



Photo taken by Frank Stolten

Martin Meier has the rapt attention of a young fly tyer as he demonstrates at the Salmon Festival.

November 2008



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

President's Message

Mike Howes



The days were windy, but 50 Granite Bay Flycasters club members braved the wind and helped out at the Salmon Festival. I would say our booth was one of the most popular at the festival. We had 10-12 tyers at a time busy instructing festival goers on how to tie a woolly bugger. My "thanks" to all those that volunteered, and to Pete Peterson, who did his usual outstanding job in orchestrating the event.

At the Northern California Council of the Fly Fishing Federation conclave in Lodi, our club was recognized by being awarded two of the four club awards given out at the conclave. We received an award for Participation, and one for Conservation. The Participation award was given for our community involvement and conservation work. The Conservation award was given for our commitment to conservation.

I would like to thank not only all the volunteers, but also our past president, Rick Radoff, and our Conservation VP, Robin Egan, for their leadership in these areas.

Also at the conclave, our own Bill

Carnazzo was presented the Ned Long Memorial Fly Tier of the Year Award for outstanding achievements in the art of fly tying, education, and advancement in fly tying.

November is a busy month. Our membership drive begins November 1st. Our dues are still at the bargain price of \$30 for a single, and \$35 for a family. We would like to receive your dues by December 31st. We have decided to have a raffle for those that pay their dues by December 31st. We have a waterproof fly box with a couple of dozen flies in it as the raffle prize. We will have the raffle at the January general meeting. Details are in this *Leader* and on the web site.

Annual Dinner Tickets will go on sale in November. The dinner is March 21st, a Saturday, at the Carmichael Elks Club. Tickets are \$38 until February 28. We only have room for 200 members and friends, so don't hesitate to buy your tickets early. This is our one and only fund raiser of the year. Details can be found in this publication of *The Leader* and on the web site.

The ISE show is coming up in January; we will have a sign up sheet available at the general meetings.

Our Christmas potluck is on December 10th. To facilitate the food, those with the last name starting with A-G — Hors D'oeuvres; H-K — Salad; L-P —Favorite Dish; Q-Y — Desert. Come to socialize and relax.

It is a joy to be in such a great club.

. . .Life is reel

Salmon Festival 2008

GBF did it again for the 12th straight year. We were hampered with high winds both Saturday & Sunday. Both days we had to give up on any casting of any kind. The wind was so bad on Saturday that it blew the road barriers over.

There are quite a few members that show up every year to help with the casting. In the true GBF way they helped with the kids and fly tying instead.

This year I also asked for fly tying donations. I have done that in the past and have received a few items. This year we almost received enough donated to start a small fly tying store. I tried to keep a list of donators but everything came in so fast I was unable to. I am really sorry I do not have that list, but the donators know who they are. I would estimate that we have enough supplies to last a minimum of 6-7 years. Thank you for your generosity.

Despite the high winds, there was a lot of good bantering about,

and everybody had a good time. When you get your 2009 calendar, remember to mark the 2nd weekend in October.

A big thank you and a bigger well done.

. . .Pete

P.S. We had 263 kids this year.

Granite Bay Flycasters Win Awards at Conclave

President Mike Howes, who has also written about this subject in his President's Message, accepted two prestigious awards on behalf of Granite Bay Flycasters at the Northern California Council, Federation of Fly Fishers Conclave, held on October 10-11. These awards were among the four that are awarded annually by NCCFFF to member clubs (of which there are many) who have exhibited outstanding performance in the four areas.

Continued on next page



Bill & Marilyn Kiene

2654 Marconi Avenue Sacramento CA 95821

916/486-9958 800/4000-FLY email: info@kiene.com www.kiene.com Continued from previous page

The two awarded to GBF were the Conservation Award and the Participation Award. The Conservation Award is given to the club that has achieved excellence and shown leadership on conservation issues affecting our sport. Prime examples of our club's activities are: (1) the salmon/steelhead egg program, which consists of distributing eggs to school classrooms where the teacher has gone through the in-service training required. The club also provides the rearing facilities, including tanks, pumps, and chillers. (2) the Bear River Project. which originally was installed years ago for fish habitat restoration purposes; more recently, club members repaired certain of the original improvements that had deteriorated. The club's conservation committee performs many other important conservation-related tasks-just ask your committee members, listed in the Leader, for more information and how you can help them out.

The Participation Award goes to the club that demonstrates excellence in the area of member participation in activities that benefit our sport. A great example of this is our support of Casting For Recovery, a wonderful program designed to provide fishing opportunities to recovering victims of breast cancer. Of course, our program of fishouts, classes, clinics, and seminars is also exemplary.

We are all proud of our club's achievements. Kudos to our President, other officers, and board of directors for exhibiting excellent leadership, and for achieving well-deserved recognition among our peers.

Fishouts

November is here, and we have only one fishout scheduled for the rest of the year! The Delta Fishout on November 11th, which will be lead by Denny Welch, is the only one scheduled. We need volunteers to lead fishouts. In the past, we have had fishouts in the January – February time frame at the Lower American River (Steelhead), Rancho Seco and Lake Amador. If you would be interested in leading one of these fishouts, please let me know so we can set up a date.

. . .Bill Hagopian Fishmaster Billh07@comcast.net 916-771-5837

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Upcoming Classes and Clinics

Bill Carnazzo, Chair, Member Education

Below is a list of clinics and classes that will be offered to members. Some have scheduled dates; the others will be scheduled shortly. If you have suggestions as to other clinics or classes, be sure to contact me and we can discuss your thoughts. Look for specifics on classes and clinics on the web site, and in future Leader articles.

Clinic/Class Date(s) Casting:* October 25 Beginning Intermediate November 1 Fly Tying:** Beginning January 10, 24 Intermediate/Advanced January 6, 12, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 16 Fly Fishing Basics*** November 29 Fishing with indicators**** TBA-in Nov. Advanced knot tying November 20 GPS/Map reading Spring, '09 Stillwater (on the water) TBA Making balsa poppers Spring, '09 Demystifying lines, leaders Spring, '09 Entomology school (Sagehen) May, '09 Techniques for "swinging"***** Late Spring, '09

*Sturmer White, along with a cadre of GBF stalwarts, will lead the beginner class and John Hogg will lead the intermediate class; they will be held at Gibson Ranch County Park in Elverta. There will be signup sheets at the October general meeting

**Paul Egan will lead the beginner class; it will be held at the San Juan Ave. Raley's Event Center. Bill Carnazzo will lead the intermediate/advanced class, using a format featuring a different tyer at each session. The six classes will be held at either the Granite Bay or Roseville Raley's Event Center.

***This class has not been held for a few years, and it is time to do it again. It is for newer members who want to learn the basics of our sport. It will be taught by Bill Carnazzo, Sturmer White, and Karl Wolff.

****This class will be taught by Ryan Miller, professional drift boat guide on the Yuba, Feather, Lower Sacramento, and other waters. The format is not clear yet, but the plan is to do a part classroom/part on-the-water combination.

*****This class will feature proper technique for swinging streamers, soft hackles, etc. I plan on engaging a professional to teach this very important technique.

The Annual Dinner is Coming!

The 2008 Granite Bay Flycasters Annual Dinner, Raffle, & Silent Auction is coming March 21st, 2009.

This is our biggest bash of the year...and a great opportunity to sit down, meet, and really get to know your fellow club members over a nice multi-course meal, an entertaining guest speaker, and an incredible raffle and amazing silent auction.

Meet new people who've never heard your old fishing yarns! At this event, friendships are created and rekindled, fishing exploits are shared (and sometimes created), and the real benefit of being a member of the Granite Bay Flycasters 'family' can be realized.

This is a must-attend event for anyone who wants to get the most out of their club!

Tickets go on sale November 1st and are available at regular club meetings through March or by mail until March 12th. Tickets usually sell out, so be sure to plan ahead.

To get tickets by mail, send a check (payable to Granite Bay Flycasters) to Bill & Bev Hagopian at the address shown below. With your check, please include a name, phone#, and meal choice (Baked ½ Chicken, London Broil, or Vegetarian) for each ticket requested. Tickets are just \$38 each until February 28th – then \$45 each until March 12th.

Address the envelope as follows: GBF Annual Dinner 7124 Secret Garden Lane Roseville. CA. 95747

Monthly Fly Tying Winners for October

Beginners: -Art Garcia

Advanced: -

\$25.00 Certificate to American Fly Fishing Company:

Don Van Sant

GBF Holiday Potluck Dinner

At our general meeting on December 10th we have a potluck dinner. No speaker, just come and relax. This event brings out the best fish stories and laughs. To facilitate the food those with the last name

starting with:
A-G — Hors
D'oeuvres; HK — Salad;
L-P —Favorite Dish; Q-Y
— Desert. The
club will supply the drinks.
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Holiday spirit
and join us for
an evening of
friendship.



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Swap Meet and Chili Cookoff

We've got our **SWAP MEET AND CHILI COOKOFF** scheduled to take off on Saturday, December 13th. Officially, we start at 9:00 and will go until noon or 1:00, depending on the crowd. I plan on getting there at about 7:00 to start getting things set up for the multitudes. That usually means that selling, buying, haggling, back stabbing, lying and cheating actually starts at 7:00.

The swap meet is always a huge event. It's the one time each year we can stock up on those things we really need and also get rid of all the stuff we bought last year. Rods, reels, boats/float tubes, tying materials, flies, waders and many other items will all be there. It's also the one time each year you can get all of these things at a reasonable price.

I've also gotten a number of calls concerning the chili. We have some pretty different stuff coming again this year and I'd like to speak for just a moment on safety. For obvious reasons, we cannot allow any open flames in the building. For those of you with respiratory (breathing) problems, I'd suggest you wear a mask. Hopefully, the exhaust fans will keep us comfortable. If not, make frequent trips outdoors for fresh air. Shots of Kaopectate will be offered for a nominal fee.

Most of you know that I would never lie to you and that I am always doing my best to keep you safe. Therefore, I am circulating a petition asking that Ron English be prohibited from entering this year's chili cookoff. You may have seen some of the road kill he tries to peddle at the swap meet. Well, I have it on pretty good authority that he also uses that same road kill when cooking his chili. Again, this is only a safety precaution and has absolutely no connection to Ron usually winning the cookoff.

Here are a few other random notes:

- 1. Get there early for the best selection.
- 2. Stay late for the best price.
- If you are bringing chili, bring it in a crock pot and make sure you have a serving spoon with it. Put your name on your pot, on the lid, etc.
- 4. If you want, bring some of your special cornbread.
- 5. We'll have coffee and water available. If you want to bring something else go ahead and we'll throw it in the communal ice chest. Sorry, but no alcohol is allowed....park rule.
- 6. Name your chili. My last two entries "Just Passin' Thru" and "True Blue Spaghetti Chili" were both crowd favorites, but due to some voting irregularities I was denied the crown. Without Ron participating, I'm sure my "Just Passin' Thru II" will be victorious.
- 7. Bring cash.
- 8. Bring your checkbook.
- If you have one, bring a short extension cord for your chili. Label it.
- 10. First come, first served re the table space. Space will be at a premium so be prepared to share the space.
- 11. Feel free to bring your boats, float tubes, prams, pontoons, etc., but set them up outside. Those things usually sell better if they are inflated (with air, not price).
- 12. Bring a friend.

I hope to see you all out there on Saturday, December 13th. Give me a call if you have any questions...530-889-8562 (home)...916-786-2070 (office) or dennywelch@jps.net.

I could use some help so if you're able to assist please give me a call.

. . .Denny

Membership Renewal Reminder

It will soon be time to renew your membership. Although we follow a July 1-June 30 fiscal year, membership renewal is on a calendar year basis. We will begin collecting renewal dues in November. Early renewal (i.e., before January 1) is very helpful in terms of record-keeping, and your cooperation in that regard will be much appreciated. As membership V.P., I will be proposing to the Board at its October meeting that an early renewal incentive be offered in the form of a drawing for a nice piece of fly fishing equipment. Renewal dues for the upcoming year will remain the same--\$30 for individual memberships and \$35 for family memberships.

There are three ways to renew (check payable to Granite Bay Flycasters in all cases):

- 1. Send your renewal check to me at:
 - Bill Carnazzo 5209 Crestline Drive Foresthill CA 95631
- Send your renewal check to Granite Bay Flycasters at: 4120 Douglas Blvd. #306-356 Granite Bay CA 95746—5936
- 3. Pay at the general meeting.

. . .Bill Carnazzo, Membership V.P.

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

For Sale:

I have two custom wooden wading staffs for sale. One is slightly used (used once) and one is brand new. They are made of ash and come with a long strap, rubber grip, and rubber tip. The used one is \$25 and the new one is \$28. At the swap meet I will also have many flies, including some of my October Caddis Series patterns, and my new indicator-to-tippet short line leaders.

Bill Carnazzo

Spring Creek Guide Service 5209 Crestline Drive, Foresthill CA 95631

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

Sage Model GLF 1090-3 RPLX, 9' 10 wt. rod, Graphite III, New condition, \$150.

ALMARCO 'Lil Drifter' 7'9" Aluminum Pram w/anchors for front and rear. w/o oars and in excellent condition \$350.

Mike Freeborn 1256 Jorgenson Dr. Lincoln, CA 95648 916-543-3570 mmfree2@sbcglobal.net

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 15th of the month to be included in the following month's *Leader*.

GBF - Monthly Meeting

The speaker for November 13th will be Don Muelrath. He gave a general "Stalking the Great Gamefish with a Fly Rod" presentation to us during our September 2007 meeting. This year, he will elaborate on an exclusive Belize fishery that he has been involved with for many vears. It is accessed from a "live aboard Mothership" and is believed by many to be the top saltwater adventure anywhere. With this trip, you and your group of 2, 3, 4, or 6 live on the shallow waters inside the reef on your own personal floating lodge - i.e., a comfortable, air conditioned, live-aboard yacht. Behind the mothership are towed your flats skiffs from which you will pursue tarpon, bonefish, snook, barracuda, and can access the world's finest permit flats.

Don Muelrath is a widely published writer, lecturer and outdoor photographer. He has fished and photographed many of the world's foremost and spectacular fly fishing destinations. His outfitting business, "Fly Fishing Adventures," handles the travel programs for the "Fish First" fly fishing shops in Northern California. His energetic presentation and outstanding photography will make this an interesting evening you won't want to miss.

November 13, 7:00 PM Where: GBF Clubhouse

Bill Carnazzo Wins "Fly Tier of the Year" Award



Eah year at its Conclave, the Northern California Council, Federation of Fly Fishers ("NCCFFF") gives an award called "The Ned Long Memorial Fly Tier of the Year Award" to a fly tier who has demonstrated "outstanding achievements in the art of fly tying, education and advancement of fly tying."

This year this prestigious award was presented to Granite Bay Flycasters charter member Bill Carnazzo at the Conclave's closing dinner. Bill received this long overdue, and well deserved award in recognition of his many contributions over the years, not just to GBF, but to the larger fly tying community. We're proud of Bill's award, and congratulate him on his recognition.

Tech Talk

Bill Carnazzo, Chairperson, Member Education Introduction of column, and discussion of leader construction

Based on some discussions I've had with Granite Bay Flycasters members, there is a lot of interest in demystifying technical jargon associated with fly fishing. The purpose of this column that, for lack of a better term, we will call "Tech Talk," is to provide some guidelines for members in their quest to understand and evaluate the bewildering virtual tsunami of information out there. While the column may not appear in each issue of the Leader, it will be a regular feature written by me and knowledgeable guest contributors. Members are invited to suggest topics for future articles-and please do take advantage of this offer, as we want to keep this column relevant and helpful.

Growth and expansion of our sport has led to increased specialization of rods, reels, lines, and leaders—and, of course, flies which seem to daily multiply like...well... flies. For example, visit Rio's web site (or grab their catalog) and take a look at the plethora of lines now available: There are multiple fresh water floating lines for trout, salmon, steelhead, and bass; saltwater lines for bonefish, tarpon, permit, and other species; lines that sink at various rates from 1 foot per second to 7 or 8 feet per second; integrated lines and shooting heads/shooting running lines; and, of course, the nearly infinite, daily morphing series of lines for two handed rods. The same problem is presented by rods, reels, and leaders. How, then, is a flyfisher (beginner and otherwise) supposed to figure out what all this means, and what he/she really needs? Good question.

Leaders

There are two basic parts of a fly fishing leader: the "butt" section, and the tippet section. The purpose of the butt section is to provide a transition from the fly line to the tippet, and to achieve a smooth turnover of the leader when the cast is completed. The purpose of the tippet section, to which the fly is attached, is to continue the taper from the fly line down to the fly. Fly line/leader connections and specialized leaders for subsurface fishing will be the subject of future articles; for now let's concentrate on the leader itself within the framework of a general purpose system.

Packaged leaders, which average \$4.00 apiece for monofilament and about \$9.00 for flourocarbon, are all tapered from a heavy thickness at the end that attaches to the fly line to a fine point at the tip; the diameters at the butt and tip ends vary according to the type of fishing involved and the fly line you intend to use. They also vary in length, with the most common lengths being 9' and 71/2'. For example, for trout fishing the most popular packaged leader is 9' in length, tapered to a 3 x (.008"), 4x (.007"), or 5x (.006) diameter at the tip. They are also available in 6x and even 7x diameters, but these are specialized and, to some extent, impractical. I will explain the latter comment below.

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Hogan Brown's S & M Nymph

Hogan's S & M Nymph was the star performer at the recent Upper Sac outing....even outfishing Bill's Stick Caddis, which is generally the number one fish-getter at this time of year. This year's weather, being warm with crisp blue skies and very low, crystal clear water conditions, seems to have affected the normally heavy October Caddis hatch which, in turn, reduced the effectiveness of October Caddis patterns (larva, pupa, emerger, and adult). Many fish were still caught on the Stick Caddis, but the small nymphs clearly out-performed all others—with the S & M leading the charge.

That's the "bad news;" the "good news" is that there were prolific hatches of baetis, or blue winged olive mayflies. BWOs are tiny grayish olive bugs, normally imitated well by tiny Pheasant Tail nymphs. The nymphs were active most of the day, but particularly in low light conditions (early morning, especially) and on days when there was some cloud cover.

The S & M in various sizes probably imitates a host of mayfly nymphs (and probably some species of midges), but in the smaller sizes (16-20) it is especially effective as a baetis nymph imitation. My guide clients, on Thursday, Friday, and Monday were able to land many trout using this pattern—with a few fish in the 18" range. Outing participants also found it to be particularly effective.

Since baetis hatch virtually all year long, including Winter, let's put a few of these in our fly boxes.

Tying Instructions:

1. Debarb the hook, add a 2 mm



Steps 1 and 2

copper bead to the hook, and cover the shank with thread.

- 2. Using 5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules, tie in a tail just above the back of the barb. At the same spot tie in a piece of chartreuse wire.
- 3. Tie in a few pheasant tail barbules by their tips at the same spot. Wrap them forward to the 1/3 point on the shank and tie them off. This forms the abdomen of the fly. Wrap the wire rib forward in close turns and tie it off at the front end of the body.
- 4. At the same spot, tie in a brown goose biot with the butt end pointing

Continued on next page

MATERIAL LIST

Hook: Standard nymph

hook, #18-20

Bead: 2mm shiny copper

bead

Thread: 8/0 olive brown

5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules

Abdomen: Pheasant tail

Tail:

Ribbing: Chartreuse wire,

extra small

Thorax: Olive brown

dubbing

Wing Case: Brown goose biot Legs: 2 strands of pearl

crystal flash

Continued from previous page



Step 3

rearward. This will be used for the wing case.

5. Dub a small thorax in front of the abdomen.



Steps 4 & 5

- 6. Tie in two short strands of pearl crystal flash just behind the hook eye so that there are two "legs" on each side of the fly. The strands should be pointing rearward. Clip the crystal flash legs so that they end at the point of the hook.
- 7. Apply a tiny drop of Dave's Flexament or similar glue to the top



Steps 6 & 7

of the thorax and quickly pull the biot over the top. Pull the crystal flash legs rearward so that they lie alongside the body of the fly. Tie off the biot behind the eye of the hook and whip finish.

Tying and finishing tips:

- 1. I like to fish this fly on a 6 or 7" 4x dropper protruding from the main tippet. I use a loop knot to tie on the fly, as it gives the fly more action in the drift.
- 2. If you begin catching lots of fish on this fly, try putting two of them on—one on the dropper and the other on the point fly—perhaps using different sizes.
- 3. Fish this fly whenever you see BWOs flying around the stream, or see their nymphs swimming about in the shallows.

Fish this delicate little bug all year long—you won't regret it. See ya on the creek.

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CONSERVATION CORNER

NEW COMMITTEE MEETING DAY & TIME: Meetings will now be held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. They will be held at the Round Table Pizza in Granite Bay (Douglas Blvd at Auburn Folsom). Thank you to Mike Laing and John Carroz for attending the October meeting. I hope that more members will be able to attend in the future.

SPECIAL PROJECTS — EMERGENCY FISH RESCUE / VOLUNTEER SURVEY TEAM: We

currently have 9 members on this list (including those that signed up at the October general meeting). I hope that this will become more popular as we participate in more rescues and surveys. The idea is to have a large enough list of people to call at any given time to get 5-10 members participating in these events as they come up. We generally only have a few days notice, so we need as many members as possible to have diversity. I've begun requesting availability, so that we can call those that would usually be available when these events occur (e.g. weekends vs. weekdays). Hopefully this will help the guilt factor (having to say no if we call you) and increase the names available on the list. This worked out really well for the Upper Truckee Electro-fishing survey that we helped with recently.

North Mokelumne Project with Sac-Sierra TU

Barbara Bania reports that the original location of this project will be changed due to the presence of too many negative influences in the area (e.g. lots of kids and kayaks) that would undo the planned riparian habitat installation. A smaller creek that feeds into the North Mokelumne near the same area is currently being considered.

Caples Lake Fish Rescue (Aug 26-29)

There were a couple of members that signed up for this, but when they arrived to help, there were already too many people there. They had more than enough help. Thank you to Mike Howes for volunteering his valuable time to make an appearance on behalf of GBF!

Upper Truckee Electro-fishing Survey (Sept 9-12)

As mentioned above, we utilized our newly implemented Emergency Fish Rescue / Volunteer Survey Team (FRV Team?) and we were able to have 2 members participate in this survey with DFG. Thank you to Mel Odemar and Bill Templin for volunteering their valuable time and representing GBF's conservation committee at this event.

STATUS REPORT on current legislation —

AB1806 Schwarzenegger vetoed this bill, claiming it is unnecessary and duplicates authority already conferred to the Department by existing laws and regulations for mitigation for fish and wildlife impacts and coordination between federal, state and local agencies. Additionally, the burdensome process that this bill would create could potentially inhibit restoration activities initiated in association with flood control projects (taken from CSPA Article: http://www.calsport.org/9-30-08a.htm).

AB2175 As of 9/30/08: Re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

AB2938 As of 9/30/08, in Senate Appropriations - This bill would require the department, upon funding being made available in the annual Budget Act, to design and implement a prescribed monitoring program to evalu-

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Rod Building 109A Two-Handed or Spey Fly Rods

Previous rod building articles have primarily discussed single handed casting fly rod advantages and disadvantages of use, how to select blanks and components, and the construction. This will be first of five articles that will discuss the two handed fly rod (also called a Spey rod). These articles will provide a brief history of the two-handed rod, advantages and disadvantages, selection of size, length, action type, guides, handles, and reel seats. A brief discussion of reels and lines will also be included.

A brief history:

The roots of this type of rod can be traced back to the 1850's near the Spey River in Scotland. Originally, these two-handed rods were used on coastal rivers of the British Isles and Scandinavia to fish for Atlantic salmon and trout. Early two-handed rods were made of ash, lancewood, and shaved greenheart wood. These rods were constructed with ferrules, and the line tended to flop against the blank when the line passed through poorly designed, unbraced, brass ring guides. Rods also weighed 24 ounces or more, and sometimes spanned 18 to 20 feet in length. At that time, dedicated anglers made their own rods. An angler had to be fairly physically fit to fish with these two handed rods because it took both hands and arms to use them effectively. A fisherman in the 1850's could expect to use the entire length of the rod to just dip the fly in front of the fish or perform an overhead cast. An expert could roll cast 90 to 100 feet. When a fisherman had completed their fishing for the day, he may have had to indulge in some sort of pain remediation by the use of alcohol.

After the invention of fiberglass (1950's) and graphite (mid 1970's), two-handed fly rods made with these materials were much lighter and more responsive than their Scottish ancestors. In short, they provided a superior casting tool for fishing using these new materials. A couple types of two-handed rods were developed: a traditional type or a Scandinavian (European) type. The traditional type tended act like the old Scottish wooden rods in terms of action by having a moderate to slow action. The Scandinavian two-handed rods had a much faster action for those that like a faster, quicker rod response.

Why use a double-handed rod?

These rods were developed for large rivers and streams with steep banks and/or heavy vegetation. Typical onehanded rods with back casting were not very effective in getting the fly out

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Denny Welch Attorney at Law

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

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Tech Talk - Continued from page 11

Tippet spools, consisting normally of 25 meters of material, provide a way to lengthen packaged leaders where necessary, or to return the leader to its nominal package diameter after a number of fly changes or break-offs. The spools are available for 0x through 7x diameters (I've seen 8x spools, but I can hardly see the spider web strand). Monofilament spools average \$3.00 to \$4.00; fluorocarbon is much more expensive.

If you were to purchase multiple packaged leaders in a variety of lengths and tip diameters, your investment will be significant. There is an alternative which you should consider: make your own leaders. You will sharply reduce your investment and achieve more flexibility if you do so; and, to boot, it is very simple to do. As an example, let's build a general purpose 9' leader from the ground up.

Skills needed

Ability to tie a perfection loop Ability to tie a double surgeon's knot

Materials needed

1 spool of 30# Maxima monofilament 1 spool of 20# Maxima monofilament 1 spool of 10# Maxima monofilament Monofilament tippet spools of 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6x

While this sounds like it will cost a lot, you can make a lot of leaders from these spools and reduce your per-leader cost to a fraction of the cost of packaged leaders.

To begin, you'll need 3' of 30#, 11/2'

of 20#, and 1' of 10# Maxima. When cutting the material, give yourself a few extra inches for knot typing purposes. Tie a perfection loop at one end of the 30# and then tie the three pieces together using double surgeon's knots. At the end of the 10# piece, tie another perfection loop. You now have a good butt section that should be approximately 5½' long. I usually tie up a half dozen of these and put them in a plastic bag for future use.

Next make your tippet section, which should be 31/2' long in order to achieve our 9' leader. Select tippet material of the size appropriate for your situation, cut it from the spool, and tie a perfection loop at one end. Loop this piece to the butt section and voila, you are ready to fish. If conditions dictate a thinner (or thicker) tippet section, just replace the tippet section with the appropriate new size. If conditions dictate a longer tippet, just add more from your spool using a double surgeon's knot. If going from the 10# end of the butt section to, e.g., 6x tippet bothers you, just taper the tippet section with decreasingly thick 12" pieces of tippet. The butt section will last a long time with this approach, and you will not need to buy multiple packaged leaders.

The mono/flouro debate

There are a few factors to consider when deciding whether to purchase monofilament or fluorocarbon tippet spools. The first factor is cost: Flourocarbon costs approximately 3 times as much as monofilament. Secondly, will you be fishing surface flies or subsurface flies? Flourocarbon sinks more rapidly than monofilament, so if you are going to use



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dry flies monofilament is a better choice. Third, fluorocarbon appears to be more durable in terms of abrasion resistance, due to its hardness. Fourth, fluorocarbon is thinner and less visible than monofilament, if size and visibility matter under the circumstances. Fifth, fluorocarbon is not susceptible to deterioration in UV light, but monofilament will break down over time. As a general rule, monofilament spools should be replaced each year. Finally, some professionals insist that fluorocarbon is stronger; I'm not convinced on that point, and there are a lot of differing opinions on the subject.

My approach is simple: I use fluorocarbon tippet for nymphing leaders and monofilament for dry fly applications. For the butt section I stick with monofilament.

Finally, keep in mind that you can purchase monofilament and fluorocarbon in larger spools if you so desire, to further minimize your cost. Outlets such as Fisherman's Warehouse and Sportsman's Warehouse carry these, but you should research the specifications for the various brands before picking one. My advice: stick to the name brands to avoid wide swings in quality.

Next month we'll consider more specialized leaders, such as those used for still water applications, swinging flies, or striper fishing.

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conservation Comer - Continued from Page 14 ate the potential effects that diversions of water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, as defined, may have on fish species residing in, or migrating through, the Delta.

For status updates on open legislation in the State Assembly, go to http://www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/acsframeset2text.htm.

Well, that's all for now. The next conservation committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4th at 7:00 PM at the Round Table Pizza in Granite Bay (Douglas Blvd at Auburn Folsom).

All are welcome to attend. Come see what we have in store!

...Robin, 916-396-0030, Tggr514@yahoo.com

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Rod Building - Continued from Page 15

to the fish in this type of situation. However, using the long two-handed rods and special types of casts that keep the line loops to the side or front, an angler can cast large distances with very little effort. An angler can also cover large sections of sizeable streams, lakes, or salt water with casts of 70 to 140 feet, again with very little effort. In addition, fly lines have been developed for two-handed rods

that allow the fisherman to fish dry flies with a floating line on the surface, or fish nymphs and streamers with sinking lines of various densities that can reach to various depths.

In the next four articles about two-handed fly rods, we will discuss the selection of size, length, action type, guides, handles, reel seats, and selection of reel sizes. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at larrylee@L3rods.com or telephone (916) 962-0616.

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Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat, advancement of the art of Fly Fishing, and good sportsmanship.

Meetings: General club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay Activities Center on the shores of Folsom Lake. For directions, check www.gbflycasters.org, or call 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 involves a guest speaker and site 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 \$8 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, call Bill Carnazzo at 530-557-5209, 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 fistolten@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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