

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

April 2012

www.gbflycasters.org

President's Message

by Dennis Baker, GBF President

It is with many positive thoughts, I am happy to say, that the projected date for the re-opening of the Folsom Lake Activity Center is April 23rd. This, of course, means GBF will be meeting one more time in Sun City Lincoln Hills on April 12th in the same place as last month.

The date is set for the members' Annual Picnic—May 31st through June 3rd. GBF reserves the campground for members, so bring your RV, Motor Home or tents; it's free. Saturday is the one fly tournament on Fuller Lake open to all attending members, followed by games, prizes, food and lots of camaraderie. More information to follow.

May 12th is the date for the long awaited Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off in the Folsom Lake Activity Center. More information will be coming soon from Denny Welch.

Our March weather holds promise for the current fishing season. I ask each of you as you prepare for what should be another good fishing season, to please let each of the Fly Shops with whom you do business know you are from GBF. They rely on our support, just as we rely on them, to support GBF every year during our Annual Dinner fund raising event. So, please be visible!

Our fishout and clinic calendars are growing weekly, so stay tuned to the message board and E-Blasts. Eric Palmer is working hard to get you all out fishing, and Art Livingston is working just as hard to see we all become even better flyfishers.



Rancho Seco Fishout — Tuesday, April 3rd

A Gene Goss is leading a "no-host" fishout to Ranch Seco scheduled for Tuesday April 3rd. You may ask why this particular date. The preceding weekend is the annual SMUD [trout derby](#) for which 2,000 pounds of very large Trout are planted but many not caught by the weekend anglers. The lake also has largemouth Bass, Bluegill and Crappie.

You will want a float tube or other non-motorized craft for this event. This 160 acre lake ([more info](#)) was originally built as auxiliary cooling for the decommissioned nuke plant and is now a County Park with a hiking trail around the lake, picnic grounds and ample parking. There is a \$10 county fee, \$8 seniors, or bring the annual pass you use on the American River.

This is a "no-host" event with no organized "coaching", but the club member parked next to you as you rig up will be glad to offer advice on technique, rigging and fly selection or you might seek out Gene or Eric Palmer (ejpalmer@pacbell.net) for some guidance. There are a number of seasoned Stillwater fly fisherman planning to attend who can offer sage advice. So, bring your lunch and join us for a day of fishing, good camaraderie and a chance to net some large Trout and Bass.

We meet up at 8 AM at the last lot down gravel road on N E end of lake. Go [here](#) for more info, or email Gene Goss (eugenesusan@aol.com) or check the [GBF bulletin board](#) for updates.

IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar of Events	2
Cameron Park Lake Fishout	3
Caster's Corner	9
Classes and Clinics	4
Classifieds	7
Conservation Corner	12 - 13
East Carson River Fishout	4
Fishmaster's Corner	6 - 7
Fly Tyers Corner	10 - 11
GBF Library - Check It Out	13
Greenstone Country Fishout	5 - 6
Monthly Program	2
Officers	14
President's Message	1
Rancho Seco Fishout	1
Spey-O-Rama	8 - 9
Women Only Fishout	4 - 5

A P R I L 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1.	2.	3. Rancho Seco Fishout 7:00 PM Conservation Committee Meeting	4. Beyond the Basics - Fly Tying	5.	6.	7.
8.	9.	10.	11. Beyond the Basics - Fly Tying	12. Rancho Murietta Fishout Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM	13.	14.
15.	16.	17. Fly Fishing Jam	18.	19. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	20.	21.
22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28. Greenstone Fishout
29.	30.					

Monthly Program

Lance Gray will be our guest speaker for April, and will present a program called **“Fly Fishing Tour”** based on 6 different tours that Lance Gray & Company conducts for its fishing clients throughout northern California. The multiple-day tours are guided trips for anglers who want to learn more about particular fisheries, species or styles of fly fishing in Northern California, and designed to show access points, tackle needed, techniques, conservation issues, combined with safe angling practices. The presentation includes “The Mammoth Tour,” “Lake Almanor Tour,” “Valley Steelhead Tour,” “The Burney Tour,” “Fly Fishing the Surf Tour,” and the “Hidden Coast Tour.” The presentation is a look at fisheries that anglers can tour and gain confidence to fish them by themselves. Further information is available at the Lance Gray [website](#).

Lance and Kirsten Gray Bio



Above: Kirsten Gray

Left: Lance Gray

Lance and Kirsten Gray's Bio

Lance and Kirsten have more than 50 years combined experience in fly fishing. Lance started fly fishing with his father and brother Lincoln at age 7. In his teens, he began tying flies commercially for shops all around Northern California. At 17, he went to work at Powell's in Chico where he guided, conducted fly-tying and fly-fishing schools, and traveled. In 1993, Lance and Kirsten started Saltwater Innovations, a company that manufactured and distributed products for saltwater fly fishing. In 2003 they launched Lance Gray & Company, a full-service outfitter offering guided trips, fly-fishing schools, workshops and a travel agency. He's a signature tyer for Solitude Fly Company and recently entered the world of writing, with articles published in *Angling Trade Magazine*, *California Fly Fisher*, *Sierra Fisherman* and *Northwest Fly Fishing*. Kirsten is a fantastic photographer who's had images published in periodicals and on websites.

Cameron Park Lake Fishout Saturday, May 5th

Ray Ito will lead a fishout at [Cameron Park Lake](#) on Saturday, May 5th at 8 AM. Last year, bass were caught although not in big numbers or size. The weather conditions were perfect. Hopefully, the weather will again cooperate.

[Cameron Park Lake](#) is a catch and release fishery (artificial lures only). The lake is managed as a recreational fishery for residents of and visitors to Cameron Park. The lake holds black bass, crappie and blue gill. Standard bass patterns such as woolly buggers, poppers, and leaches fished along the weed beds should produce. There have been some large bass caught in the lake. Some of you may have seen pictures of the big bass caught by our former fishout coordinator, Karl

Wolff. Plans are being worked on with the community services district to allow GBF members into the park/lake for the resident fee, \$3 per person. Those 62 years and older, the fee is \$2. There was no booth attendant last year so it was a free day of fishing.

[Cameron Park Lake](#) has tennis courts, a swimming area, a walking/jogging path around the lake, non motorized boat rental, grassy areas with barbecues and picnic tables. The lake can

be fished by float tube, non-motorized boat (there is a small boat/pontoon launch area near the entrance) or from the shore.

BBQ burgers/ hot dogs and some side dishes will be served by your host. A fee of \$5 will be collected for lunch. This will help to offset the cost of food. Please let us know if you plan on having lunch. There will be a sign- up sheet at the next general meeting. Come join in the festivities.

For more information go [here](#) or contact Ray Ito at itor@pacbell.net. (530) 677-5250.



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KIENE'S ANNUAL FLY FISHING EXPO

APRIL 21, 2012 - 9:00AM - 5:00PM

Spring time is here finally. This means a new fishing season is just around the bend. Come to Kiene's fly fishing expo and get inspired. Visit top fly fishing celebrities, guides and fly tiers like Hutch Hutchinson, Jeff Putnam, Jay and Glen Fair, John Mircetich, Ken Hanley, Jay Murakoshi, Lincoln and Lance Gray, Pete Peterson, David Lee, Charlie Bisharat, Kevin Doran, Gary McConnell, Leo Gutierrez, Terry Eggleston and Bob Scheidt. For you gear heads, there will be fly fishing manufacturer

reps with the latest products for 2012. Also take the opportunity to try out new fly rods in the casting area. Try your luck at the casting competitions, there will be mens, womens and kids groups for great prizes. There will also be raffles with lots of top prizes donated by the manufacturers, factory reps, fly tiers and guides. Most of the local fly fishing clubs will be in attendance too. As usual, we will have free hot dogs, chips, bottled water and sodas for lunch so bring the entire family. Hope to see you there!



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Classes and Clinics

Art Livingston, 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.

Scheduled Clinics/Classes

Fly Tying Jam: Jim Holmes, Pete Peterson

Date(s)

Third Tuesday Each Month (Continuing)

Upcoming Clinics/Classes

Rod Building: Larry Lee

Ongoing

Beyond The Basics Fly Tying: Bill Carnazzo

March 7, 14, 22, 28 and April 4 & 11 @ Raley's

Fly Tying Basics: Jim Holmes

Dates To Be Determined

Stillwater Fly Fishing: Jim Holmes & Gene Goss

Dates To Be Determined in Spring

Other Possible Clinics

Knots, Lines, and Leaders

Spey Casting

Swinging Flies

Steelhead/Shad Fishing

Stripper Fishing in the Delta

East Carson River Fishout

by Bill Carnazzo

I have been able to secure the services of Greg Vinci to introduce GBF members to the East Carson River. Greg will spend the day with participating members, pointing out all of the available access points on this great river, with fishing strategy instruction and guidance. The day will consist of travelling to the main access points and fishing some of those areas. This is invaluable first-hand information from a respected angler who has fished the river for many years. I will be assisting Greg for this adventure.

Because of the logistics of this type of outing, we will need to limit the number of participants to 10 members. Greg's fee is \$300 for the day, which means that the ten participants will pay \$40 apiece (to include gratuity), collected in advance. The date is Thursday, July 26, 2012.

There will be a signup sheet at the April meeting; signups will also be taken via email to billcarnazzo@ftcnet.net. You will be expected to pay the \$40 fee at signup. **Because this is a fee-based outing, and because the fee has to be paid immediately upon signup, there will be no lottery** if signups exceed the ten maximum, but we will take extra signups so we have a wait list. Members on the wait list won't be required to pay the fee up front but will pay it if and when there is a cancellation. Make checks payable to Greg Vinci. If you have questions, send me an email message or give me a call on my cell phone—(916) 295-9353.

Women-Only Fishout on North Yuba River Saturday, June 9th

by Bill Carnazzo

After discussing this with Fishmaster, Eric Palmer, we decided to have a fishout on the North Yuba River near Downieville on **Saturday, June 9th**, for women only. This fishout will be a combined nymphing clinic and fishing day, patterned after the traditional GBF North Yuba Clinic which will be held this year in July.

Eric suggested that we include an invitation to those who wish to participate, to invite a female friend who isn't a club member. The only caveat on that point is that the non-member will need to sign the club's liability waiver form.

I will be assisted by a friend who is a highly experienced woman flyfisher, and an excellent instructor and angler.

Continued on Page 5

Women-Only Fishout - Continued from Page 4

We will have a signup sheet at the April meeting, but signups before then will be taken via an email message to me at bcarnazzo@sebastiancorp.net. There is no fee for this event.

Recommended lodging: Herrington's Sierra Pines Resort; their contact and other information can be found at <http://www.herringtonssierrapines.com/>. Herrington's is located at the western edge of Sierra City on Highway 49, just a mile or two from the site where we will have the fishout. The resort also features a good restaurant. If there are questions, feel free to call me at (530) 367-5209 (home) or 9916) 295-9353 (cell), or send me an email message.

Greenstone Country Fishout
Saturday, April 28th

The fishout at Greenstone Country this year is scheduled for Saturday, April 28th. Since this fishout will be limited to twenty (20) members a signup sheet will be available at the general meeting in April. If you cannot attend the general meeting, please email the Fishmaster Eric Palmer (ejpalmer@pacbell.net) or Tony Hamamoto, (hamamoto@cwnet.com) the fishout leader.

For those who don't know about Greenstone Country, it is a private gated community nestled in the foothills of El Dorado County. Opened in 1985, Greenstone has grown to about three hundred homes on parcels of three acres or more. Most of the residents do not fish even though there are three fishable lakes with the biggest being a 12-acre lake, Indian Creek Reservoir. The lake holds Largemouth Bass and Bluegills.

Indian Creek is best fished from a float tube or any non-gas motorized watercraft measuring 14 feet or less. If the temperature has been around 70 degrees for three continuous days, then there will be a lot of surface action. Otherwise, Tony recommends using an intermediate sinking or a floating line with a long leader. Rod weight depends on the fly you desire to use. Since the lake is not fished much, almost anything works, from big poppers to woolly buggers to damsel nymphs. If the weather is clear, he recommends using white poppers or

Continued on Page 6

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Greenstone Country Fishout - Continued from Page 5

chartreuse colored flies, however if it is overcast, then use dark colored flies.

Please provide your own lunch for this fishout. Tony and others experienced at Stillwater fishing will provide free instructions on fishing for Bass and Bluegills for beginners.

Tony has requested that we do not arrive before 8 am at Indian Creek Reservoir. To get there from Sacramento, go east on Hwy 50 towards Placerville and take the Greenstone Road exit, #41. Proceed north under the freeway and take a right (eastbound) on Green Valley Rd., travel $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and make a left to the entrance gate. Tony will provide you with the access code.

For a map and additional info, go [here](#) or email Tony Hamamoto (hamamoto@cwnet.com) and check the [GBF bulletin board](#) for updates.

Fishmaster's Corner

by Eric Palmer, Fishmaster

On With spring virtually here, it's time for those of us who have taken a winter break from our favorite water to take inventory of our flies, lines and leaders and other gear; perhaps a new sinking line is in order or your formerly wide selection of wooly buggers in all sizes and colors has been decimated; Something we promised ourselves we'd get to in late fall but somehow never got around to. For those who have not wet a line since October and for those who have, good news has arrived. April and May bring 4 Stillwater Fishout opportunities as outlined below.

But before we rush to the garage to dig the float tube out from under a pile of who-knows-what garage flotsam & jetsam, let's take a moment of quiet reflection in our favorite chair with a favorite beverage in hand and ponder the harsh realities of Stillwater fishing. Realities that many of us would much rather ignore because they are inconvenient and complicate our life ... a lot. I'm talking about "where the heck are the fish in the water column?" Are they on the surface or just sub-surface or are they deep or worse yet, very deep? Or somewhere in between? Hmmm ... fly fishing is purported to be a tranquil, low stress, easy-going sport that does not heavily tax the cerebral cortex; for that we have something called "work".

Sorry to disappoint, but the cold, harsh reality is that this is something we do have to worry about, and ponder, and figure out, if we actually want to catch fish. Sadly just bobbing around out there in a float tube soaking up Mother Nature and day-dreaming while dragging our line behind us does not cut it. The good news is we are in a fly club and surrounded by a number of experts if not highly acclaimed gurus at Stillwater fly fishing who have figured this all out for us, and are happy and eager to share what they have learned. One such individual goes by the name of Jim Holmes, with whose permission I will share certain previously classified information.

Some months ago while picking Jim's brain on float tube selection and home-made PVC rod holders, I learned that he often takes 3 rods out on his tube in order to cover all the bases, I asked him if he'd share his M.O. with me, so here it is in Jim's words:

"... For Stillwater, I have 1) a floater, 2) a "hover" line with a sink rate of .5 ips for shallow water, and 3) a "slime line"... aka an intermediate line with a sink rate of about 1.5-2 ips. For serious sinking, I

Continued on Page 7



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Fishmaster's Corner - Continued from Page 6

also have a 200 grain shooting head line that I use at pyramid and on the American for shad.... You can regulate the depth of the slime line by the speed of the retrieve and, if you buy into Denny Rickarts and others, most of the hungry feeding fish are in the top 3 ft., especially in summer. If you want to fish the bottom, the most efficient method is an indicator system (think Crowley and midges). At any rate, I would consider a shallower running line rather than going deeper..."

On the question of sinking tips vs. a full sinking line, Jim adds ...

"It depends on where you are fishing, the depth of the thermocline, and the time of day and temps of the lake. The key is to fish the entire water column until you start catching fish and then repeat. A sinking tip causes the flies to ride "funny" kinda up in the front rather than in a straight line like real bugs, etc. That tip stuff is great for the rivers or a last resort on the lake but I use various full sinkers for my lake fishing."

So there you have it; Stillwater fishing 101, the highly condensed version. That's just one man's opinion and there could be differing approaches, but Jim has put in the time, paid his dues and probably knows what he's doing because he's catching fish. We do have more Stillwater experts in our midst, so if you have any questions, grab me at the next meeting and I'll point them out to you.

For April Stillwater Fishout activity we have:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| • Ranch Seco – Trout/Bass | April 3 rd (Tue.) | Gene Goss (no-host) |
| • Rancho Murieta – Bass | April 12 th (Thur.) | Bill Ossolinski (sorry, closed to new sign-ups) |
| • Greenstone Country – Bass/Bluegill | April 28 th (Sat.) | Tony Hamamoto (20 member limit) |
| • Cameron Park – Bass | May 5 th | Ray Ito |

Thanks, and see you on the water!
Eric

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of The Leader, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: 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.

Spey rod for sale: Albright EXS 13'6" 6wt 4 pcs, with an extra tip section. Comes with a sock and tube. Rod is in great shape, other than a little cosmetic issue, please call for details. I'm selling for \$150.00.

Jim Hunter
916-408-8966

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The Jimmy Green SPEY-O-RAMA, The World Championship of Spey Casting

Friday April 20 - Sunday April 22, 2012

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club will present the **Jimmy Green Spey-O-Rama, The World Championship of Spey Casting** April 15th, 16th, and 17th, 2011 at the world-renowned casting ponds located in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. GGACC is devoted to introducing everyone to fly casting and angling at their historical club and facility. The event is open to the public and admittance is free.



The event will center on Spey casting competitions and single hand and two-hand casting demonstrations by fly casting experts. There are three ways to cast a fly line with the traditional single-handed rod; the roll cast, the overhead cast, and the Spey cast. The Spey cast originated and was developed in Scotland and is most often used with two handed fly rods.

Local, domestic and International casting masters will be offering free demonstrations and clinics each day. Premium Fly-Fishing rod and reel manufacturers will have their products available for you to use to hone your skills.

The **casting competition schedules** will include practice session on Friday, qualifying rounds on Saturday, and final competitions on Sunday.

Lunch is available for the general public at the club for a nominal fee on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Dinner is available on Friday and Saturday.



Continued on Page 9

Spey-O-Rama - Continued from Page 8

The Spey-O-Rama 2011 Event Schedule is as follows:

April 20, Friday:

- Exhibits, Equipment Auctions
- Competition Casting Practice

April 21, Saturday:

- Exhibits, Fly Fishing Presentations, and Equipment Auctions
- Spey Demonstrations/Clinics
- Spey Casting Competition Qualifying Rounds

April 22, Sunday:

- Exhibits
- Spey Casting Competition Finals



For more information: <http://www.spey-o-rama.com/>

Caster's Corner

Fly Casting and the Bent Wrist

by John Hogg

Casters are often faulted for the “mistake” of bending their wrist when making a cast. Not only is it touted as a big ‘no-no’, but many tricks and products have evolved to keep the caster from bending that particular joint. “Tuck your rod handle into your shirt sleeve!” Or, buy a strap that locks the forearm to the rod handle are just a couple of solutions that come to mind.

But let’s step back a minute. Is bending the wrist truly a symptom of bad casting? What is the link between a bent wrist and a bad cast? Is it possible to cast badly with a ‘straight’ wrist? I am sure that both you and I have both seen some very good casts made with a bend of the wrist.

Let’s do a little experiment. Standing about 10 feet or so away, face a wall and holding your rod level, with wrist straight, have the rod tip touching the wall. Now using your rod hand as a fulcrum, move the thumb to the right by bending the wrist. Just move it an inch or so. You will see that the rod tip moves 12 to 15 inches to the right as well. A significant magnification of movement! Now, from the same beginning position, bend the wrist so the hand moves upward and the rod is now vertical. Don’t move any other part of the arm. Now the rod tip is 9 feet away from the wall, and nine feet higher than your hand. And, you have only bent your wrist and moved your hand about 5 or 6 inches!

Now think about the path taken by the rod tip! From low point to high point, it moved in an arc, not in a straight path.

And that brings us to one of the 5 essential principles of fly casting. **“During the casting stroke, the rod tip must travel in a straight line path.”** (Bill and Jay Gammell, Master Casting Instructors and authors are my source for this quote.) Unfortunately, it is very easy to violate this principle when casting with a bent wrist.

Let’s take a side view of a caster who initiates the back cast by bending the wrist, and once fully bent continues the back cast by raising the arm up and back. The rod moves like a windshield wiper, with the tip traveling in a huge arc from low in the front, to low in the back. The line, of course, follows the rod tip, and when the rod stops at the end of the back cast, the tip is traveling downward, so the line follows and hits the ground.

Conversely, if the tip stops after following an upward, straight path on the back cast, the line will be flung upward, away from obstacles, and set up for an effortless, gravity assisted forward cast. [Here](#) is an excellent video tutorial that demonstrates the straight line path concept.

So, is bending your wrist bad? Well, not if you can maintain that straight line path of the rod tip! But, keeping a straight wrist and stressing movement with your elbow and shoulder makes it a heck of a lot easier. With short casts the wrist control problems can be minimized. But, with longer casts, the bent wrist becomes a major interference unless knowledgeably controlled.

Fly Tyer's Corner

by Bill Carnazzo

Bill's Articulated Golden Stonefly

Last month we featured an updated version of the 12-Step Stonefly. This month we're going to stretch a bit and take on something a bit more challenging—an articulated stonefly nymph. Articulated flies are becoming much more popular. There are even dry fly patterns out there that use an articulated format. We'll try that in a future article. For now, we'll concentrate on subsurface flies. The interesting thing about articulation is that it can be applied to virtually any nymph or streamer/baitfish pattern, such as a Wiggle Nymph, a Woolly Bugger, or even a Clouser Minnow. I intend to beef up my still water arsenal with a bunch of articulated versions of the usual suspects. How about an articulated Sheep Creek Special? Think about it and come up with your own ideas. That's part of the fun of fly tying—we don't have to follow someone else's ideas in lock-step fashion. Often the most effective flies are those that originate in the mind of "Joe Flyfisher" who notices something on the stream, or just plain brainstorms and experiments. The articulation technique will be the same for any fly you choose to transform, but for now let's try it on a stonefly. I've chosen the Golden Stone just because that's a popular spring bug. You can use whatever other colors strike your fancy. We're also going to build this fly as a soft-hackle version. Optional: use mini size rubber legs instead. The method for attaching the rear hook to the front hook is one that I learned from Kelly Galloup at the tying class on the day after our annual dinner. He uses wire to create the attachment for his large flies; for this fly (and probably any small fly) it is probably best to use monofilament.



Steps 1, 2, & 3



Steps 4 & 5



Steps 6, 7 & 8

MATERIALS NEEDED

Hook:	Rear: #16; Front: #8—both hooks should be 2xL, w/bent shank & straight eye
Thread:	Amber 8/0, or similar thread
Articulating material:	4x Monofilament
Beads:	Small glass amber beads
Tail:	Amber goose biots
Front hook shroud:	Burn orange dubbing or fine hair such as Temple Dog
Abdomen:	Amber dubbing
Ribbing:	Fine copper wire
Legs:	Dark soft hackle, such as Starling
Wing case:	Mottled golden stone color Thin Skin
Thorax:	Same as abdomen
Weight:	Optional—not used in instructions

Tying Instructions:

1. Smash the hook barbs on both hooks unless you are using barbless hooks. Place the smaller rear hook in the vise. Tie the thread in just above the point of the hook and move the thread forward to near the hook eye, and back to the same point.
2. At that point, tie in the amber biot tail. It should extend to the rear of the body no more than 1/3 of its length.
3. At the same point, tie in a short segment of fine copper wire.
4. Dub the body all the way to the front of the hook, leaving only an eye-width of open shank behind the eye.
5. Rib the abdomen and tie off the wire at the front of the body. Whip finish, and you are done with the rear hook.
6. Cut a 10" piece of monofilament and run one end of it through the eye of the smaller hook. Even up the ends of the mono, and push both ends through two of the amber glass beads. Slide the beads down to the eye of the rear hook.
7. Place the front hook in the vise and cover the shank with thread. Holding

Continued on Page 11

Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 10



Steps 9, 10, 11 & 12



Step 13



Step 14



Step 15

the mono tightly with both strands together, tie it in on the far side of the hook making sure that the mono is positioned so that the loop at the rear hook eye is standing straight upward, perpendicular to the eye of the rear hook. This will ensure that the rear hook rides upright.

8. Holding the beads and the rear hook pull on both strands of the mono until the beads rest against the hook bend; they should rest there in a slightly loose manner so that the rear fly can move around in the current. Now wrap tight thread turns back to the bend and leave the thread there.
9. At that point, tie in a piece of fine copper wire, and return the thread to the rear of the hook.
10. Form a small dubbing loop and fill it with some of the burnt orange dubbing. Spin the loop and wind the noodle around the hook, making a small ball about 1/8" in length. Stop there—don't dub any farther forward.
11. Using the amber dubbing, dub the abdomen area of the front hook—meaning from the front of the burnt orange dubbing to a point on the shank that is 1/3 shank length behind the eye and stop there.
12. Tease out the sides of the dubbed abdomen slightly and wrap the copper wire forward in even turns, to the front of the abdomen. Tie off the wire there.
13. Cut a tapered piece of Thin Skin that is approximately 3/16" in width at the widest end, and about 1/2" long. Pull the material from the backing. You will notice that one side is shinier than the other—you will end up tying it in with the shiny side down (when it's pulled over the top, this will put the shiny side on top). Tie the narrow end of the Thin Skin in at the front of the abdomen and wrap it down rearward over the dubbed abdomen; this step insures that there will be no "gap" between the dubbed abdomen and the thorax. The wide end of the Thin Skin should now be facing rearward.
14. Begin dubbing the thorax area just ahead of where the Thin Skin was tied in. Use up half of the space between the front of the abdomen and the hook eye. At that point, tie in a soft hackle feather such as Starling, in soft hackle style. Take 3 complete wraps of the hackle and tie it off. Now continue dubbing the thorax, using the dubbing material to sweep the hackle slightly rearward. Dub to a point that is about one eye width behind the hook eye—in other words, don't crowd the eye.
15. Grab the Thin Skin and pull it forward over the thorax, stretching it a bit as you do so. Tie it off behind the hook eye. Form a small head and whip finish. Apply a tiny drop of super glue at the head.

Tying tips:

1. Be sure to leave at least 1/3 of the front area of the hook for the thorax. This is true for all nymphs, and is especially essential for the proper construction of this stonefly pattern or any pattern where you are using a wing case.
2. When cutting out your pieces of Thin Skin, give them a slight taper so that when the material is tied in at the rear of the thorax area, the narrower end will end up at the rear of the thorax. This will give the shell back a tapered look, to match the taper of the abdomen.

Admittedly, this sounds complicated, but it really isn't; once you crank out a few you'll find that's true. Have fun, and....see ya on the creek.

Conservation Corner

Have you heard the term, "It takes a whole village to raise a child?" The term goes back to recent history and goes back centuries in different parts of the world, depending on how you want to interpret the statement. Well, have you taken time to think about why we donate the funds we do to the organizations in our list? I look at fishing club organizations as an individual, not strong enough to do the whole job itself, but in a village of organizations our funds go further and more gets done.

Regularly at our meetings, I call out for help with our conservation projects. Frank & Rick always get a good turnout for the Salmon program (imagine how many Salmon we helped introduce to our waterways). Recently, our club members volunteered to forage mono line and other debris on Sailor Bar (a spot on the American River) and then a different day to forage for Red Sesbania (an invasive plant) near Rio Americana High School. Stop to think about how big this job can be or get, based on the miles of river we have to cover. Fortunately we haven't ventured out to other locations, except for a couple of times with Carnazzo on the North Fork of the American.

Our life on this planet is long/short depending on what your perspective is and there is a lot to do to keep our waterways clean. Where do we start? Why, right here at Granite Bay Flycasters either helping the Conservation Committee, the Salmon Program or joining one of the organizations we support to meet their goal. These organizations work together on many projects to reach a common goal; to save our village of rivers to meet our daily water needs, boating recreation, and an important one for us, fishing.

Here is a list of a few organizations you can contact to help with their cause: fight diversions of the water, dams or other needless reasons to limit our water access, restoration of coldwater fisheries, improvement of wild trout fisheries, introduction of Salmon in various watersheds, Delta Stewardship, involvement with Federal regulation, protesting environmental damage, holding organizations accountable for violations, education to clubs and general public, sharing knowledge, swapping stories, acquiring wetland, and river way land, stewardship, ensuring healthy ecosystems for now and the future, land and natural resources, pride in what is there in front of us, protecting natural resources right in the core of where we live, i.e., American River Parkway; bike and running paths, picnic areas, places to fish and enjoy your kayak, boat or float tube

Friends of the River - www.friendsoftheriver.org

Foothill Water Network - www.foothillswaternetwork.org

Continued on Page 13



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Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 12

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance - www.dev.calsport.org

Sac Sierra Chapter Trout Unlimited - www.sac-sierratu.org/

Federation of Fly Fishers, NCCFFF - www.nccfff.org/about-nccfff.html

American River Conservancy - www.arconservancy.org

Putah Creek Trout - www.putahcreektrout.org/Welcome_.html

American River Parkway Foundation - www.arpf.org

Save the American River Association - www.SARAriverwatch.org

You shouldn't be coming to the general meetings to share fish stories alone or see an old friend or sign up for the next fish-out. You should also ask your fishing member buddies, where you can help, step up to the bar! Hopefully, you owe it to your family and their families to come, you are never too busy.

The GBF Library — Check It Out

Thanks to all that dropped off copies of the "California Fly Fisher" (CFF) magazine at the March meeting. A quick review indicates the Club now has copies that go back to January 1993. The collection is not fully complete, but it does look like we've got about half the issues.

An index of monthly issues received has been started and will be available for review at the April meeting. This index will also include a list of "destination" articles. For example, if an article discusses nymph fishing the Lower Sacramento River, then the title of that article and the name of the fishing water will be listed in the index.

The objective of this exercise is to provide Club Members with a reference when researching new fishing waters. For example, a Member thinking about fishing Lake Davis can review the index to find out if any articles had been written about it.

The articles in the index will be sorted at least two different ways. One "sort" will be by the name of the fishing water, such as, Crowley Lake, Sacramento River or Yuba River. The second "sort" will be by the California county where the fishing water is located (Butte, Inyo, Shasta, etc.). If a river or lake is in more than one county, then the county that is least helpful to the Member will probably be listed.

Members are reminded that CFF's website has an "Article Index" that can be used to find articles. The CFF index will allow a search to take place on four different topics, including: 1) Title of an article; 2) Fly Pattern; 3) California County; or 4) or State/Country. Some Members may find this index a bit clunky but with a little practice it will yield specific articles and/or identify monthly issues that contain the "search word".

The CFF index, unlike the Club's index, will list all of the counties that are contiguous to the fishing water discussed in the article. Members are encouraged to do some on-line research and then come to the meeting to review the Club's index to find out if we've got that specific issue. CFF magazines will be available for Members to check out for a month at a time; just like books, videos and DVDs.



One last thing: another big thanks to Members that returned overdue items at the last meeting. As mentioned last month, it is club policy that items are to be checked out one month. So if you've checked something out, be sure to return it at the next meeting. No big deal if you forget. Just stop by the Library and let us know or call one of the Librarians. Remember, the Library does not have any Member contact information. Hence, if you don't contact us, then we'll have to contact you through *The Leader*.

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 Dennis Baker at 916-580-7639.

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 John Hogg at 916-663-2051, 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.

Please notify if address change

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