Leader’s Line

by John Hogg, GBF President

You will be reading this message on March 1st, but I am writing it on February 17th in order to meet the editor’s deadline. The significance of this is that the Annual Dinner is only a few days away on Saturday, March 5th. This is undoubtedly of no surprise to you—in fact, you have already probably bought a ticket! But if you have not, please reconsider. It is an opportunity for you to give back for the many activities that the club has sponsored for your enjoyment over the past twelve months—meetings, speakers, clinics, fish outs, conservation support, and the camaraderie of your fellow members.

Thank you.

Bridgeport Fishout 2016
May 20 - 22

Fishout Leader: Bill Hagopian

As you may know, we cancelled last year’s fishout at the last minute due to bad weather. A couple of brave souls went and had some luck fishing.

Bridgeport is situated in the Eastern High Sierras. Historic Bridgeport Valley has changed little since cattlemen and miners discovered its grassy pastures in the 1850s. Surrounded by vast National Forest lands, the region is an unspoiled recreational playground with pristine lakes, rivers, and streams. There is good fishing in both Robinson Creek and Twin Lakes, which provides excellent fishing for large rainbow and brown trout. Also, northeast of Bridgeport is the East Walker River, a premier fly-fishing stream.

Bill and Bev will arrive on May 20th. Camping Reservations start on the 20th and are available at www.recreation.gov. We will have a sign at our campsite (# 8) with “GBF” at the Lower Twin Lakes Campground. The campground is located approximately 10 miles southwest of Bridgeport off of Twin Lakes Rd. The nights will be cold, since the campground is at 6500 feet. For those who would like to fish and not camp, there are many creekside cabins, bed and breakfast inns, and motels in the area.

Bev and I will be hosting dinner on Saturday, May 21st, for everyone attending the Bridgeport fishout. It will be at our Lower

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Our speaker this month is Ken Brunskill, the President of the Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers since 2013. A Bay Area native, he took up fly fishing in the 1980s, and has been active in the FFF since then. In 2009, he started Veterans First Fly Fishing as a way to introduce veterans, especially the disabled, to the world of fly fishing.

His program will focus on the Heritage Trout Program, particularly since it integrates both Conservation and Education as key parts of the program.
Twin Lakes campsite # 8 at 5:30 pm. Please e-mail me to let us know if you will be joining us for dinner. All you need to bring is the beverage of your choice and a chair.

**Directions:**
From Sacramento area, go to Highway 395 in Nevada, and go south. US Highway 395 runs through Bridgeport. At the first street in Bridgeport, (at the Gas Station) turn right on to Twin Lakes Road. Travel on the Twin Lakes Road for about 9.5 miles, until you get to the Lower Twin Lakes Rd. Follow the road, and just after you cross over the bridge, the Campground will be on the right.

**A word to the wise:** Bridgeport is famous for its HIGH gas prices. The cheapest place to gas up is in Minden or Walker.

**Equipment:** See Website.

Ken’s Sporting Goods has a good selection of fishing tackle, flies and is generous with fishing tips. Guide Services are also available (760) 932-7707. His website has a lot of information on fishing conditions in the area.  [http://www.kenssport.com](http://www.kenssport.com)

For more information about lodging, RV, and sites:


Doc and Al’s Resort (760) 932-7051.

Bridgeport Ranger District (760) 932-7070.

If you are interested in coming up, post on the website or contact us at:  
[Billh07@comcast.net](mailto:Billh07@comcast.net) - 916-771-5837; cell 916-847-904

See you in Bridgeport

Bill and Bev
Lake Amador Fishout, March 16th

Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader

We will be having our annual Lake Amador Fishout on March 16th, and will meet at the Café to check in. The lake is located at an elevation of 485 feet in the Sierra Foothills, and has 425 surface acres. Facilities are located near the dam. The Marina offers Fishing Boat Rentals, 150 developed Tent Campsites, a Grocery Store, Ice, Propane, Fish Cleaning Station, Clubhouse/Rec Room, Hot Showers and RV Waste Disposal. The lake is stocked with Florida strain bass, Crappie, Red Ear Sunfish, Catfish, and trout. This year they planted a new breed from Mt. Shasta fisheries called “Lightning Trout.” The Lightning Trout is a hybridized Rainbow that looks like a rainbow trout, but is bright yellow-to-gold in color, and sports a dark pink stripe that runs horizontally along the lateral line of the spotless body. The meat of the fish is bright pink, resembling more of a wild char or salmon filet. Anglers who have hooked the fish all seem to agree that the lightning variety fights uncharacteristically hard for a trout.

When checking in, tell the clerk you are with Granite Bay Flycasters, and they will waive the float tube launch fee. The Lake fees are as follows:

- Daily parking (1 vehicle/up to 4 people): $7
- Each Additional Person after the 4th passenger in vehicle: $1
- Fishing (Per Person): $9
- Boat Launch: $ 5
- Kayak, Canoe, Float Tubes, Paddle Boards: $3 (Launch Fee no rentals available)
- Boat & Motor Rental: Half Day: $60 | Full Day: $80

This year the lake is 6 feet from overflow (25 Feb. 2016). With this being said, there are so many places to fish—from around the rental boat docks, along the dam to the far side from the Café’ or venture back into the many coves for bass and pan fish. The trout generally are suspended 5 to 15 feet under the service, and cruise the shoreline around the lake. You can also find some very deep by the boat docks, so you might try dropping a sinking line and try “Chironomid fishing” for trout. Lake Almador is now planting Lassen Rainbows weekly, with FEBRUARY 2016 TOTAL = 2400 lbs. (More Coming!!) Season total 17,700 lbs. total.

Getting there is easy, about a 75-minute drive from Roseville. If you have any questions, contact me at travelmaster@surewest.net.
Craig Nielsen’s Top-10 Summer Flies

by Eric Palmer

Being fortunate enough to have premier guide Craig Nielsen as our February speaker, it now seems appropriate to re-run something that appeared in the May 2012 Leader, so here goes:

We have probably all heard the maxim, “A well-placed or well-drifted fly is more productive than the perfect fly poorly placed.” We have also all probably shared the humbling experience, when we were just starting out in the sport, of walking into a large, well-stocked fly shop, surveying the fly bins stretching from horizon to horizon containing tens of thousands of flies, only to recoil in horror wondering: “How the bleep can I ever master a sport that requires learning all these flies, not to mention buying many of them?”

I found this a serious conundrum that had me rethinking the decision to even take up the sport to begin with. You can imagine my great relief when I encountered the article by Northern California guide, Craig Nielsen, in the June 2011 California Fly Fisher that presents Craig’s Top-10 Summer Flies. I’ve always been a sucker for a Top-10 list of anything, since the catchy title suggests the simplification of an otherwise obtuse and complex subject—and Craig’s list does exactly that. I’m not going to paraphrase his full three page article here (and big CFF pages too), so I will just cut to the chase. For the full text, if you are not a subscriber, check the GBF library, or pester a friend who subscribes. I highly recommend you read the full article, and then read it again.

Craig’s Top-10 Summer Flies:

1. Humpy (dry) - Sparsely tied - Universal “If only one dry” favorite as it represents the Mayfly, Caddis, Stones, and some terrestrials.
2. Parachute Adams (dry)
3. Birds Nest - Sparsely tied
4. Pheasant Tail
5. Prince
6. Copper John
7. Micromay (Micro mayfly)
8. Rubber legs - great on the Upper Sac!
10. Wooly Buggers

There are several key “take-a-ways” for me here: 1) Each fly is very distinctive in appearance, so easy to learn and recognize for a beginner; 2) only two dry flies on the list to keep it simple; 3) you will see in his article a common theme of tying these flies sparsely, which, unfortunately, is seldom the case with commercially tied flies, since often they are designed to appeal to the angler as much as the fish.

This calls for a short commercial break to plug Jim Holmes and his fly tying classes and monthly tying jam. One key benefit of learning the fly tying art is that you gain the ability to tie flies any way you choose.

If you’re new to the fly fishing game, or maybe returning from a long hiatus, I recommend that you Google each of these flies for a nice close-up photo, then burn the image into your brain. Here’s an example for the Humpy to get you started. Select sites labeled “Images for the <fly name>” for the broadest view of the variants of the given fly.

After a little homework at the computer or iPad, the next time you enter a fly shop you should be able to approach the fly bins with authority and aplomb, and when Mr. Fly Shop Man asks, “Can I help you find something?” you can reply confidently, “No thanks, I got it!”

Thanks for your time, and See you on the water,
Everyone’s invited to the
GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS
30th Annual Dinner and HUGE
Fly Fishing Raffle & Auction!

Saturday, March 5, 2016 ● Doors open @ 4:30pm

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

Entertainment provided by The Artful Codgers, the 2014 Super Senior Champions of the Far West District of the

Barbershop Harmony Society, as well as the 2015 Senior Champions for the Northeast Division!

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% net proceeds benefit of Northern California
GBF President’s Annual Picnic and 1-Fly Fish-Out!

Exciting changes coming this year! One event becomes two!

1-Fly Fiushout will be held April 9th at Rancho Seco!
Expect good catching, as the annual SMUD/Rancho Seco Fishing Derby will be held the weekend prior, and there should be lots of fish waiting for us. The Awards Presentation will be held lakeside, along with hamburgers and all the trimmings. Fish-out details, time and guidelines will be posted to our website under “Fish-Outs.” Look for sign-up sheets at upcoming meetings.

President’s Annual Picnic will be held June 11th at Rancho Seco!
We will gather in Group Picnic Area 2b starting at 11:00 AM. GBF will provide all the food, including tri tip, chicken and hotdogs at 1:00 PM! You bring your easy chairs and your family for a fun-filled day at the lake and beach. Details about all the upgraded amenities at Rancho Seco are posted on the website under “Events.” Look for sign-up sheets at upcoming meetings or contact me.

Wendell Edwards  wendelledwards@mac.com  916-508-7000

Conservation Corner

by Mel Odemar, VP Conservation

The recipient of this year's Bill Carnazzo Fellowship award (formerly Robert B. Morton Fellowship) is Peter Drobny, a local student who calls Orangevale his home. Peter is an ideal candidate for the award, since he grew up just a couple of miles from Granite Bay, and spent much of his time fly fishing throughout the area. He is in the final stages of his thesis project that focuses on survival of juvenile Coho salmon, pursuing questions of survival, abundance, habitat, growth, and density dependent survival with coastal cutthroat and steelhead trout. His work will help conservation and fisheries managers better understand the processes at work in an intact coastal ecosystem in Redwood National Park.

This is the eighth graduate studies fellowship award funded by the Granite Bay Flycasters through Humboldt State University. Our financial support is much appreciated by students and staff of HSU, and is a worthwhile investment in the future. Conservation and education programs such as this are made possible by proceeds from our annual dinner and raffle.

A new youth fishing program with the Sierra Trout Camp will be introduced at the upcoming dinner and

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Before you get on the water, gear up at Sacramento’s only full-service Orvis fly shop and lifestyle store. Here, you'll find the newest Helios fly rods, reels, waders, and more fly-fishing gear; plus a full line of luggage and men’s and ladies apparel. Stop in and say hello today, and find exactly what you need.

1099 Galleria Blvd. | The Fountains | Roseville, CA 95678 | 916 783 9400 | orvis.com/roseville
rafle. The program is a youth fly fishing camp sponsored by the Truckee chapter of Trout Unlimited, and the California School of Fly Fishing operated by Ralph and Lisa Cutter. The event is a 2-day camp for 9-to-11-year-olds held at the UC research facility at Sagehen Creek. There the students will be introduced to aquatic entomology, conservation, and the art and ethics of fly fishing. This year’s camp will be held June 18-19. The program is limited to 15 students. Tuition is $150, which includes all meals, lodging, equipment and a swag bag of fishing goodies. TU has agreed to reserve two spots for GBF, which will be put up for auction at the upcoming annual dinner with the club guaranteeing the full cost. The advantage for club members, besides supporting our conservation and education program, is that successful bidders are assured a spot.

Normally, students are chosen by TU from the pool of applicants with no guarantee of acceptance. If successful, we will include this as an annual program supported by the club. Last year, the Conservation Committee awarded $600 to the camp to sponsor a student and help underwrite the program’s costs. I expect to see some lively bidding, as I know of a couple of interested members, and this would be a great gift for a child or grandchild.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

by Ted Way, VP Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members who have joined us recently. 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.

Jim Callens  Tom DiLallo  Mark Fox
Randy Genis  Dave and Ryan Hunter  Mike Kitts
Bob Mart  Larry Nelson  Mike and Davina Neumann
Sammy Rhodes  John and Alex Sawicky  Danielle Sawicky
Dennis and Iris Windsor  Eric Windsor

Wading Safety

by Tony Jelinek

Nothing can end a beautiful day on the river faster than one false step and a dunking in a very cold river. We are bound to experience deeper and faster water this season with the spring melt of a substantial snowpack. In the middle of summer, the water may feel refreshing, but there are all the other consequences—a couple of gallons of water in your waders (one gallon of water weighs approximately 8 pounds), a fly rod snapped by landing across a rock or the strong current, and possible cuts, scrapes, and injuries from the fall.

I used to think that I don’t need a wading staff. Those are only for the other anglers, the ones who aren’t quite as nimble on their feet. But, I have come to find out that fishing a river without a wading staff is like driving a car without wearing your seatbelt. Oh, I don’t need to bother wearing my seatbelt. I am just driving to the store on local roads. Nothing will happen. You remember the old joke? I heard most car accidents happen within five miles from your home, so I moved. Well, with fishing, 90% of injuries that happen on the river happen within 10 feet of the shoreline.

Make sure your wading belt is tight to diminish the amount of water that can fill your waders. A new tip for me, but one that makes sense, is to wear two wading belts. Wear both around the waist, but when entering deeper water, move the 2nd belt up around your sternum and cinch tight to allow even less water from potentially filling-up your waders, should you fall.

Keep your body sideways to the current. By staying sideways to the current as opposed to facing the current, you reduce the force of the current by about two-thirds.
Wading Safety - Continued from Page 8

When wading, you need to maintain contact with the river bottom and give the water the least chance to knock you off of your feet. Shuffle your feet along—do not take big steps. The higher your foot gets from the river bottom, the swifter the current, and the greater the danger of your foot being swept away.

The more points of contact you have with the river bottom, the greater your stability. The wading staff is that additional point of contact. It is recommended to use the wading staff as the downstream point-of-contact. Don’t wade and cast at the same time. Do one thing at a time—move, then cast; or cast, then move. You can also use the wading staff to check for holes, large boulders, and the depth of the river.

Wading staffs come in fixed-length, collapsible, and telescoping styles. They can be made of wood, aluminum or carbon fiber, and range in price from about $30 to $150. You can attach them to your wading belt, or use a longer strap with a loop that goes over your head and under your arm. You want to be able to drop the staff while fishing, but have it readily available to grab at your side when you decide to move.

Be more mobile in the water, be able to fish more water, and keep from winning the “Wet Fly Award” this fishing season by using safe wading techniques and a wading staff. For more information, go to this web site for a video on safe wading techniques:  

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ZqR5grsKII

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer’s Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in March 2012)

Fly Patterns - Bill’s 12-Step Stonefly Version 2

Materials:

- **Hook:** Daiichi 1260, Tiemco 947, or similar hook, sizes 6-10
- **Thread:** Amber 8/0, or similar thread
- **Eyes:** Small black mono eyes
- **Tail:** Amber goose biots
- **Abdomen:** Amber dubbing
- **Legs:** Mini-size tan Turantulegs
- **Ribbing:** Fine copper wire
- **Wing case:** Mottled golden stone color Thin Skin
- **Thorax:** Same as abdomen
- **Weight:** Optional—not used in instructions

Description

This pattern is v.2 of a time-tested, successful fly proven in the crucible of actual on-stream experience. The original version, initially featured in the July, 2008 Leader, can be found in the fly tying archives on the GBF web site; that article is worth reading for the background on the fly. The v.2 modifications, designed to streamline the bug and simplify the tying process, are few in number but are significant enough to warrant the “v.2” moniker. You will note that the addition weight to the hook shank is optional in this version; I have been experimenting with unweighted versions of various flies, including this one, and the results are interesting. Where no weight is used on the flies, getting them down near the bottom requires addition of a little extra weight to the leader. The benefit of this is that the flies will drift more naturally in the current while still sinking to the bottom where they belong. The jury is still out on this concept, but I intend to continue experimenting with it. Let’s tie up a Golden Stonefly version of this nymph.

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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.

1. Smash the hook barb unless you are using a barbless hook. Tie the thread in just above the point of the hook and move the thread forward to near the hook eye.

2. Tie the mono eyes on about 1 eye-length behind the hook eye. It’s important to leave this small space ahead of the eyes.

3. Return the thread to the rear of the hook and tie in the amber biot tails just above the back of the hook barb area. The biot tail should extend to the rear of the body no more than 1/3 of its length.

4. At the same point, tie in a short segment of fine copper wire.

5. Form a dubbing loop at the same point, and fill it with the amber dubbing material. Dub the abdomen—which will be the rear 2/3 of the hook; do not go farther forward than that. Use a stiff brush, wire brush, or similar tool to brush out the sides of the body, and pull the dubbing out to the sides with your fingers. Trim the abdomen to a “v” shape (this gives it a nice taper) back to the tail (careful not to cut the tails). Turn the fly over and trim the dubbing at the bottom of the fly so that body has a flat appearance.

6. Rib the abdomen, weaving the wire into the dubbing; this gives the dubbing the look of “gills,” which stoneflies sport. Tie off the wire at the front of the abdomen.

7. Cut a tapered piece of Thin Skin that is approximately ¼” in width on the widest end, and about ½ ” 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.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 10

8. Tie in a set of the Turantulegs just ahead of where the Thin Skin was tied in.

9. Dub the thorax, starting right where the legs were tied in so that the dubbing pushes the legs rearward; stop the dubbing halfway to the mono eyes and tie in another set of legs at that point.

10. Continue dubbing up to the back of the eyes, again allowing the dubbing to force the legs rearward, and tie the dubbing loop off there. Lightly brush the dubbed abdomen, taking care not to damage the legs. Trim the legs to approximately ½ ".

11. Grab the Thin Skin and pull it forward over the entire body, stretching it a bit as you do so. Tie it off behind the eyes, and then again in front of the eyes. On the remaining tab, cut a small "v" into the material, pull the material rearward, and tie it off again behind the eyes.

12. Whip finish at that point, and apply a tiny drop of super glue where the Thin Skin crosses over the mono eyes. Using a black Sharpie, color a broad stripe down the top of the abdomen. If you examine a natural stonefly, you will note that the back is dark and the bottom is light.

Tying & Fishing 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.

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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.

For Sale:

Outcast Fish Cat pontoon boat. Airtight. Excellent condition. The price is $325.

Contact Steve at 916-759-6687
Fly Tyer’s Corner - Continued from Page 11

Fish this stonefly through pocket water during the spring when the naturals are hatching, using a short line nymphing rig. While aggressive strikes sometimes occur, often the strikes can be subtle, so set the hook at the slightest hesitation of the rig. Go rip a few lips, and….see ya on the creek.

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

Our website is designed to be a resource for club members who want to enhance their fly fishing experience through participation in various club activities. Check often at www.gbflycasters.org for information on club fishouts, conservation projects, classes & clinics, and other activities that support our mission.
Granite Bay Flycasters
4120 Douglas Blvd. #306-356
Granite Bay, CA 95746-5936

Please notify if address change

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.

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VP Conservation - Mel Odemar 916-961-4435 melodemar@sbcglobal.net
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Treasurer - Mike Howes 916-863-6795 lifeisreel@aol.com

Directors:
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Through June, 2018 - Gordon Tornberg 916-983-2953 tornberg2@sbcglobal.net
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Through June, 2016 - Don Van Sant 916-927-9824 donvansant@pacbell.net
Director at Large, 1 year term - Ron Rabun 916-716-2659 sushi1uvr1@yahoo.com
Past President - Tony Fabian 916-415-9095 meritage@starstream.net

Committees:
Annual Dinner 916-863-6795
Mike Howes 916-863-6795
Annual Picnic 916-927-9824
Don Van Sant 916-927-9824

www.gbflycasters.org