

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

February 2015

www.gbflycasters.org

Leader's Line

by Tony Fabian, GBF President



Let's go fishing. The new fishouts are on the web site. **Eric Palmer**, our Fishmaster, and his team of fishout leaders have put together another great year of fishing. If you have a favorite fishing hole, please tell Eric—he will help you put a fishout together.

A very special **Thank You** to **Wendell Edwards** for his outstanding job with the ISE show. We had 56 people sign up who are interested in our club.

The Granite Bay Flycasters Annual Dinner is always the biggest and best fly-fishing party around! We'd like everyone to join us for this wonderful and important evening. And whether you can make the event or not, please consider donating something, fishing-related or otherwise, to help support the raffle, and your club on this special night. Dress is casual!

- **When:** Saturday, March 14, 2015. Bar opens at 4:30; dinner starts around 6:00.
- **Where:** The dinner, raffle, and auction will be at the Rocklin Event Center in Rocklin. This spacious facility is located at 2650 Sunset Blvd., and has plenty of free parking.
- **Who:** Club members, friends, families, neighbors, co-workers...anyone who'd enjoy an evening out with good food, a great speaker, and an incredible raffle & silent auction.
- **What:** Great catered dinner, Back Forty BBQ, huge raffle and silent auction, and special guest speaker, **David Lambroughton**, who'll amaze us with tales and photos of his worldwide travels!
- **Why:** Because you want an evening of fun, friendships, and fishing stories—along with the chance to win thousands of dollars in fishing gear, guided trips, and other prizes.

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- **How:** Buy your dinner tickets (while supplies last) at next month's club meeting, or online at www.gbflycasters.org (via the 'store' link). Tickets are still just \$40 each.

Getting any ideas? If you can help, please contact Mike Howes at lifeisreel@aol.com, or Frank Stoltzen at fstolten@comcast.net. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donators are duly acknowledged at the dinner.

Here Fishy Fishy!

Denny Welch Attorney at Law

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F E B R U A R Y 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
8.	9.	10. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	11.	12. Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM	13.	14. Yuba River/ UC Fishout
15.	16.	17. Fly Tying Jam 6:30 PM	18.	19.	20. Fly Fishing Show - Pleasanton February 20 - 22	21.
22. Fly Fishing Show - Pleasanton February 20 - 22	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.

Monthly Program



Kara Tripp

Our speaker this month is **Kara Tripp**, who will be presenting a program on "[FishCamp](#)," a detailed look into [The Fly Shop's](#) unique program, originally developed primarily for youth, and now extended into family events.

Born and raised in Kalispell, Montana, Kara Tripp traveled out west to Northern California in 2009, with a promise of work at The Fly Shop's highly acclaimed FishCamp program. Kara got her foot in the door as camp counselor, applying her years of experience battling trout on the Flathead River.

Today, Kara is Director of The Fly Shop's "FishCamp,"

School programs, Assistant Director of Guide Service, and Private Water programs. Some of her latest adventures consist of swinging flies for winter steelhead on the coastal rivers, hunting for tarpon in Belize and, most recently, traveling to Russia's Far East in pursuit of trout eating mice. When not fishing, she usually is out walking the river trails with her best fishing partner, Frankie, a mini Aussie from her parents ranch in Montana.



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History of Fly Fishing, Issue #14

by Ed Lloyd, Monthly Program Chair

In our last issue, we closed with speculation on the origin of hooks, all the way from the time of cave men up to the present day. Initially, it was believed that the first fish hooks were made of bone. We soon learned that flies were probably not tied on hooks made of bone, or even wood, because these hooks simply could not be made fine enough.

However, in about 4,000 BC copper began to be widely used. After that, it was only a very short time until bronze was discovered, and then an even shorter period of time before iron became the standard form of hook making for quite a long period of time. By the year 2000 BC, the Egyptian people were fishing with a higher level of expertise and sophistication, that the Chinese and other civilizations would not be able to match for at least another thousand years.

The earliest hooks, whether copper or iron, were considered rather uncomplicated. For example, there was no barb, and the head was made by the process of doubling over the end of the shank and leaving the possibility of creating an eye in the hook. These hook lengths ranged from 2 to 6 centimeters, and with a wide gape so as to allow for much bigger fish.

By the Roman times, despite how they looked, bronze hooks were very much sought after simply because of their durability and performance. Over time, bronze alloys were further improved and became more durable and lighter than those of ancient bronze. Next came the addition of double barbs, which became a characteristic of most hooks. Also, it has been shown that hooks, especially during Roman Times, were made during the time when Elia was at the crossroads of travel. There is not much known as to the question of whether or not these types of hooks did exist, or simply just not made. Evidence is strong here to indicate that, while much of the equipment used by blacksmiths was made from bar iron, hooks were made by iron as well. Now you have it, a brief description of just how hooks came to be originated. We now move on. In the next issue, we will look at the evolution of the Medieval Trout Fly.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

by Ted Way, VP Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members who have joined us over the last few months. Make sure you keep an eye out for them at our meetings and events so that we can make them feel that they are an important part of our club.

Larry Coleman

Dave Fujiyama

Jasper Winnie



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Membership Renewals are Due

by Ted Way, VP Membership

It's that time of year again! I know, Christmas is past, but it's not too late to give a gift to yourself that you'll enjoy all year.

Membership fees are \$30 for individual members, and \$35 for family memberships. There are several payment options: cash, check, or credit card at the general meetings, OR, you can pay by PayPal on the [club's website](#).

If you prefer to mail your renewal, please send your check made payable to **Granite Bay Flycasters** to the following address:

Ted Way
113 Carmody Circle
Folsom, CA 95630
916-761-7115
tedway@comcast.net

Membership fees and our annual dinner are the major sources of the funds needed to operate our club. As the best fly-fishing club around, the timely payment by our members is an important element in balancing our expenses and income each year.

Thank you in advance for supporting your club, and we look forward to your continued participation in 2015.

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.

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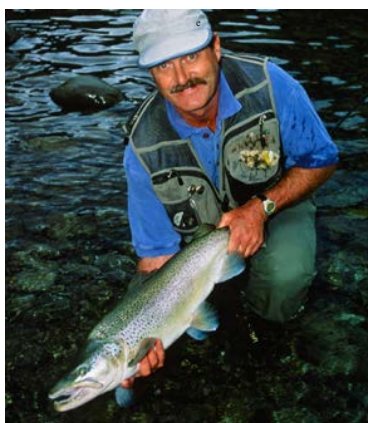
Fly Fishing Raffle & Auction!

With special guest speaker, David Lambroughton

Saturday, March 14, 2015 • Doors open @ 4:30pm

David has been a professional flyfishing travel photographer and writer for nearly 30 years.

His presentation this evening will share the people, places, patterns (fly), and passions of his annual flyfishing migration between the legendary waters of British Columbia, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the beautiful islands of New Zealand. Don't miss it!



Granite Bay Flycasters is one of the most active fly fishing clubs in the West. This event supports our club's famous scholarship and conservation programs and is a great way to meet lots of other local fly fishermen and women. Please join us for this special occasion – and you could win great gear, fantastic trips, and much much more!

BBQ dinner starts at 6pm.
For tickets (just \$40/ea.) and all the event details, please visit our website:
www.gbflycasters.org.



DINNER LOCATION:
Rocklin Event Center
2650 Sunset Blvd.
Rocklin, Calif.
916-774-5950

10% of proceeds to benefit



of Northern California

Conservation Corner

by Mel Odemar, VP Conservation

We finally had a Conservation Committee meeting January 14th after months of inaction because of weather, and the unexpected departure of our former Conservation VP, Tim Billingsley. There was a good turnout, and the guest speaker was David Lass, California Field Director for Trout Unlimited. David described the Little Truckee River Meadow Restoration Project. The project proposes to enhance and improve the physical conditions throughout two miles of the Little Truckee River and a 360-acre meadow to generate and maintain high quality fish and wildlife habitat. Granite Bay Flycasters support the project, and in December 2014 sent a letter of support to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for funding. Most of the funding for the project is in place, and they expect to start work in September of this year. There will be plenty of opportunities for GBF members to participate, including fish rescue and willow root ball planting. David offered a tour of the area that might be scheduled during our next Truckee River fishout.

In January 2015, a letter of support was sent to the Dry Creek Conservancy and the Placer County Community Development Resource Agency for the Cottonwood Dam Improvement Project. Placer County and Dry Creek Conservancy are seeking a grant to remove a failed section of Cottonwood Dam and restore natural processes in the existing reservoir. Cottonwood Dam is a complete barrier to anadromous salmonid migration. As a result of the completed project, additional stream habitat will be accessible by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The proposed project is a component of the Dry Creek Coordinated Resource Management Plan, and the project site has been categorized as high priority in DWR's Miner's Ravine Habitat Assessment. Additionally, the National Marine Fisheries Service, under the Endangered Species Act, has designated Miner's Ravine as critical habitat for Central Valley Steelhead. Lester Grisby and I toured the site, and we were impressed with the surrounding habitat, and saw great potential for improving spawning habitat. This will provide another opportunity for GBF to do some hands-on restoration if and when project funding is approved.

I was contacted by John Williams, Adopt-A-Creek Coordinator for Roseville, regarding the section of Dry Creek that we adopted for restoration. I told him we were no longer interested in that section of Dry Creek for a variety of reasons, and he offered us a new section between an area adopted by TU and an area adopted by Dry Creek Conservancy that may be more to our liking. I will arrange a tour of the area for interested Committee members.

The next Conservation Committee meeting will be March 4th at 6:30 at the same location. The main topic will be the allocation of donations to non-profit organizations that serve our conservation and education goals. Hope to see you there.

Yuba River / UC Davis Fishout February 14, 2015

The University of California at Davis has an agricultural research station on the banks of the Lower Yuba River. This property is closed to the public, but fishing clubs are allowed yearly access for fishing. This is a great deal because we get private access on a river that typically gets fairly heavy angler pressure. The property is beautiful (and private); there are shade trees, a picnic pavilion with a charcoal grill and a portable toilet.

Pete Koistinen (peterkoistinen@att.net 916-622-3191) will lead the fishout on February 14th. It's limited to 15 anglers, and there is no fee. There are two ways to sign up: contact Pete, or use the signup sheet at the January general meeting. (No signups will be taken prior to January 8th). If more than 14 sign up, I'll draw a lottery. All signups received before February 1st will be included in the drawing. Any signups received February 1st or later, and those who don't draw, will go on a waiting list.

The Yuba River is a wild rainbow trout fishery, with some fish over 20 inches. These fish are some of the strongest, fastest trout you'll catch anywhere. It's not uncommon for a 16-inch fish to take you into the backing. The Yuba River is about the same size as the lower American; a water flow rate of 1000 - 2000 CFS is ideal. A few hints for success on the Yuba: keep moving—if 2 or 3 good drifts, or a few fly changes don't

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Yuba River / UC Davis Fishout - Continued from Page 6

produce, move on to another spot. Also, the fish can be close to shore, so work the shoreline before you get in the river. It's possible you'll catch 50% of your fish standing on dry land. The usual mayfly and stone fly nymphs will catch fish. Dry flies include PMD and blue wing olive mayflies, and Skwala stoneflies. Check our website's Fly Tyer's Corner archives—[July 2006](#), [March 2008](#), and [February 2009](#) for Bill Carnazzo's and Paul Egan's excellent Skwala dry flies.

More info is available on our website's message board <http://gbflycasters.websitetoolbox.com/?forum=411662>.

OK, I hope to see you on this great "private water" fishout.

Pete

Fishmaster's Corner

by Eric Palmer, Fishmaster

Water to angler: "Do you read me? Over."

Angler to water: "Copy that, over and out."

Reading the water; it's the single most important skill a new fly fisher must master as he or she faces a seemingly impenetrable mountain of new stuff to learn. This mountain is intimidating, and I'm sure it's the reason for the high drop-out rate of many aspiring new fly fishers. Hopefully, the fact that you're reading this means you've made the cut.

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Fishmaster's Corner - Continued from Page 7

Skeptical? Consider this. Imagine gathering up the following gear: your grandfather's whippy fiberglass fly rod with one or two missing guides and tattered fly line, a ratty old fly box containing but 3 or 4 well used and rusty flies, throw in some leaky waders and a matching pair of shredded boots, then hand this assemblage of Goodwill material to one of the top anglers in the club. He will grouse about the leaky waders but will gladly accept the challenge because he's confident in the outcome.

Next, place this individual on his favorite stream, then stand back and watch him vacuum up fish at the same rate as if he was equipped with \$3,000 worth of comparable new gear. Granted, he's probably an expert caster, and knows how to get a drag-free drift two times out of three, but none of that counts if nobody's home.

The indispensable thing this expert individual will possess that no fly shop will ever sell is the instinctive—but learnable—ability to read the water. So what's the big deal? It's simple: reading the water provides the angler with two vital and critical pieces of information: First, **where are the fish?**, and secondly, **how should we fish for them?** Should we fish dries, indicator nymph, drift nymphs sans indicator, swing nymphs, short-line nymph, strip buggers or streamers, throw a sinking or floating line, or...

Many of us have watched with amusement as newbie anglers burn precious daylight flogging water we know to be completely devoid of fish while we say to ourselves "well, it's all part of the learning process. He'll figure it out." You may even offer some tactful face-saving advice, but often they don't care or don't believe you. He saw some 2 inch fish jumping in that mirrored gin clear pool bathed in full sun where any half-savvy catchable sized trout on an off day with one bad eye would spot an angler at 200 ft. and high tail it out of Dodge pronto.

So, here's my message for new fly fishers struggling with where to start in mastering the art of fly fishing. Yes, you need to learn to cast well and tie a knot or two in under 5 minutes along with a ton of other important stuff, but I'd put learning to read the water at the top of the list. In fact, I'd make a new list with just this one item to avoid distraction.

But how do you learn to read the water? Unfortunately, therein lies the rub. It takes time and experience, and there's no shortcut. You can read magazines and books, but the illustrations or photos do not do justice to the real thing. You should definitely start there, but there is no substitute for actually getting out on the water. But then what? What if you don't know what you're looking for? This brings to mind the whacky quote from 1980s stand-up comic Steven Wright:

"There's a fine line between fishing and standing on the bank looking like an idiot."

Here's something that may help you not look like an idiot while on the bank studying the water: my favorite quote from our former coach and mentor, Bill Carnazzo:

"Fish have three non-negotiable needs: Cover, oxygen and food. Remove any one and there will be no fish."

And, I would add that cover trumps oxygen and food. It's that pesky self-preservation thing. They will quickly abandon abundant food and oxygen for safe cover.

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Fishmaster's Corner - Continued from Page 8

Here's another piece of sage advice: You likely joined a fly club to learn fly fishing. So, go on a fishout! Partner up with an experienced member and watch where he throws his fly. Ask why. Ask a ton of questions. If he looks at you funny, tell him you're just following orders. Don't shut up till you know a *riffle* from *pocket water* from a *run* from a *slick* from a *flat* from a *tail-out* and can identify a *seam* and a *scum line* from 100 ft. And by the way, some lakes have scum lines too, and they hold fish.

Once you've mastered all that, this is where a decent cast comes into play so you can accurately place your fly on the target two times out of three. For acquiring that skill, talk to **John Hogg** about the next round of casting clinics which are just around the corner. But first, learn to read the water and it will speak volumes about exactly where to cast your fly and with what method.

Thanks for your time and see you on the water...

Annual Fly Casting clinics

This is to announce GBF's annual Fly Casting clinics. These clinics are appropriate for all skill levels of casters. If you are a novice, we will get you going, and if you are experienced, we will make you better. The clinics are conducted over three consecutive Saturdays—each day will offer new material.

Dates and times:

Saturday, March 21, 10 am to 1:00 pm

Saturday, March 28, 10 am to 1:00 pm

Saturday, April 4, 10 am to 1:00 pm

The agenda will include a 30-minute break for lunch. We recommend you bring a sack lunch, as the lunch time period will be insufficient to drive to a restaurant.

All classes will be held at Gibson Ranch Regional Park. There is a car pass charge of \$5.00 to enter the park.

You must be a GBF member to take this clinic—there is no fee.

We will address the following casts, topics, and techniques:

- The 6 essential elements of a fly cast.
- Why most fly casters can never throw more than 50 feet.
- Roll cast
- Pickup – Laydown forward cast
- False casting
- Shooting line to add distance
- Introduction to the double haul
- Maximizing your distance cast
- Rigging and casting for chironomid fishing under an indicator
- Rigging and casting heavy flies with sinking lines for bass fishing



Signup at the next general meeting or email to johnhogg@sbcglobal.net.

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in February 2011)

Fly Patterns - Bill's Swimming Starling Sally



Bill's Swimming Starling Sally

Materials:

Hook:	Standard nymph hook, such as TMC 3761BL
Thread:	Pale Yellow 8/0 or smaller
Ribbing:	Fine gold wire
Body:	Pale yellow natural dubbing with a slight olive tinge
Thorax:	Same as body
Hackle:	Starling feather, tied soft hackle style

Description

I've recently designed a new series of three flies for the ubiquitous "Little Yellow Stonefly" that we all (sometimes) know and (always) love. I say "sometimes" when it comes to "know" because this little bug may well be the most mistakenly identified of all of the aquatic insects that we consider to be our fish staples. While guiding, I've heard clients refer to them as terrestrials (lacewings, for example), mayflies (PMDs in particular), and light-colored caddis. That's not a criticism, by the way—it's easy to mistake the Sally for other small aquatics, especially when it's breezy. But it's also important to learn how to "know" Sally when she's (or he's) the one doing the flying around in your little piece of heaven. Knotting on a PMD imitation or an Elk Hair Caddis, or the wrong kind of nymph or emerger, will beget only frustration because, at least in my experience, fish keying on Sallies are very selective.

The Sally nymph was featured in the September, 2010 Leader. I'll feature the adult in a future article. For this article I'm presenting the Swimming Starling Sally, which is a soft hackle style pattern that could represent the subspecies that actually hatch in the water column (i.e., an emerging life stage), or simply a nymph that is drifting along after having become dislodged from the rocks. Don't think in terms of mayfly emergers, because that is an entirely different concept.

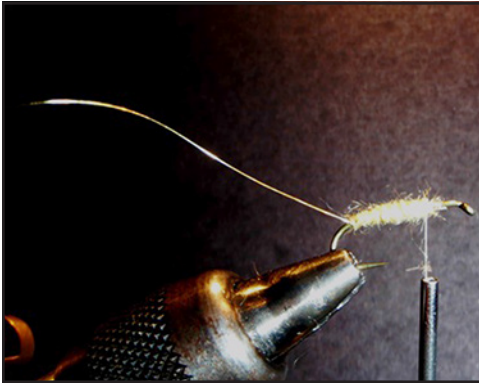
There are a number of ways of fishing soft hackle flies. One way would be to suspend it by itself under an indicator with a fairly long tippet (6-9') and a small split shot, cast the rig upstream, mend into a dead drift, and transition to a swing after the rig passes your position. A second way (my preferred technique for pocket water) would be to attach it to the bottom fly in a short-line rig with 14-16" of 5x fluorocarbon and fish it as a "stinger." This means casting upstream, using a regular short-line drift until the rig passes your position, and then allowing it to swing at the end of the drift. A third method would be to fish it in traditional soft-hackle swing style on a long leader (9-12') with 5x fluorocarbon at the tip. In all three methods, I will utilize the ["Leisenring Lift"](#) technique at the end of the drift to mimic an insect rising in the water column.

So, let's tie up a few.

Tying Instructions

For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 10*Steps 1, 2 & 3*

1. Starling feathers from the neck area have an iridescent black shine and a tannish tip. These are the feathers you should look for.
2. To prepare a feather for a soft-hackle fly, there are several methods that have been written about. I prefer to follow these steps.
3. Strip the fuzz from the butt end of the feather, but don't cut the stem.

4. Rib the body with 4 or 5 turns of the gold wire and tie off the wire at the front of the body.
5. Dub a thorax that is somewhat more robust than the body. The purpose of this step is to create a thorax appearance but also to backstop the soft hackle so that it doesn't just flatten out against the body during the drift. In turn, this allows the hackle to "swim" as the fly drifts. It is important that you leave at least two hook-eye widths open behind the eye so that the hackle (next 2 steps) can be properly wound around the hook.

*Steps 4 & 5**Steps 6 & 7*

6. Prepare a starling feather and tie it in by its tip, just in front of the thorax. Since the fly is designed in the soft-hackle style, the concave side of the feather should face the rear of the hook.
7. Wind the feather around the hook at least 3 times, sweeping the barbs back on each turn. Tie the feather off just behind the hook eye, trim the excess, and wind the thread in close wraps rearward to help sweep the hackle backward. Whip finish and apply a small drop of super glue to the head.

Tying & Fishing Tips

1. Starling feathers from the neck area have an iridescent black shine and a tan-ish tip. These are the feathers you should look for.
2. To prepare a feather for a soft-hackle fly, there are several methods that have been written about. I prefer to follow these steps.
3. Strip the fuzz from the butt end of the feather, but don't cut the stem.
4. Isolate the feather's tip by grabbing it with pointed tweezers and sweeping the remaining barbs rearward.
5. Tie the feather in using the isolated tip as a tab.

Now go crank out a few of these gems and....

Enjoy, and see ya on the creek...!!!

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.

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 Ted Way at 916-761-7115, 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

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

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VP Membership - Ted Way
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