Leader’s Line

by John Hogg, GBF President

For a holiday month, December burst with activity. The quarterly meeting of the Conservation Committee highlighted a discussion of disease control in California’s 30 fish hatcheries; (we had 16 members attend, a record!), then the Swap meet—well attended as usual; and then sadly, I must report on the championship of the Chili Cookoff, which did not go my way. Nine entrants slaved over secret concoctions, only to be outdone by Dave Jones’ high-school-age daughter, Allie. (I have to say her chili was really, really, good!) Speaking of food, the club’s Potluck Dinner was also a hit, and attendees walked away having consumed more calories than they would like to admit. Many thanks to Mel Odemar, Wendell Edwards, Dave Jones, Bill Grigsby, Ron Fay, and all the volunteers who helped make these events happen.

For January, our speaker is Matt Heron, who will be addressing fly fishing expeditions to Cuba—wow, sign me up for that one!

Don’t forget our annual dinner coming up on March 18th! Tickets are limited—we have about 200 seats, and half are already sold. If you have something nice to donate for our silent auction—either fishing or non-fishing, it would be most appreciated. Let me know, and we will arrange a pick up!

Monthly Program

Our guest speaker this month is Matt Heron, who hails from the Tahoe/Truckee area where he runs his Fly Fishing School and Outfitter (http://mattheronflyfishing.com/) in Squaw Valley and Truckee. He and his guide staff primarily focus on the Truckee and Little Truckee rivers on the north shore of Lake Tahoe.

In the off season, he hosts trips to some of the premier tropical fly fishing destinations. His presentation will focus on one of them, Cuba, and cover every aspect of booking your Cuban fly fishing adventure. That includes the culture, transportation, booking logistics, destinations and, of course, the fishing opportunities. Cigars, dancing lessons and salsa music are optional! Cuba has quickly become a new “must go” destination in fly fishing!
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.

I will lead the fishout on Saturday, January 28th. It’s limited to 15 anglers, and there is no fee. If you have any questions or wish additional information, contact me at peterkoistinen@att.net or 916-622-3191.

There are two ways to sign up: contact me, or use the signup sheet at the January general meeting. If more than 14 sign up, I’ll draw a lottery. All signups received before January 12th will be included in the drawing. Any signups received January 13th 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 is about the same size as the lower American; a water flow rate of 1000 - 1500 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 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
UC Davis Lower Yuba Fishout - Continued from Page 2

Fly Tyer’s Corner archives—July 2006, March 2008, and February 2009, for Bill Carnazzo’s and Paul Egan’s excellent Skwala dry flies. Also, check our website’s Library > Articles for “Rigging for Nymph Fishing with Strike Indicators.”

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

GBF Booth at the ISE Show

The ISE Show at Cal Expo is coming our way January 19-22, and once again, GBF will have a booth there, which means we need members to volunteer to staff it.

It’s a great time for new members and old to get together and promote Granite Bay Fly Casters. This is the time we invite prospective new members to join us, learn the art of fly tying, rod and net building, along with improving their casting skills.

You may go to our website and review time slots that are available, then email wendelledwards@mac.com to reserve your time.

We will have sign-up sheets at our January meeting.

When you participate (2 hours), you will receive a show pass that allows you to spend the day wandering through this big event.

Wendell Edwards, ISE Coordinator
916-508-7000

Membership

Our 2017 membership and renewal drive is underway. We have lots of activities in store for 2017, and your membership renewal is your admission ticket! You can renew here on our website, or by paying at our monthly meeting.

Don Whitecar, VP Membership
don.whitecar@att.net
916-804-5384

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.

1009 Galleria Blvd. | The Fountains | Roseville, CA 95678 | 916 783 9400 | orvis.com/roseville
Everyone’s invited to the
GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS
31st Annual Dinner and HUGE
Fly Fishing Raffle & Auction!

With special guest speaker, JD Richey

Saturday, March 18, 2017 • Doors open @ 4:30pm

JD Richey is a famous Nor-Cal/Sac-Delta fishing guide and accomplished author with decades of local experience – and a lifetime of angling stories and lessons to share! On this evening, he’ll reveal his top secrets for finding fish on the beautiful waters of our beloved local Sacramento Delta!

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

Catered Italian dinner @ 6pm.
For tickets (just $40/ea.) and all the event details, please visit our official website: www.gbflycasters.org.

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

10% of proceeds benefit Casting for Recovery of Northern California
Wow! What a selection of merchandise we had for sale, and purchases resulted in lots of happy members.

This year’s chili cookoff may have been the best ever; we had nine members bring their best chili and work the crowd to vote for their chili. The competition was strong, and while no hanging chads were seen, there was a rumor of absentee ballots! Hmmm…..could that possibly be?

Nonetheless, the BEST CHILI was awarded to Allie Jones (not yet a teenager) who won the contest fair and square with her “Chili, Chili Bang Bang.” Along with this title came one dozen flies. Great job Miss Jones.

The raffle prize winner was David Sterling, who was also awarded one dozen flies. These awards will be presented at the January 2017 general meeting.

Thanks to everyone that made this a fun time.

Conservation Corner

by Mel Odemar, VP Conservation

The December Conservation meeting featured a presentation by Mark Adkison, Ph.D., Statewide Fish Health Coordinator for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Mark was accompanied by Dr. Bill Cox, program manager for hatcheries, and Mark’s boss. The meeting was attended by 16 GBF members.

I requested this presentation in response to concerns by some club members on the numbers of Lake Davis trout with parasitic copepods. There was speculation that the parasite infestation was the result of infected

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Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 5

fish being planted by the Department into Lake Davis. I thought that this would be a good time to educate the club members on fish health in general, and the state’s fish health program in particular.

The Department’s fish health program primary focus is on controlling disease outbreaks in state and private aquaculture operations. They are also responsible for regulating shipments of live fish and shellfish into California. The CDFW Fish Health Program has three laboratories: the Inland Fish Health Laboratory at Rancho Cordova, the Shellfish Health Laboratory at Bodega Bay, and the Marine Fish Health Laboratory in San Diego. In addition to Mark, the staff includes three veterinarians, a research fish pathologist, and a research scientist.

The program’s responsibilities are Statewide, including providing health services for California’s 21 State Fish Hatcheries, all California registered aquaculturists, 30,000 miles of rivers and streams, 4800 lakes and reservoirs, and 1100 miles of coastline.

Their primary concern is dealing with infectious diseases in hatcheries, as they can quickly kill hundreds of thousands of fish, primarily salmon and trout. Parasites in the wild do not pose the threat to fish populations that disease outbreaks in hatcheries do. Although parasitic copepods on fish don’t look good, they do not make them unfit neither for consumption nor do they pose a serious mortality threat.

This brings me to the copepod infestation in Lake Davis. We learned that parasitic copepods are ubiquitous in California waters. In fact, the copepod species most responsible for salmonid infestation in California is Salmincola californiensis. Following the illegal introduction of Northern Pike into Lake Davis, the CDFW treated the lake to eliminate pike, as they posed a serious threat to native salmon populations should they make their way to the Sacramento River. The first treatment was not successful, and the lake was successfully retreated, eliminating the trout and pike populations.

Following treatment of the lake, the Department then started an aggressive replanting program to re-establish the trophy trout fishery. The initial plantings in 2008 totaled over 800,000 fingerlings, sub-catchable, and catchable trout. This unusually high planting of fish was partially in response to local pressure to quickly re-establish a trophy trout fishery. As it turned out, this mega planting of fish fostered the increase in the copepod population. With a large number of compatible hosts—e.g. rainbow trout, and favorable environmental conditions in Lake Davis, copepods thrived. Since 2008, the planting of fish has been significantly reduced, and as fish plantings have declined, there are fewer but larger fish, and fewer copepods. I have not heard of any club members seeing parasitized fish this year.

All in all, the re-establishment of a trophy trout fishery in Lake Davis has been a success. Annual average rainbow trout lengths captured during electroshocking surveys have increased from 13.3 inches in 2009, to 17.6 inches in 2015. The average fish lengths are steadily increasing, so we can expect larger fish in the future. Those are nice fish in anyone’s book.

Mississippi Redfish Trip

by David Jones

Actually, Mississippi is a misnomer. An intrepid group of 10 fisher-people took a four-hour cruise from Biloxi into the Louisiana marshes off New Orleans. We were rewarded with tons (figuratively) of big, healthy Redfish, and a number of Spotted Sea Trout. The fly of the fish’s choice was a small Chartreuse-and-White Clouser. We tried to cast away from the alligators, so really don’t know what they were taking.

John Hogg is happy

Jack Ramos’ first

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On the trip, we were plied with some of the best southern cooking one could hope for. Red beans and rice, fried fish, biscuits, fish chowder, grits, fish pasta sauce, spicy something, more fish… you get the idea. We lived on the 72-foot boat, and the accommodations were more than reasonable. The only issue being the height of the bunks. If you had larger than a 33-inch waist, or were taller than 5’ 8”, you were mightily challenged to crawl into one of the upper bunks. A couple of folks determined that sleeping in the lounge and putting up with the ridicule, and people watching football, was a small price to pay to avoid the embarrassment (and hospitalization) associated with getting into and out of the bunks.

Bottom line is that if you get a chance to fish Louisiana/Mississippi for Redfish, take it. Hopefully, it will create a lifelong memory for you as well.

Mike Howes stretching his fish
Sunset in the marsh
Here’s to tomorrow
View from the drone
Great Raffle Prizes

At each year’s Annual Dinner, club member contributions make a huge difference—whether it’s donated merchandise or services, or just pitching in some extra funds to help the raffle committee buy more prizes (usually at ‘wholesale’ or other discounted prices).

Please consider donating something for the Annual Dinner in March. Our success at collecting raffle and auction items is directly related to our success at raising the funds to pay for club activities in the year ahead. Contribute now and you’ll benefit all year!

Here are some of the kinds of things that club members have donated in years past:

- New, unused merchandise – fishing-related or otherwise.
- Flies you tied (favorite or specialty pattern?) in a flybox.
- Other handcrafted goods – fishing-related or otherwise.
- Professional services – in gift certificate or coupon form.
- Funds specifically designated for the purchase of prizes.

Getting any ideas? If you can help, please contact John Hogg at johnhogg03@gmail.com. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donators are duly acknowledged at the dinner.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

by Don Whitecar, 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.

Dave and Debbie Krizman

Trinity River Fishout Report

by Corley Phillips

Six brave souls faced the cold to target Steelhead on the Trinity River Dec 4-6. If you were out early in the morning, you had to deal with ice forming on your guides!

Four of us kicked things off during the drive up with a debrief at Granzella’s, a convenient breakfast stop along the way. The other two were anxious, and were already in Weaverville. That day Dennis Baker proved you CAN catch a steelhead from the bank, at the bridge hole, and went on to catch a second one from a guided drift boat the next day (pictured on next page).

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Trinity River Fishout Report - Continued from Page 8

Our base of operations was the 49er Gold Country Inn, in Weaverville. The Inn treated us well and upgraded us all to adjoining deluxe rooms. Dinner the first night was at the Trinity Alps Restaurant, located at the golf course, a short drive from the 49er Gold Country Inn. Guide Peter Santley joined us and gave the group some good tips. Dinner the second night was a short walk to the Nugget.

The predominant technique was fishing rubber-legs and nymphs under an indicator, as the water was too cold for swinging. Several half-pounders were caught during the fishout, but the only other adult (beside Dennis’ two) was by Michael Gervais from a guided drift boat. The locals complained that the Hoopa Tribe had kept their nets up longer than the multi-tribe agreement allowed and had taken many of the early run steelhead.

A word of caution for those planning to camp while visiting the Trinity. One of our group parked his camper at the Steiner Flat Primitive Campground, and his generator was stolen while he was out fishing.

Mark your calendars for Dec 3-5, 2017 for the next Fishout. We’ll be basing that one out of the Indian Creek Lodge. We discovered some great new spots that we will share with next year’s group!

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer’s Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in January 2013)

Fly Patterns - Jimmy Legs Stonefly Nymph

Materials:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hook:</th>
<th>Dai Riki 700B bent-shank hook; or any heavy streamer hook, bent to shape, #6-10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thread:</td>
<td>Brown or dark olive 6/0 or 140 denier flat nylon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight:</td>
<td>.015 weight wire, wound around the shank beginning at the hook point and continuing up the shank to about 2 eye-widths behind the hook eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tail:</td>
<td>Olive/rust Flex-Floss or similar product (not knotted)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legs:</td>
<td>Same as tail, but pre-knotted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body:</td>
<td>Brown medium size chenille, or other color of choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antennae:</td>
<td>Same as tail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jimmy Legs Stonefly Nymph

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Description

The big, ugly Jimmy Legs fly is the very definition of “motion” as it cruises through the water column. The legs are, I’m sure, the strike trigger for hungry trout during spring stonefly hatches. Hot on the tail of my own Stick Caddis pattern (but still behind), this bug has, in the last few years, brought big numbers of large canyon trout to the net. It can be tied in black for the “salmon fly” (Pteronarctys) hatch; in an amber shade for the Golden Stonefly hatch; and in various other colors for other species. I’m constantly reminded that clean, pocket-water streams with plenty of dissolved oxygen are home to stoneflies all year long, and fish will eat them even during other insect hatches.

For this reason, my canyon boxes always contain Jimmy Legs Stonefly Nymphs in various colors and sizes. The fly is bonehead easy to tie and utilizes simple, inexpensive, and readily available materials. One quirky point, from a fly tyer’s viewpoint, is that you will either need to buy a specialty hook—one that has a downward bend in the shank at about the front 1/3 point—or bend a regular streamer hook yourself. Another factor in tying this fly is weight—it’s a grenade, sporting a shank covered with .015 weight wire (I prefer the non-lead variety).

In canyon water, I use this fly on a short-line rig in two situations: swiftly flowing, stream-swelling spring melt flows that deepen summertime’s shallow spots; and the occasional deep slot or pool found between shallower pocket water stretches. In both of these situations, I don’t hesitate to off the small tidbits and bend on a big morsel such as a Jimmy Legs. I’ve seen many an angler exhibit reluctance to do so just because it is “trouble” and consumes time. That can be a big mistake because in canyon streams, those places are where the largest specimens abide.

A final point regarding choice of chenille and leg material color: In my experience, the medium brown chenille color combined with olive/rust Flex-Floss material, works best overall. Variegated chenille in brown/yellow and dark olive/black colors also work well. Why use Flex-Floss instead of solid rubber leg material? I recently read that the transparency of the former material, together with the motion it creates, are the strike triggers. That sounds credible enough to me. The tail and antennae are not knotted, while the four legs that protrude from the body are indeed knotted. An excellent U-Tube video tying demonstration for the Jimmy Legs can be found at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgC4cp64N70.

To be productive, the fly must drift close to the bottom, since that’s generally where stoneflies are located, whether scurrying about on the rocks, or caught up in the drift.

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. Let’s prepare a bit for this pattern; it will save time and save you some stress. First, cut enough Flex-Floss strands for a half dozen flies; for this, you will need 12 leg pieces (we will cut these in half), and 6 pieces for antennae and tails (we will also cut these in half). Second, unless you have purchased a specialty hook, debarb six standard 2x or 3x long streamer hooks and bend each of them downward a bit at about the 1/3 point behind the hook eye. Third, cut six pieces of chenille, each 4” long. Finally, cut the Flex-Floss leg pieces in half, and tie an overhand knot in each piece at about the 1/3 point, and cut the tail/antennae pieces in half. Set these aside for now.

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Fly Tyer’s Corner - Continued from Page 10

2. Place the debarbed and bent hook in your vise and cover the shank with .015 weight wire, beginning at the hook point and ending about 2 eye widths behind the hook eye.

3. Tie the thread onto the shank and cover the weight wire with a flat layer of thread, leaving the thread at the rear of the hook.

4. Wrap one of the tail/antennae Flex-Floss pieces around the thread, even up the ends, and tie this piece in at the back end of the shank. It should be placed so that it forms a “v” facing to the rear, and the two tails should be even in length.

5a. Strip one end of a piece of chenille and tie it on in front of the tail.

5b. Wrap it once behind the tail, and then come forward with close, tight wraps to the point where the hook bends. Tie it off there but don’t cut it off, just move it rearward and out of the way for the next step.

6. Tie in two of the knotted legs by placing them together on top of and perpendicular to the shank directly in front of the chenille, using a figure-eight technique. Straighten and even them after a few wraps and then add tightening wraps. Move the thread to the hook eye.

7. Wrap the chenille once behind the legs, and once between them to separate the pairs; then cross to the front of the legs and wrap once in front of them. Tie off the chenille again with a thread wrap or two, but don’t trim it yet. You should now have a bit of space between the front of the chenille and the hook eye for the next step.
Fly Tyer’s Corner - Continued from Page 11

8. Wrap one of the tail/antennae Flex-Floss pieces around the thread, even up the ends, and tie this piece in directly behind the hook eye. It should be placed so that it forms a “v” facing to the front, and the two Antennae should be even in length. It’s important to make sure that the Flex-Floss stays on top of the hook and doesn’t move down the side of the shank.

Step 8

9. Take a couple of wraps of chenille in front of the legs and behind the hook eye, and tie the chenille off. Whip finish, and add a tiny drop of superglue to the thread wraps. Don’t get glue on the Flex-Floss, as it will cause the floss to kink and distort.

Don’t drop one of these on your big toe—they are heavy....See ya on the creek!

Step 9 and completed fly

When you open your fly box, listen for the meme. If you don’t hear it, tie on a Copper John or some other nymph and...

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 http://gbflycasters.org for information on club fishouts, conservation projects, classes & clinics, and other activities that support our mission.

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.” All ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month’s Leader.
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 http://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 http://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, contact Don Whitecar at 916-804-5394, or visit the website at http://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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Officer positions are for one year unless indicated.

http://gbflycasters.org