our annual swap meet and chili cook-off, to be held at the clubhouse on December 1st. Now is the time to look through all of that gear that you have for items you no longer want or need, set them aside, and get them ready to sell. For those looking for equipment, I can't conceive of a better place to find rods. reels. lines. flies. waders, boots, and all manner of "stuff" that we use in our sport. As in the past, we'll start the swap meet at 8:00 a.m. and go until around 2:30 p.m.

Also, begin thinking about your chili entry into the contest, which is always a fun (and tasty) event. Denny Welch and Pete Peterson agreed to "honcho" the swap meet for us again this year, on the condition that he has help. So, we'll be asking for volunteers at the November general meeting. If you have any questions or want to volunteer and can't make it to the meeting, here's my contact information: ...Bill Carnazzo

5209 Crestline Drive, Foresthill

CA 95631 (530) 367-5209 (home office) (916) 295-9353 (mobile) bcarnazzo@ftcnet.net (email)

#### **Photos of GBF Members at the Salmon Festival**



#### Monthly Fly Tying Winners

#### **October:**

No <u>Beginner</u> fly tying entries in October

<u>Non-Beginner</u> winner for best tie and certificate was Bill Aaberg

### Membership

As of this writing, Granite Bay Flycasters has 237 members. Anyone wanting a copy of the membership list can obtain it by sending me an email message at *bcarnazzo@ftcnet. net*, and I'll send it in a reply. It is in Excel format. The Board's policy is that the list is not to be used for any commercial purpose, and is not to be distributed to persons outside the membership—so please observe those restrictions. I will have membership application forms at all monthly meetings.

. . .Bill Carnazzo



# AmericanFlyFishing.com AMERICA'S ONLINE FLY SHOP

### GBF To Start Mentor Program

MENTOR (n): A wise advisor, teacher or coach. With so many people joining the club recently, we have discovered many newer members have little or no experience, want more knowledge of fly fishing or perhaps learned years ago and now want to be brought up to speed on the new materials and techniques.

The Board is preparing a list of club members that would be willing to work with members and pass on their knowledge. These learning sessions need not be on the water. Meetings can be one-on-one or at most one-ontwo. Subjects can be such as: (1.) Equipment: lines, rods, reels, fly selections. (2.) Accessories: waders, vest, wading staff, net, weights, clippers. (3.) Rigging: leaders, knots, dry flies, nymphs, indicators, tippet material. (4.) On the water: reading the water, presentation, short line method, wading precautions, still water fishing.

For further information contact Rick Radoff, <u>Radoffcnst@jps.</u> <u>net</u>; Bill Carnazzo, <u>bcarnazzo@</u> <u>ftcnet.net</u>; or Joe Aichroth, <u>jaich@surewest.net</u>. The phone numbers are listed on the back page of your issue of <u>The</u> Leader.



Above: GraniteBay Lions Club members, Jolene Harlos and Sherry Donovan, accept fly fishing outfits from GBF member Mike Brune. The three complete rod & reel outfits were donated by GBF to the Lions Club Annual Kids Fishing Derby held last month at Gibson Ranch.

### Outing Committee Report

You can view the fishout list (through (July, 2008) on the website; also, keep up with the message board for "impromptu" outings. If you don't have access to the Internet and want a copy of the list, just give me a call or send me an email and I'll see to it that you get the list. There are articles in this issue regarding each scheduled outing. Please read the individual articles for details.

#### Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta November 12th

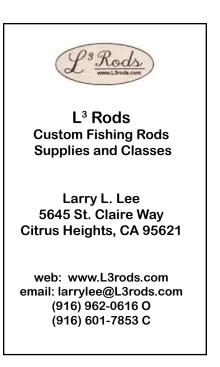
Signups will be taken at the November meeting for this outing. There is no limit on attendance, so we can take signups via phone and email after the October meeting.

For information on the individual outings, call or send an email to the outing leader (as listed in the article) or to one of the Outing Committee members—we are listed at the back of *The Leader*.

Finally, we will be scheduling a beginning fly tying clinic, and an intermediate fly tying clinic to be conducted this coming winter. Paul Egan will be teaching the beginning clinic, and I will be teaching the intermediate clinic using an interesting

format that will include bringing in guest tyers for several of the sessions (example: Sturmer White to demonstrate good hair spinning/trimming technique; Pete Peterson to demonstrate bass flies). More information will be published in the near future on these clinics, including dates. Terry Eggleston has suggested a clinic on entomology, and we're going to take him up on that for this winter. Also on the agenda will be a one evening clinic on knots/line loops, and one on making your own indicators. So, we've got a lot going on and we're certainly open to your ideas.

. . .Bill Carnazzo



#### GBF - Monthly Meeting



Jim Jones just returned from his second trip to the Lower Zambezi in barely over a year. He's hooked!

"I've been lucky to fish for some of the greatest fish, in some of the greatest places (Alaska many times, British Colombia for steelhead, Scotland for salmon, Austria, Central America, as well as our wonderful fishing opportunities close to home)," Jim

says. "But, no fishing experience--no, no travel experience--has compared to Africa for me.

"The tigerfish's strike is vicious, it's a magnificent fighter and loves to eat big streamers. But Africa is much, much more than tigerfishing. You're fishing with elephants, hippos, and crocodiles looking on. You go on game drives where you just might (as we did) see a leopard grab a puku by the throat, carry it off, only to have its prize stolen from its grasp by a lion. And, much, much more."

Jim is a writer for Western Outdoor Publications, and writes weekly on fishing in the Northern part of the state. He also is a freelancer and his articles have appeared in the Sacramento Bee, Western Outdoors Magazine, Salmon and Steelhead Journal, among others.

> When: November 8, 7:00 PM Where: GBF Clubhouse



It is getting that time of the year when a lot of fishermen put up their gear for the winter. It is also the time of the year that is the best for stripers, bass and lake trout.

The larger stripers will have moved up the Mokelumne River and 10-20 lb. fish will be quite common. As mentioned in a previous article, this is a great time for O'Neill Forebay which is very easy to tube. Minimum weight rod should be an 8 wt.

The fish will be gorging themselves so a large fly will work best. This is the time of year that I never use anything smaller than a 3/0 and usually 4 or 5/0. For those that want to fish the delta but do not have a boat, there are boat rentals all along the Franks Tract area. There are also numerous guides that will take you out (for a price).

The guides I personally know that are excellent are:

Dan Blanton (408) 778-0602

Mike Costello (925) 634-1280

Doug Lovell and Leo Siren (510) 526-1937

Kevin Doran – great largemouth guide but I don't know if he does Stripers also.

This is also the time of year that the lakes turn over. The warmer water and the colder water trade places. This is the time that bass know winter is coming and it is time to store up extra weight. The very best lake this time of year is Berryessa. It can be fished by boat or tube. Crayfish imitations work great with 20-30 smallmouth a day quite common.

Amador Lake raises their own breed of trout. The fish are released as large as 12 lbs. The lake is currently down 35 feet but they are going to plant as per their original schedule. Fly fishermen outdo the hardware guys on this lake. Since all the fish are planters, it is a good time to take a few home.

Contact Amador at (209) 274-4739 for planting info and if their grill is open. Nothing seems to ever work better than an olive wooly bugger.

Don't put your gear away – go fishing.

Good fishing.

. . .Pete Peterson

### Salmon Festival A Success

Once again the members of GBF have stepped up and gave their all for another successful Salmon Festival. We had the core of the volunteer group that are always there when I need them. We also had some fresh faces that are new to the club. It was great to get to know them better, and several said they felt more like club members after the week-end. Everybody had a good time as usual, and for once we did not have the wind blowing.

A deep thanks for all who were there, and thanks to Kiene's Fly Shop for providing the materials.

. . .Pete Peterson

#### Conservation Corner

#### <u>Meetings:</u>

We are now holding our <u>Conservation Committee meetings</u> every 4th Thursday starting at 7 p.m., at the Raley's on San Juan at Sunset Ave. However, that would put us on Thanksgiving Day this year, so I propose that we change the meeting until the 5th Thursday this month, so we will meet one week later, on Thursday, <u>Nov. 29th</u>. Please RSVP to let me know that I won't be the only one attending the meeting.

#### Activities Past:

On <u>September 27</u> we had 2 members present at the meeting at Raley's on San Juan at Sunset so we concluded the preceding Upper American River Foundation monthly meeting and called it a night. Hopefully our October meeting will be better so we can have enough members' present to evaluate potential grants to several organizations and make plans for future activities.

On <u>October 6</u> we had planned a maintenance outing at the Bear River Restoration site in Bear Valley at Highway 20 but possibly we had too many other events going on that day (fish outs etc.) because we only had a couple of volunteers and we need about 10 to do the maintenance on the site that we restored 5 years ago. We will try to reschedule for another date, possibly in the spring as suggested by President Rick Radoff.

#### Activities Future:

<u>November (Date to be an-</u> <u>nounced):</u> We're hoping to have bill templin, VP Conservation

the right combination of flow in Dry Creek and response from Salmon to tie in with GBF member David Baker for the annual Dry Creek Conservancy Salmon Count. This is a very popular event with GBF members because it can be very interesting to wade in a narrow, shallow creek with salmon from 10 to 30 lbs. sharing it with you. Let's all start our "Rain Dances" now in hopes for the salmon to take notice and come back after the declining runs in 2005 and 2006. Let David Baker know at the next meeting or by phone/email if you are interested in helping this year.

**November 29:** Conservation Committee Meeting (the Thursday after Thanksgiving at 7 p.m.).

#### Significant Issues:

H.R. 24 and S. 27 - Thanks for your continued contacts to your U.S. Senators and Congressmen on funding for the "San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act" - (H.R. 24 http://www.house.gov/ writerep/) and Senate (S. 27 http:// www.senate.gov/general/contact\_ information/senators\_cfm.cfm). "This legislation is needed to fully authorize and approve a landmark Settlement agreement between the parties to NRDC v. Rodgers, an 18 year case concerning the restoration of flows and native salmon populations to the San Joaquin River, and its tributaries.

Suction Dredging – although A.B. 1032 (Wolk) to further regulate suction dredgers was favored by California Department of Fish & Game it was still vetoed by Gov. Schwarzenegger. However, regulation of suction dredging is still being considered by the State Water Resources Control Board, so we probably will see more on this issue.

Salmon Run 2007 - I've been doing an informal survey of fishermen, California Department of Fish and Game employees and others at this years' Salmon Festival on the subject of "Where's the Salmon?" I've heard all kinds of explanations from "It's just Nature's Way" to the old stand by "the water's too warm" to it's those pesky "Sea Otters" in the Sacramento River (and the "Giant Squid" in the Pacific Ocean") to those darned Irrigation Drainage return flows" and even some interest in the competition between Salmon, Steelhead and Stripers and their 3 to 4 year cycles. The Stripers sure seem to be doing well, for some reason... Whatever the real reason is. this is a very interesting situation of declining Fall Salmon Runs in the Sacramento River and it' tributaries. Let's hope that "they're just late coming up this year ... again."

Happy Thanksgiving!

. . .Bill Templin wtemplin@surewest.net

### Let's Go Fishing - - to Lake Amador

On Saturday, November 10 let's go fishing to Lake Amador. If you are new to the club, fly fishing or floating tubing, this will be your opportunity to learn from other GBF members and fish close to home. Lake Amador is located just a few miles south of Ione and complete information can be obtained at www.lakeamador.com or call 209-274-4739.

This is a private lake, so there is a daily fee to use the facility. Basically, it is about \$15 to \$20 per person with float tube to fish for the day. Boats with gas motors are permitted. Check the website or call Lake Amador (209-274-4739) for the exact cost. Lake Amador also has a paved boat ramp, a floating dock and a parking lot. If you want to spend the night, they have a campground for tents and RV's. I would highly recommend a float tube, but bank fishing is possible too. I would suggest a 5 wt. rod and an intermediate or full sink line. Wooly Buggers and Nymphs in a variety of sizes and color seem to produce the most bites. This is a very popular fall-winter fishing lake that is stocked with large trout weekly. With a little luck, everybody will catch fish.

This fishout is subject to cancellation due to inclement weather, so let's keep in touch via e-mail. My e-mail is cp824@sbcglobal.net and my cell phone is 916-203-6092. I will have a sign up sheet at the November meeting, but if you are not able to attend, send me an e-mail to join the fishout.

Let's plan to meet at the Tackle Box Café at 8 am. We can have a quick cup of coffee and finalize our fishing plans for the day. I would like to be in the water by 9 am at the latest. Also, please bring food for lunch. Hopefully, the weather will allow us time to meet for lunch and share fish stories. The Tackle Box Café is located next to the main office once you cross the dam. Once again, with a Little Luck ---- Everybody Will Catch Fish and ---- the Better Fisherman You Are, the Less Luck You Will Need!

### FLY TYER'S CORNER

bill carnazzo

### The Triple Double



The Triple Double stole the show for me recently on the Green River in Utah. The first day found me wade fishing from the trail along the upper section (called the "A" section) just below Flaming Gorge dam. Since this was my first trip to this beautiful desert canyon stream, I didn't know what to expect beyond what I'd been told by friends who'd been there in the past. I'd been told that the water is clear and that the fish count is huge. I quickly learned that both of those comments were understated. Standing on a high spot on the trail, I saw so many fish-all large-working both on and beneath the surface that I had to pinch myself to be sure I hadn't died and gone to heaven. I'd tied hundreds of the flies suggested by well-meaning friends, and was anxious to begin fooling some of those shadowy beasts. Well, the fish aren't so easily fooled-they've seen thousands of flies flung at them from both shore and boats, and they are wary. Suffice it to say that I fished hard all day and ended up with around ten fish-a mix of rainbows, browns, and cutthroats all on tiny nymphs save one caught on a small dry fly.

The next day I fished with guide James Boehm. As we left the putin, I asked for his thoughts on how we'd be fishing that day. His response: we'll stick to dry flies until it's absolutely clear that we have to go to nymphs. I was delighted-albeit a bit skeptical, given my experience from the previous day. I watched as he rigged my rod with two dries-the topmost being a white-posted black ant with a #16 Triple Double at the point. The T-D was small and goofylooking but I figured James knew what he was doing. We fished it all day and spanked 'em. We talked—and laughed—over lunch about the odd little fella and kept coming back to the same point-it

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#### MATERIAL LIST

| Hook:        | Any standard dry<br>fly hook, sizes 18-<br>14 |
|--------------|---|
| Thread:      | Black 8/0                                     |
| Abdomen/     | Fine black dub-                               |
| thorax:      | bing shaped in                                |
|              | two segments as                               |
|              | in an ant pattern                             |
| Rear hackle: | Grizzly, one size                             |
|              | smaller than hook                             |
|              | size  |
| Middle       | Ginger, same size                             |
| hackle:      | as hook                                       |
| Front        | Cree, one size                                |
| hackle:      | larger than hook                              |
| Head:        | Small thread                                  |
|              | head  |

just works, Lord knows why. It looks a lot like the old fore-'n-aft Renegade pattern, but features a third hackle in the middle. On the third day I again fished from the trail, this time from the bottom up three miles. The T-D worked again, although not as well as it had from the boat.

So I thought it would be fun to share the T-D and feature it in this column. I suggest that you tie this bug in small sizes for those rare days during winter when dries have a chance, and perhaps in larger sizes (up to #14) for the spring on both streams and lakes.

I'll be tying this fly at the November meeting, so if you have any questions you can resolve them there. Also, to see color pictures of each step of the tying instructions, visit Granite Bay Flycasters' web site and click on "Fly Tyer's Corner" on the home page.

#### **Instructions:** (we'll tie at #14)

1. Smash the hook barb unless you are using a barbless hook. Cover the hook shank with thread.

2. Just above the back of the barb tie on a #16 grizzly hackle.



Steps 1 and 2

Wrap the grizzly hackle at that point. Two or three wraps will suffice.

3. Dub the rear third of the shank in the shape of an ant abdomen, just in front of the rear hackle.



Step 3

4. Tie on the middle hackle (size 14) just ahead of the abdomen, and wrap it at that point. Again two or three wraps will be sufficient.



Step 4

5. Just ahead of the middle hackle, dub the thorax. It should be a tiny bit smaller than the abdomen, as in the case of an ant pattern.

6. Tie in the front hackle (size 12) in front of the thorax and

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Cont'd from page 15





wrap it there, using two or three wraps.

7. Form a small thread head and whip finish.

#### **Tying Tips:**

1. Use only high-quality dry fly hackle. I prefer the long, uniform saddle hackles because you can get a lot of flies from a single one. Don't attempt this fly with inferior hackle—it will be a frustrating experience. 2. Keep it sparse. I think the success of this fly is tied to its exceptionally sparse appearance, which allows the inner body to show through.

3. Clip the bottom of the hackle even with the hook point for better floatation.

Green River Guides jokingly call this critter a "no see-um," because its neutral colors and appearance make it hard to see on the water even with polarized lenses. That's why my guide James placed an "indicator" dry fly above the T-D. Leave about 24" between the flies and keep them separated on the water by lifting your rod when necessary to pull them apart. I discovered that using a large indicator dry fly such as a hopper did not produce as well. The reason? The bigger fly tended to dominate and pull the T-D around and make it drag. A small indicator fly won't do that. See ya on the creek.



### Blank Alignment for Reel Seat and Guides:

In the previous articles, we discussed why you would want to build your own rod, types of rod blanks to choose from, and rod blank actions. So, as rod builders and users, we know there are many blank options and manufactured rods available for many different uses. Now we are ready to focus on the actual details of rod building.

For those who are not really interested in building a rod, never fear! These rod-building articles can still be extremely useful in selecting already- built rods. These articles will explain what makes rods work the way they do (operator error excluded) and the individual parts that went into building your rod. You will also gain knowledge in performance characteristics of rods, types of components available, and rod costs.

There are a lot of details to cover because there are many things that you, the rod builder, have control over in regards to performance when building a fly rod. We will try to keep the rod building details as clear as possible, but because of the level of detail required, and the limited space available in *The Leader*, it may take several articles to cover a single topic clearly. So, here we go...

## Finding the Spine (alias the Spline)

After you have selected a blank

for a new rod, it is important to align your blank for proper reel seat and guide positioning. This process is analogous to purchasing new tires for your car. When the tires are put on the car, they must be balanced correctly for optimum performance and wear. So, with fly rods, for optimum rod performance, the reel seat and guides must be fit to the proper side or parallel axis of each blank segment. If the reel seat and the rod guides are placed at random place on the blank rather than the spine, the rod will not work as well casting and playing fish.

Around the circumference of the blank, there is a line that runs along the axis of the blank segment. This "line" is the least bendable spot around the circumference. When rod blanks are fabricated, essentially every blank has an unbending side that is called the spine. The term spine is used interchangeably with the word spline. It is the metaphorical "backbone" of the blank segment and must be located for proper reel and guide placement.

In some cases, the effective spine will be very easy to find and in other cases it will be almost non-detectable. In a few cases there will be two effective spines, with one more prominent and maybe even 1800 opposite of the other. This spine is a result of blank construction deviations. Sometimes the spine can deviate and migrate throughout the entire length of the blank.

In order to locate the spine, first

larry lee

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wrap some masking tape around each blank segment near the center. Have a pen available to mark the spine location on this tape when you have found it.

Now hold the blank segment at about a  $45^{\circ}$  angle with the butt end resting on a hard, smooth surface. With either your right or left palm supporting the top of the blank segment, use the other hand to press down on the center of the blank (bending it slightly and rolling it back and forth). While doing this, you will notice a point where the blank seems to jump and you will notice an increased stiff resistance in the hand pushing down. This point on the blank axis is the effective spine or spline. You will need to mark the point on the masking tape with the pen to indicate the spine.Continue the procedure of locating and marking the spine on the remaining segments. For those in the rod building class, this technique is part of the class.

In the next rod-building article, we will discuss positioning of the reel seat and guides based on the spine location.

### Any Wet Flies Out There?

Actually, we're looking for Wet Fly Award nominees. This infamous annual recognition is bestowed on the club member that has demonstrated the highest level of 'oneness' with the waters we fish...who has taken that fateful extra step leading to an intimate bonding with the environment of our quarry...who has gone above and beyond the limit of mere waders to immerse him/herself in the world of our noble nemesis...who, in other words, has fallen in the water while fishing!

Who do you know who's slipped, tripped, stumbled, fallen, crashed, capsized, or otherwise gotten soaked while fishing—and won't mind having the story recounted aloud at our annual dinner on March 14th? If you have someone in mind, just contact any Board member to relay the deserving story by March 1st. Remember... think wet!



November 2007

#### **Denny Welch MOUNTAIN HARDWARE** Attorney at Law 114 N. Sunrise Avenue, TRUCKEE . BLAIRSDEN . SQUAW VALLEY EMPLOYEE OWNED Suite B-2 Roseville, CA 95661 **TAHOE TRUCKEE'S PREMIERE FISHING AND OUTDOOR STORE** TRUSTS Area's largest and most complete year-round WILLS selection of fly tying material and fly fishing PROBATE equipment ESTATE PLANNING Come visit us at: 282 Bonta St. 11320 Donner Pass Rd. Blairsden, Ca Truckee, Ca 96161 96103 916-786-2070 (530) 587-4844 (530) 836-2589 email: dennywelch@jps.net Mon-Fri 7am-7pm Mon-Fri 7am-5pm Sun 8am-6pm Sun 9am-5pm

#### Keep up to date www.gbflycasters.org

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| Committees:<br>Annual Dinner<br>Casting Instruction<br>Classroom Egg Prog.   | Mike Howes<br>Sturmer White<br>Rick Radoff<br>Frank Stolten   | 916-863-6795<br>916-791-2618<br>916-624-2107<br>916-725-6894   | Refreshments<br>Salmon Festival<br>Webmaster<br>Youth Program   | Denny Welch<br>Position Open<br>Pete Peterson<br>Kent Ripley<br>Position Open   | 916-240-1997<br>916-797-6940   |
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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 Rick Radoff at 916-624-2107.

Doors open between 6:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually hrvolves 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 and at general meetings. Single membership: \$30; Family memberships; \$35; and youth (under 18); \$10. There is also an \$5 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorted throughout the year. For membership information. call Bill Carnazzo at 530-367-5209, or visit the website at www.gbflycasters.org. **The Leader:** To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Frank Stolten at isiotten@comeast.net. Please put GBF *Leader* in the subject line. Dealline 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