Well, it’s August and everywhere I go everyone is fishing. I had to go all the way to Ennis Montana to have a chance encounter with Peg Miskin from Casting for Recovery in the fly shop at the Rainbow Valley Lodge. I guess when you’re fishing anything is possible.

As the newly elected President of GBF, I would like to say thank you to those members who have served their final term as Directors, VP’s and past Presidents who have given quite a lot to all of us over the past two to four years. Of course I am speaking of Rick Radoff, Jack Ramos and Robin Egan. I am also glad to have Mike Howes as a trusted advisor for the coming year. I want you all to welcome the new members of the Board of Directors and our new VP of Conservation Henry Sandigo, Director at Large Tony Fabian and Directors Taylor Yates, Eric Palmer and Don Van Sant as we head off into yet another great year.

I have asked Pete Peterson to coordinate GBF’s participation in the first annual Calling Back the Salmon Festival which will be held October 23rd at McBean Park in Lincoln. GBF has been requested to demonstrate fly tying and casting much the same as we did at the old Salmon Festival by Nimbus Dam. So volunteer to tie flies even if you do not know how. We promise to teach you in minutes and you can help children and adults alike tie their first woolly booger or assist in teaching interested individuals to cast. Let’s all get involved and show the citizens of Lincoln some genuine Granite Bay Flycaster hospitality! Sign up sheets will be on the table at the August meeting.

In August and September GBF is supporting Casting For Recovery with (River Helpers) on August 22nd at Clearwater Lodge and September 19th at Mt. Shasta Lodge. This is a great opportunity to help women who are recovering from various cancers with a few hours of fly fishing. It doesn’t matter how experienced you are, any level of fly fishing experience works. We are there to help these women remain safe while assisting them with their fly fishing experience. Over the last three years, I have enjoyed being a River Helper and each time it has been a rewarding experience. Rick Radoff will have sign up sheets at the August 12th meeting. Please join the current volunteers in a great experience as a River Helper.

Also, arrive early and watch one of GBF’s excellent fly tyers, Ray Ito, demonstrate fly tying at the front of the room for all those interested.
Very fortunately for those of us on the West Coast, we have an unusual concentration of extremely talented spey rod and line builders in Southern Oregon. Of the 4 most influential spey rod designers and builders in the United States, 3 of them live in the Medford/Grants Pass area. The speaker for our August 12th meeting will be Steve Godshall. In association with both Gary Anderson and Bob Meiser, Steve Godshall has been largely responsible for the design, development and production of much of our modern, cutting edge spey equipment. Steve has agreed to drive all the way down from Medford to show and tell us about the various aspects of spey rods and lines. This will be an informative and entertaining presentation by one of the very best in the business. At the August meeting he will share his latest developments, the recipes and formulas that you can use to improve the enjoyment of your casting, especially spey, his fly casting passion. Please attend this meeting whether you are interested in spey casting or not.

### For Sale:

Sage 9’ 10wt RPLX 3 pcs. This rod is a real horse, and is in the like new condition. Can’t tell that it’s ever been used. Rod sold new for $700.00. I’m selling for $190.00.

Jim Hunter, 408-8966

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*. 

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**Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds**

**For Sale:**

Sage 9’ 10wt RPLX 3 pcs. This rod is a real work horse, and is in the like new condition. Can’t tell that it’s ever been used. Rod sold new for $700.00. I’m selling for $190.00.

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**Monthly Program**

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Heritage Trout Quest

For the past two years I have been on a quest. My young grandson asked me what that was and I told him that it is like a prince who has to go out and kill the dragon in order to save the princess and he was OK with that.

My particular quest has been to catch 6 of the 11 (or so) Heritage Trout within the State of California in their native waters in order to earn a poster of those fish. The Heritage and Wild Trout Program is sponsored and administered by the State of California Department of Fish and Game. According to Jeff Weaver (more about him later) there have been only 168 or so posters given since the inception of the program...not very many considering the size of the state! For more general info you can go to: www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/Resources/WildTrout/index.asp

Back to the quest...last year I was two for four; I missed the costal cutthroat and the Kern golden but I think I'll catch them another time. This year I am three for three with the help of a great part of this program where biologists from the DFG put on a seminar for various ecosystems which gives not only the history and distribution and future of the target fish but also shows you where to catch them stream or lakeside.

I signed up for the seminar on the Goose Lake and Warner Lakes redband trout held July 15, 2010 near Alturas. There are other trips being offered this year including an Eagle Lake in November and one for the Lahontan (stream) on 7/24/2010. According to Jeff, there will be more next year! This seminar was very informative...Jeff had a great booklet prepared, gave us the presumed history of the goose lake redband and let us know facts about the fish such as they grow to at least 30 inches in a series of wet years in Goose Lake and somehow they are not listed as endangered when they live in such a small habitat. Then he and Stephanie Mehalick (another DFG Biologist) led us to the Dismal Swamp where we had an opportunity to catch the Warner Lake redband. Of the six people attending, only three caught this little elusive beautiful trout. After lunch, we went down to Lassen Creek where we were shown the affect of cattle degradation on a small stream. Stephanie was leading a team electro-shocking for population studies in Lassen Creek. I found that the best thing, even better than a guide, is to go with someone who really knows where the fish were. I drove by some places that I thought should be perfect, but Stephanie said go here for best results and it really turned out to be true!

It was a great day to be with fly fishing biologists and I got my special trout! Next for me will be the Kern River...Kern River Rainbow, Little Kern Golden and Kern Golden. I can hardly wait for that poster!!!

...Jim Holmes
"Rigging of Lines & Leaders" Workshop Scheduled

GBF will offer a line and leader rigging workshop at the clubhouse on Tuesday, August 17 at 6:30 PM. (This will be at the same time and location as the fly tying jam but in a different part of the room.)

We will address how to build leader systems for dry fly presentation in still water and moving water situations; subsurface presentation of nymphs with appropriate leader lengths, weights, and indicators, and leaders for streamer presentation.

Selection of an appropriate flyline for varying fishing conditions will also be covered.

Handouts will be available for future reference. There will be a signup sheet at the August general meeting . . . John Hogg

WARMWATER 101 - Fly Lines

Last month we touched on fly lines. With all of the new lines on the market, we barely scratched the surface. The same applies to flies which we will go over this month. Many fish for bass with fairly small hooks. They will catch a lot of fish but if you want to go after the larger fish, you must upsize your fly. I will go over what I use and each individual can adapt to the size he wants. My most common size for small mouth is either a size 1 or 2 hook. For largemouth and stripers, I will usually tie on size 3/0 and some times up to 5/0. The local fly shops all have an excellent stock of bass flies but I prefer to tie my own as there are colors I like that are not available pre-tied.

There are 6 different styles of flies; I will cover 2 this month and more next month.

**DRIY FLIES** – these are flies that almost all trout fishermen will already have in their fly boxes. These flies imitate rasshoppers, ants, beetles, spiders, moths and other terrestrials. They are used mostly for river type fishing and small lakes.

**SURFACE FLIES** – This is the world of bass bugs. These are usually made of hair from deer, antelope or elk and considered soft bodied. Hard body flies are usually cork, foam, balsa wood or hard wood. These flies are very popular as surface strikes are exciting. I prefer the soft bodied and use them almost all of the time. The reason I do not use hard bodied is they float high on the surface. There are very few things that bass eat that float high. If someone comes up with a duck imitation I will give it a try. The soft bodied flies, especially after they are water logged, will float in the surface film and make a better imitation of the prey they imitate. Bass will also hold onto soft bodied for a much longer time because these feel more realistic to them. Within the hair flies we have the popper design; these have a blunt face that makes a gurgling or splashy sound. It is important to check hair flies to be sure that the fly has ample room for the hook to have a wide enough gape for hooking power. Another surface fly that is usually made of foam is the slider. These flies have a bullet shaped head and when the fish are skittish, they make less of a commotion than the deer head flies. Happy fishing — Pete Peterson

August On The Water Clinics With
Rick Fox and Ron Speroni

Guides Rick Fox and Ron Speroni will be holding on the water fly fishing clinics in August. Sign up to fine tune your fly fishing skills with these wonderful instructors.

Upper Sac 8/14/2010 with Rick Fox
Yuba River 8/21/2010 with Ron Speroni
Truckee River 8/28/2010 with Rick Fox

Cost: $100
For more information or to sign up, please contact Fly Fishing Specialties.

Fly Fishing Specialties
6360 Tupelo Drive
Citrus Heights, California 95621
916-722-1055
www.flyfishingspecialties.com

Welcome to Our Newest Members

David Bailey
Pat Brady
Doug Groshong
Tad Walton
Our July meeting had 3 in attendance and me (Robin Eagen, Mel Odemar & John Carroz) and one special
guest, Mark Powell, Endangered Species Coalition California Representative. Thanks to those who keep attend-
ing these important monthly meetings. Remember attendance at the committee meetings counts toward your
total volunteer hours for the year.

Mark gave us an overview of the Delta issues: peripheral canal, more water from the Delta may go to LA, San
Diego and other points south, the politics involved, possible closed door agreements (WESTLANDS), legislative
leaders calling for changing the rules about water needed for marine life, how all citizens of California must get
behind the “conserve water initiative;” to save, don’t waste, recycle the water you use if possible.

Reports:

Auburn Ravine Tour - Mel Odemar - Friday, 6/25/2010

I participated in a tour of the Auburn Ravine conducted by the Save Auburn Ravine Salmon and Steelhead
Assoc. (SARSSA). Approximately 20 persons attended including governmental representatives from the CDFG,
USFWS, CDWR, NOAA, Placer Co. Planning Dept, CPDA, local property owners, agriculture and members of the
public. The daylong tour began at the PG&E power plant on Wise Road in Auburn and concluded in the valley floor
west of Lincoln where the water flow was totally diverted into rice fields. On the valley floor Auburn Ravine does
not follow a natural stream course but follows a system of artificial channels and eventually reaches the Feather
River near Verona. We visited 10 sites representing various stream habitats, dams and water diversions.

Auburn Ravine’s water primarily comes from a diversion from the Yuba River at Spaulding Reservoir. The water
enters the ravine at the PG&E power station on Wise Road near Ophir Road and provides a substantial year-
round flow of cold water. At the time of the tour the flow was estimated to be 450 cfs. The stream at the upper
portions of the ravine provides excellent salmonid habitat and it supports a substantial population of resident
tROUT, primarily rainbows with some browns. Steelhead have been identified in the ravine and we were told that
salmon have been seen. However I saw and heard nothing to support the claim by Placer Legacy that Auburn
Ravine is presently providing an important salmon and steelhead spawning ground. There is no doubt that the
stream would provide excellent salmon and steelhead spawning and rearing habitat providing fish had access
to these areas which is the goal of SARSSA.

Much of the support for stream restoration comes from property owners who literally have the ravine in their
backyards. SARSSA has put much effort towards designing fish screening structures and is seeking hundreds
of thousands of dollars for diversion screening. The last two diversions are in the middle of rice fields where fish
passage and screening would be difficult to accomplish. A CDFG biologist I spoke with on the tour also had serious
doubts about fish passage in the lower reaches. The final diversion dam (Coppin Dam) is a temporary structure
that I was told comes out in the fall and is installed in late spring. The passage and screening problems in the
upper reaches is doable, but the real challenge in my view is the diversions and barriers on the valley floor.

During the tour there was no mention of the GBF $10,000 donation to Placer Legacy to modify barriers. Follow-
ing the tour I was informed by Ronald Otto of SARSSA by email that the GBF donation will be used to modify,
rather than remove, the Hemphill diversion or enhance fish passage at the gauging station downstream, both of
which are NID facilities. The County CEO is holding the funds in trust. Edmund Sullivan of SARSSA will be glad
to meet with us to provide an update and/or to discuss other conservation developments.

Public access to Auburn Ravine is very limited. Nearly all the areas we visited were closed to the public, as were
many of the diversion facilities in the upper reaches. Regardless of whether or not Auburn Ravine is successfully
modified for anadromous fish production, opening areas for angling access would be of tremendous fishery value.
Increased public assess was not discussed. Putah Creek may provide a model for such an effort.

Chris Shutes of CSPA was on the tour and he is very enthusiastic over the prospects of developing salmon and
steelhead runs in the ravine and he believes it is doable.

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He is the one that brought up to me the comparison with Putah Creek regarding the potential for quality angling opportunities.

All in all it was a great tour and I learned a lot.

I attended the Lower Yuba River Symposium in Sacramento. This meeting was definitely a learning process for me and one that forced me to listen very intently to understand the acronyms, the goals and purposes of each player at this symposium. There were 9 speakers and the audience were mostly Biologists working in various role of Water Monitoring and Analysis and instruction. My takeaway from this symposium is; many agencies and organizations are working hard to continue to balance the needs of all users of our state’s waterways. Many are paid employees and many are volunteers who are truly dedicated to this cause. Daily monitoring and evaluating of salmonid, addressing recovery planning, mapping of the 24+ miles (Marysville Gage to Englebright Reservoir) of the lower Yuba river, testing to evaluate the viability of Salmon populations (through a process known as Otolith Microchemistry), where are the fish throughout their growing season (do they leave the water ways for the oceans)? The net net for me, the population of our fisheries is not growing and this location is only a small part of our waterways. Robin Egan of GBF has been working on this project for some time now. She can provide additional information, to those who are interested.

Red Sesbania Removal is scheduled August 7th. We will meet at 8:30 AM at Rio Americano High School (4540 American River Drive).

Our next meeting & New Location will be Tuesday, August 3rd at 7:00 PM, Round Table Pizza - Douglas Blvd. and Auburn-Folsom Rd. The restaurant is on the NW corner of the intersection facing Douglas Blvd. As always, all are welcome to attend.

For September our guest will be Edmund Sullivan whom will discuss the Auburn Ravine Project (fish passage initiative), our contributions; recently we donated $10,000 to help with project.

Black Sparkle Wooley Bugger

Why feature something in The Leader as basic as a Wooley Bugger? A reasonable question, for sure. Every beginner fly tying class opens with a WB—and for good reason. It’s simple to tie, materials are cheap and commonly available, and, of all things, it really does work. But, having said that, I need to add that there are WBs, and...well, there are WBs. In other words, it may not be so simple—i.e., there are some subtle characteristics of a properly tied WB, and some tricky techniques you need to know in order to bring out those characteristics and maximize the effectiveness of the bug. It’s worth the time to enumerate some of these characteristics and techniques before getting into specifics of materials and tying steps.

1. The hook. It is my view that a straight-eye, bent shank hook will create the best profile, and enhance hooking fish. I prefer the Daichii 1260 because it is 2x long, has a nice, wide gape, a straight eye, and a nicely shaped shank that suggests life, as opposed to sterile straight-shank hooks.

2. Sparseness. Over the years I’ve harped on sparseness of materials applied to the hook. There are, of course, some exceptions such as bass hair bugs which demand as much material as can be jammed onto a hook. Most natural critters are slender and sleek—so why gob on the material? Store bought WBs are way over-dressed: a big blob of marabou for the tail, too large chenille for the body, and hackle fit for a size 3/0 hook. Keep it slender: use a small amount of marabou for the tail; small or medium size chenille; and small, appropriately sized hackle.

3. Winding the hackle. Most non-dry-fly hackle is tapered—smaller at the tip than at the butt of the feather. We need to take advantage of this characteristic in order to achieve a good profile. Here’s the question: should the hackle be tied in by its tip, or by the quill at its butt? The latter method would produce an unnatural and incorrect profile, in my view—wider at the tail end of the fly than at the head. So, it’s best to tie the feather in by its tip. There is another issue here: How many hackle
wraps are best? Stillwater guru Denny Rickards urges tyers to limit the wraps to 4 or 5 because if the wraps are too close to each other they will inhibit motion in the current or on the retrieve.

4. The “brushed back” look—meaning that the hackle, when palmered up the shank, should appear to be swept rearward when wrapped through the body. If done properly, this will enhance the fly's motion. There is a way to force the hackle to sweep rearward: As you wrap forward, twist your hackle pliers clockwise at the end of each wrap. This will usually work on even the most resistant hackles.

5. To bead or not to bead...? The jury is out on this one. Some tyers like a bead at the head to aid in sinking the fly; others vehemently insist that the bead inhibits fly motion in the water and looks unnatural. Personally, I always carry some of each and avoid debating the topic.

OK, let's go ahead and tie on using these ideas.

**Tying Instructions**

1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vise. If you are going to use a bead, put it on the hook now. If you are going to weight the fly, place the weight on the hook now. Tie the thread onto the hook and run it back to the back of the barb.

2. Tie in a small bunch of black marabou. Select the type of plume that has long, wavy barbules. The marabou tail should be about 1.5x shank length.

3. Tie in a black saddle hackle by its tip, above the back of the barb. At the same point, tie in a nice, long saddle hackle with barbs equal to about 1.5x the hook gape in length, and a piece of black sparkle chenille after skinning about ¼” of the chenille off the core.

4. Wrap the chenille forward in tight turns, being careful to not overlap the previous turn.

5. Grab the hackle with your hackle pliers and wrap it forward through the chenille. Four or five wraps is sufficient. Use suggestion number 4 at the top of the article to give the hackle a “swept back” appearance. Tie off the hackle at least one eye's length behind the eye (or directly behind the bead if you are using one), and wrap a small, neat head. Whip finish and apply a drop of super glue. Fish this bug on the end of a long leader with an intermediate line, using a slow retrieve and....See ya on the creek.
Sagehen Entomology Clinic

Cool and crisp mountain air welcomed twelve GBF members and their two instructors to UC Berkeley’s Sagehen Creek Research station for the annual entomology clinic. Terry Eggleston lead off the instruction with Ralph Cutter’s “Bugs of the Underworld” DVD, which is an amazing showcase of the underwater environment where nymphs evolve into aquatic flies. Following the DVD Terry shared his collection of preserved nymphs and further elaborated on the life cycles of the caddisfly, mayfly, stonefly, and midge. Later that morning we all pulled on our waders and boots and ventured into the cold snowmelt water of Sagehen Creek to turn over rocks and gather nymphs for first hand inspection. Terry and Rick Radoff then helped us to identify the differences among the crawley creatures and to compare them to artificial copies.

After a lunch of sandwiches and cool drinks, we had the opportunity to view Sagehen Creek from a trout’s perspective in the stream-side viewing chamber. Meanwhile, Rick stayed upside to cast a nymph into the stream and demonstrate how to twitch the nymph to simulate a caddisfly pupa rising to the surface. Alas, there weren’t any trout in the stream to reward Rick’s effort. To cap off the day, Rick, who recently became a certified FFF casting instructor, showed us proper casting form, and gave each of us a personal casting lesson.

For those who stayed the night, we enjoyed a tasty lasagne dinner topped off with Costco’s best giant chocolate cake.

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chocolate cake, and many interesting fish stories, some of which may have actually been true.

If you haven’t previously attended the Sagehen entomology clinic, I encourage you to go next year. You will come away with a much better understanding of the trout’s underwater diet, and how to entice them to partake of your artificial offering. Finally, here is a hearty “thanks” to Terry Eggleston and Rick Radoff for a very informative and successful clinic!

. . . Bob Brown

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**Tying Hook Keeper to Blank**

by Larry Lee

This article will provide direction for permanently tying the hook keeper to the blank. Subsequent articles will collectively describe how to: 1) reinforce the ferrules, 2) place thread onto or adjacent to the tiptop, 3) add some small single or multiple trim bands, and 4) prepare the rod for epoxy application to the thread.

In all of these 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 an instructor.

*A few general notes regarding hook keepers:* Hook keepers are used to retain your fly in a safe place when you are not fishing. It should be kept in mind that a hook keeper is an optional addition to your custom rod. Also, the method described below is not the only way to tie on the hook keeper, but is considered the simplest technique to master.

The hook keeper is typically tied on in line with the guides and is centered with the reel. It is placed near the top of the cork so it is out of the way when casting. When the hook keeper is tied on, the final wrapping threads ideally should not overlap, but should be as closely adjacent to each succeeding wrap as possible so that the blank does not show through. Some basic steps that have been discussed in the previous three articles have been left out due to space constraints. If you have questions on this process, please review the previous three articles.

**Tying the hook keeper to the blank:**

As a first step, start winding the thread adjacent to the winding check (see Photo #1: “Hook keeper thread start”). Next, push the thread back with the burnishing tool until it is tight against the winding check and clip the excess thread (see photo: “Push back with burnishing tool”).

Now heat the feet of the hook keeper with a lighter and place glue onto the feet (as described in previous articles). Then place the hook keeper onto the blank at the desired location and let cool (see Photo #2: “Place hook keeper on the blank”). Make sure the hook keeper is in line with the other guides and centered with the reel.

Continue wrapping thread until you have approximately ¼” from the end of the thread wrap for the hook keeper. Create the string loop (as described in previous articles), orienting the loop toward the hook keeper. This loop will be used later to pull the end of the thread under the wrap to complete the wrap (see Photo #3: “Wind thread and put in loop”). Now wind the thread until you reach the hook keeper and hold and clip the thread. While
still keeping the thread tight, put the end of the thread through the loop.

Now pull the loop just slightly under the wrap and clip the excess thread (see Photo #4: “Pull loop under and clip”). Pull the loop entirely through, thus leaving the end of the thread under the wrap (see Photo #5: “Pull loop entirely out”). Now you have one side done. Start the same procedure again to complete tying the thread onto the second foot of the hook keeper. (see Photo #6: “Completed hook keeper”). You have now completed tying on the hook keeper. Clarification on this technique can be discovered in the previous three articles or by taking a rod building class.

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 LLee@L3rods.com or by telephone at (916) 962-0616.
Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to the 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 Mike Howes at 916-863-6795. 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 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 $8 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, call Jerry Devlin at 530-878-8934, 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 fstolten@comcast.net. Please put GBF Leader in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month.

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916-640-5126

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916-967-6709

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916-608-4560

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Art Livingston  
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Refreshments - Ron Hayashi  
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Position Open

Salmon Festival - Jim Holmes  
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Webmaster - Kent Ripley  
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Youth Program - Jack Donachy  
916-307-1513

www.gbflycasters.org