

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

August 2018

<http://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

by Wendell Edwards, GBF President



Greetings,

During this **HOT** July weather I've been fishing some of our higher lakes, and noticed that these lakes have a good supply of cool water. That should get us through this summer and great fall fly fishing.

Our speaker this month will be Lance Gray. Details of Lance's presentation can be [found elsewhere in The Leader](#).

**Eric Palmer** and **Don Whitecar** are always updating our website, and new articles are frequently being posted in the Library folder. This is a great resource for our members, so please check it out. Thanks guys.

We are about half way through our scheduled 2018 fishouts. Check the website [gbflycasters.org](http://gbflycasters.org) for complete details. For August, we have the following:

Aug. 15 Discovery Bay

Aug. 17 Prosser Lake

Aug. 18 Truckee River

Fly tying jam with **Jim Holmes**: August 14, starting time is 6:30 PM at the Folsom Lake Activity Center.

Get with your friends and go fishing!

## Monthly Program



Lance Gray

Our speaker this month, **Lance Gray**, will address streamer fishing, and how, once understood, it can increase your fishing success.

To quote Lance: "Streamer fishing has become a tactic that recently has been pigeon holed only for big nasty fish; which is bad, because all fish of every size eat streamers. Fish eat other fish. It is the way their world works. They also eat sculpins, crayfish, tadpoles and other big protein meals.

We cover the latest in streamer tactics, equipment, rigging and flies. We also break down water and match the tactics needed for that water. We will have the equipment at the presentation for members to get hands-on experience. This presentation is animated to fully understand the what, how and why of streamer fishing."

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AUGUST 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	8.	9. Monthly Meeting	10.	11.
12.	13.	14.	15. Discovery Bay Fishout	16.	17. Prosser Reservoir Fishout	18. Truckee River Fishout
19.	20.	21. Fly Tying Jam	22.	23.	24.	25.
26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	

### Prosser Creek Reservoir Fishout, August 17<sup>th</sup>

*by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader*

Prosser Creek Reservoir is new to our stillwater list of fishouts; it is located just outside of Truckee off Hwy 89 north. At the first traffic circle, turn right on Prosser Creek Dam Road to the lake where we will meet just off the road in the Alder Creek Cove Area to launch our tubes. There are other areas and boat launches at, or near the campgrounds.

The surface temps are starting to warm up, and as a result, fish are moving deeper into the water column. For trout, go early or late in the day. When the trout quit eating, then switch to smallmouth bass. Smallmouth love trout flies, and any that I mentioned for the Truckee River will work. Indicator nymphing and sinking lines will get you down in the zone. Early and late in the day, try a Stimulator on the surface.

All of the bugs are hatching, and now that the water has eased, we should begin to see some fish looking up. Caddis, Little Yellow Stones, and various Mayflies are on the menu. Dry Dropper and Nymphing Techniques are working the best. For Dries, try Caddis 14-16, E/C Caddis 14/16, Stimulators 10-14, Ants 10-14, Humpies 12-16, Green Drake 10, Green Drake Cripples 10, BWO's 14-18, Little Yellow Stones 14 and Midges 16-18. For nymphs, Pats Rubber Legs 10, Poxyback Golden Stones 8-10, Little Yellow Stones 12-14, Copper Johns 10-16, Micro May 16-18, SJW's, Pheasant tails 14-18, Flashback PT's 14-18, Hares ears 12-16, and Princes 10-16.

This lake is a 5 MPH reservoir, with more kayakers and paddle boarders than any other watercraft. Fishing pressure is light, but should produce some trout or bass action for us. It is always fun to try new locations and not the same old places time after time. If you have a venue that you would like to share, set up a fishout and let's go fishing.

Doug Kytonen, [travelmaster@surewest.net](mailto:travelmaster@surewest.net)

## Discovery Bay Fishout, August 15<sup>th</sup>

*by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader*

It is that time again for some Striper Action. Stripers have moved in, and are entering the American River for some local action. We will again travel to Discovery Bay for a day of fishing for Stripers, Largemouth Bass, Crappie, and Red Ear/Blue Gills. Discovery Bay is located on the south side of Stockton off of Highway 4, and is a protected residential development on the water with huge houses with private docks.

There is a long, rock jetty that goes out to the delta entrance of the community—all great for bass fishing. This is all a 5 MPH zone, so it is great for float tube and pontoon boats to fish from. There is a tide, but little-to-no current unless you go out to the entrance and right side of the little light house, and then you will fight the current.

Fishing can be great because you have a variety of species to target, with all being great little fighters. There is also a chance of hooking a large striper or LMB over 5 pounds. This is our first trip of the year, with our main trip on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day, where we target more on the stripers in the bay. I will be monitoring the waters with the harbor master at Discovery Bay for the dreaded Blue Green Algae that can form in the stagnant water areas of the bay. If this does occur, there is an alternate location planned where they have weekly/weekend LMB tournaments that we can change to if needed. I have not fished it yet, but it looks good, and is on the Delta by Frank's Tract. I plan to check it out prior to our fishout in case we need an alternate. Look forward to seeing all of you on this annual and successful fishout.

Doug Kytonen, [travelmaster@surewest.net](mailto:travelmaster@surewest.net)

## Rancho Seco One Fly Contest, September 8<sup>th</sup>

*by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader*

Fishing at Rancho Seco can be exciting with a variety of fish to catch: trout, bass, bluegill and crappie. There are many coves to work from one end of the lake to the other. The lake is great for float tubing, as no gas motors are allowed on the lake. Bring your tube, pontoon or pram. There aren't a lot of shore or wading locations, but there are some piers scattered around the lake to fish from.

A 5-6 wt. rod with floating or intermediate line, with wiggle tails, woolly buggers or streamers are you best bet. With the warm weather we're having it can be a great lake for top-water bass fishing early and late in the day. There are nice RV camping spaces if you want to stay over and get an early start, or stay late and fish the evening. RV camping fees are \$25-\$40, based on the season—check their [website](#). Day use is \$12/\$15 with a car-top boat or pontoon.

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*Rancho Seco One Fly Contest - Continued from page 3*

Park hours: 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**Directions:** The most direct way to get there is Sunrise Blvd. south to Hwy 16 east, 2nd signal right turn on Dillard Rd., left on Clay Station Rd. to the end intersecting with Hwy 104, turn left to Rancho Seco Park.

I will be at the first boat ramp just to meet everyone at 8:30 AM. You can launch there, or go across the dam to the second ramp, or take the gravel road to the east end of the lake and launch from shore. As always, bring a Walkie Talkie on Ch.6 to keep in touch. See you there.

Doug Kytonen, [travelmaster@surewest.net](mailto:travelmaster@surewest.net)

## Umpqua River Smallmouth

*by Mel Odemar*

A group of us, lead by **Sturmer White**, revisited the Umpqua River in Central Oregon on the quest for smallmouth bass. We made the same trip last year, but this year we were not chased off the river by 100 plus degree temperatures we experienced last year. Included in the trip were **Mike Howes, John Peterson, Larry Lee, Art Hawkins, Tom DiLallo, Ted Way, Steve** and **Joan Reems, Jack Ramos** and his son, **Gary**, and myself. We fished July 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> out of the 2,500-acre Big K Ranch that controls 18 miles of river-side access to the lower Umpqua



*Drifting for Smallmouth Bass*

River. As was found last year, surface poppers and gurglers were not productive, but weighted nymphs and plastic worms worked very well. Yes, I said plastic worms. On the advice of our guide and Sturmer, my fishing partner, Ted and I slipped over a bit to the dark side and, though not everyone was convinced to do so, the drifting and stripping of worms is very effective. Most of the fishing was a version of short-line nymphing, but the grabs were much more frequent and stronger than we are used to when stream fishing for trout. The fish weren't as large as I encountered last year, but there were a few three-pound-plus fish in the mix, and for a smallie, that can be a real hoot.

The Umpqua is known as a premier salmon and steelhead river, yet it holds a huge resident population of non-native smallmouths. The reason that the anadromous salmonids and the resident smallmouths can coexist, is that the Umpqua is not controlled by large upstream dams, which means that when the smolts are migrating downstream in the spring, the river is so large the smolts can largely escape predation.

The counting of fish was irrelevant, but it is safe to say that we caught somewhere between a whole lot and a bunch of smallies. As I said last year, fly fishing is about tugs, bent rods, and good times with friends, and we had it all.





## "Try Float Tubing" Clinic Report

*by Michael Kaul*

We recently held the second annual "Try Float Tubing" clinic at Fuller Lake on June 30<sup>th</sup>. There were 14 club members new to tubing who came out to try this very enjoyable and relaxing aspect of our sport. They got to see and experience the gear involved, and there was a large cross section of it due to the generosity of experienced tubers in the club. We had an assortment of fins, tubes, lines and flies for the participants to see and use. We started with pairing up people with the gear (a huge thank you to my wife Sandy who handled most of that), then a short session on basics and safety, and we hit the water.



*Class begins*

Unfortunately, the morning was pretty windy and a little tough for a first cruise in a tube, but the wind soon died down, and it was a very nice day. The fish could have been a bit more cooperative,



*A tuber's kit; one of everything*

but there were some grabs. One big highlight for a lucky first-timer was a special raffle of a float tube donated to the club by **Debbie Norman**. I am very much looking forward to doing this clinic again next year.



*Many tube choices*

## Welcome to Our Newest Members!

*by Eric Palmer  
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.

Rick Garner

Diana Lilienthal

Heather Grigsby

Valerie McKay

Margo and Fred Stuessy



## Little Things: Tippet Rings and Tiny Swivels

*by Ralph Cutter*

(This article first appeared in the February 2013 *California Fly Fisher's* "Under the Alders" column by Ralph and Lisa Cutter. It is re-published here with permission of the author.)

I HELD THE MUG AT EYE LEVEL and watched steam from the coffee meld with wisps of fog rising from the twinkling, frost-encrusted tules. It was a cheap psychedelic thrill. Every now and then I would break the spell to glance down at the tuft of wool floating quietly on the glassy water. Tendrils of ice were climbing up the wool fibers. A single goose flew frantic laps above the lake and incessantly called for its lost mate. Midge larvae were wriggling just beneath the water's surface. Perhaps they sensed the lake was getting close to freezing and were hoping to drift over deeper water, where they could descend into the safety of cold, but not frozen mud. Little red worms were dancing for their lives at the break of day, a widowed goose was calling, and I was sipping coffee while waiting for a bite. Sometimes it isn't the major events, but the collage of little things that create the richest experiences.

I had rigged a tuft of orange wool at the tip of the leader and along the leader had strung three naked red Gamakatsu hooks. The wisp of wool bobbed on the lake's surface, as did the floating fly line. The leader, suspended between the wool and the floating line, held the hooks in trot-line fashion just beneath the film. It was as simple as it was effective.

Not too long ago, a fly-fishing rig was defined as a three-part system consisting of a fly line, a tapered leader, and a fly. Today, you can easily incorporate a dozen components into the system or remove parts altogether. As fly fishing has become increasingly complex and technical, it has also become increasingly removed from the traditional definition of fly fishing. That is neither a good thing or a bad thing. It is simply a thing.

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*Little Things - Continued from page 6*

Some nymph and streamer leaders have become simplified to the extreme. For decades, we agonized over and tweaked leader taper formulas that might allow us to turn over weighted flies with the same finesse as dry flies. Except for leader manufacturers, who have a vested interest in selling every possible permutation of leaders possible, I feel the collective fly-fishing community has come to accept that weighted flies, by virtue of being weighted, turn themselves over just fine without the need of a special taper. Not only do they turn over just fine, but they sink more quickly when the tippet is a uniform, relatively thin diameter, rather than a tapered leader that is resistant to sinking and readily pushed around by currents. My go-to high-stick leader "formula" is a short piece of 15-pound monofilament and single strand (perhaps 7 to 9 feet) of 4X or 5X tippet material, connected together with a tippet ring.

Tippet ring? Most fly fishers have never heard of a tippet ring, and even fewer yet have used one. Last summer, Lisa and I traveled throughout the West and went out of our way to visit as many fly shops as possible. Fewer than half carried tippet rings. I was dumbfounded. These little things have changed the way I fish, and over the past half a dozen years, I've evolved from being a user, to a believer, to an evangelist... they are fantastic!

A tippet ring is an itsy bitsy ring of soldered silver or welded steel or nickel alloy. They were designed for finesse fishing in Europe and only fairly recently have they become incorporated in American fly fishing. A tippet ring is so tiny and light that it will float. It is so small that it is guaranteed to be as good as gone should you drop one; therefore, I store mine stacked on a small safety pin and tie the leader onto the ring before sliding it off the pin.

You will be absolutely unaware that the ring is on your leader. At a minimum, a tippet ring has a breaking strength of 15 pounds, which means that any normal freshwater tippet will break long before the ring. The tippet ring can perform many functions, but its basic job is to create a junction between the leader and tippet. On a traditional leader, the monofilament is extruded into a taper or stepped down from the butt with a series of Blood or Surgeon's Knots until the desired tippet diameter is reached. These knots work fine, but can bridge a change of only a few thousandths of an inch in diameter between strands of mono.

The tippet ring does away with all this malarkey. In one fell swoop, you can tie a 7X tippet directly to a butt section. The knot (usually a Trilene, Uni, or Improved Clinch) tied to the ring is far stronger than any monofilament-to-monofilament knot. Many commercially braided or furred leaders come with built-in tippet rings. There is no reason in the world why you can't take your own favorite tapered leader and add a tippet ring to the point where the taper stops and the tippet begins. Using a tippet ring, one leader should easily last a season. The ring will pay for itself many times over from savings on tapered leaders alone.

Tippet rings make great weight and strike-indicator stops. If you have a problem with slipping split shot or sliding bobicators, tie in a tippet ring just down-leader of them. Tippet rings are also the

*Continued on Page 8*



*Joining 10 lb. bulk mono to 4x tippet*

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*Little Things - Continued from page 7*

best way I know to tie right-angle droppers. In the floating trot-line system mentioned earlier, the leader was nothing more than 9 feet of 3X mono with three tippet rings tied in a couple of feet apart. From each ring was a short tag of 5X monofilament and a "fly" (okay, a bare hook). Some folks have suggested that the shiny silver finish of the rings might spook fish. I've yet to experience that, but in anticipation of the time when it might happen, there are a few on the safety pin that have been darkened with a Sharpie pen.

ONLY A SHORT HOP UP the evolutionary ladder from the tippet ring is the micro swivel. If only 50 percent of the fly shops carry tippet rings, fewer than 5 percent carry micro swivels. Spro is a brand name, and I generally avoid promoting one brand over another unless there is a distinct difference in quality. As far as I know, Spro is the only company making micro swivels anywhere near this quality, so there's no conflict here.

A #10 Spro Power Swivel is only marginally larger than a tippet ring. It has a matte black finish and a minimum breaking strength of 35 pounds. I started using them to prevent leader twist when swimming articulated striper flies, but after a few successful experiences, I quickly began experimenting with trout-sized stuff. I am now totally sold on their utility when tossing hoppers, mice, and other large bugs that have a mind of their own. Out-winged flies such as damsels and large parachutes have a nasty habit of helicoptering and twisting the leader. These tiny swivels completely neutralize any leader twist.

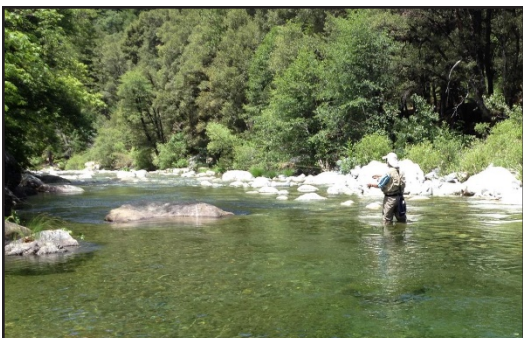
When using these swivels, I have noticed a distinct difference in the behavior of large nymphs, too. Traditionally fished big or heavily weighted nymphs strike a hydrodynamic balance between the leader and current and drift in a very static state that reminds me of Al Gore giving a speech. A nymph under a swivel twists and rolls much more like a living creature.

Frequently it is the little things that make a difference. Give the little ring and swivels a try. I am certain they will earn a permanent, if not tiny spot in your tackle bag.

## July North Yuba Fishout

*by Eric Palmer*

Over the July 6-8 weekend, ten GBF'ers attended our 2018 N. Yuba fishout on the wild trout section just below Sierra City. Some camped at local campgrounds, while others bunked at Herrington's Lodge in Sierra City where we also took dinners Friday and Saturday nights, and for some breakfast too. We found the place more than satisfactory, and the food and service excellent.



Weather was perfect, with flows cold and ideal for trout, while low enough to allow relatively easy wading and crossings as occasionally required to reach better prospects on the far side. While the N. Yuba can present a challenge in wading and rock hopping, I prefer to view it as an opportunity for some really good exercise and more. Were one to fish the river often, agility and balance would surely improve greatly, along with the psychological benefits from the exquisite scenery and solitude.

*Henry Sandigo working his dry fly*

The North Yuba can be a fickle stream, often yielding choppy results—great in the morning, dead in the afternoon, then red hot with dries just before dark, and then tomorrow the opposite. The trick is to cover lots of water, change flies often, and be prepared to lose a lot of rigs to the river bottom and the brush. And, of course, you'll spend time teasing out knotty tangles (pun intended) resulting from an over energetic cast with 2 or 3 flies and several split shot. Or, as Bill Carnazzo

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*July North Yuba Fishout - Continued from page 8*

would often admonish, "Just cut it off and start over." But, that's fly fishing folks. If we wanted "easy" we'd still be drowning night crawlers while sipping our Bud Lite from a folding lawn chair on the bank, right?



*New member, Jerry Furlong, working on his short-line nymphing*

**Ron Davidson**, perhaps, got the biggest at 10 inches Friday, followed by 5 smaller fish the next day. **Jack Truschel**, up with a friend for just Friday, landed 5 fish on the same flies others found success with: **a flashback pheasant tail, A.P. nymph**, and **a bead head Hare's Ear**. Good general purpose flies all, for most streams we fish. Others managed in the

In spite of the challenges this stream presents, most did pretty well in the catching department, or at least "good enough," and at least one fellow did pretty darn well. **Kim Lloyd** was rewarded for his extra efforts in both staying out late one night to fish dries while we were sipping our IPAs back at the lodge—and arriving for dinner literally with 0.00 seconds to spare—and in plodding much farther up-river than others cared to. That night on dries, Kim landed 5-6, and the next morning 4 fish on nymphs, including one double. That's one on his dropper and a second on the bottom fly at the same time!



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*Dinner at Herrington's*

*July North Yuba Fishout - Continued from page 9*

middle-to-low single digits, and fish were on average below 10 inches. A fish I lost while straddling a large boulder had to be pushing 11 inches if not 12, but you'll have to trust me on that one 😊. The N. Yuba is not noted for large fish, but it's the challenge and unparalleled beauty of the place that draws us back.

Meals and end-of-the-day "happy hour" were at Herrington's Lodge, where the beyond generous portions competed with the camaraderie, laughs and good stories to bring each day to a very pleasant end. Watch the FBF fishout schedule next year for a repeat of this outing in 2019.

## "Ladies Only" Casting Clinic A Success

*by John Hogg, Casting Chair*

On Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, six of our female members attended the club's first ever Ladies Only Casting Clinic. We met at Sierra Gardens Park in Rocklin around 6:00 PM, and the feedback was – "Let's have some more!"

The focus was on a couple of the key fundamental casting principles:

First: line follows rod tip direction

Second: energy stored in the rod is transmitted by a sudden stop, not by the amount of force used in the casting stroke.

Able assistance was provided by **Sturmer White**, and **Jim Holmes**.

The next Ladies clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, at John's pond. Our goal will be a 40-foot roll cast on the water.

If interested, ladies can contact me by email—please use your personal email address so I can put you in a Contact Group for future emails.

My email is [johnhogg03@gmail.com](mailto:johnhogg03@gmail.com)

## Conservation Corner

*by Dave Fujiyama, VP Conservation*

### "Strike...Strike...STR-I-I-I-IKE!"

Do you remember your first trout? That unforgettable flash of green and red as it tail-walked across the pond? Your shaking hands as you fumbled the hook from its mouth? The indelible sense of wonder and joy as it skittered water droplets all over you as it bolted home? And the bubbling excitement at anticipating what could happen on your next cast?

It's good to be a kid with a fishing rod, right? Even better when school is 3 months away, and your first trout has just inhaled the wooly bugger you tied 10 minutes ago!

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, the Truckee Chapter of Trout Unlimited hosted ten enthusiastic youngsters at the 2018 Trout Camp near Squaw Valley. From GBF, **Mel Odemar** and **Dave Fujiyama** volunteered to help out this year, and were joined by many notable flycasters, including **Doug Ouellette**. We all agreed



*Continued on Page 11*



*Conservation Corner - Continued from page 10*

after all the netting, whooping and hollering, that there are remarkably large rainbows in the golf course ponds, and at Sawmill Lake.

Most of the trout were taken on small nymphs suspended under Thingamabobbers. You remember the first trout you caught on an indicator, right? We all shared the same paralysis when that silly orange bobber twitched, your adult guide screamed in your ear "Strike...Strike...STR-I-I-I-IKE!" and your rod doubled over-fish on! That's the same story these kids will be telling their grandchildren in 50 years.

**Mayfly or stonefly?** To prepare kids for on-stream success, Michaela and Tom from TU Truckee provided graphics to teach insect anatomy. Doug Ouellette led a workshop on tying reliable knots, Sam Sedillo from TU Truckee supervised the in-stream macroinvertebrate assay, and all the adult "guides" coached new casters on the finer points of roll casts, tight loops and wind knots!

**Check out my bumblebee woolly bugger!** The two-day camp included hands-on tutorials in fly-tying. Despite a pesky wind that repeatedly scattered our tying materials all over the table, the kids overcame the challenge and successfully crafted dry flies, nymphs, and streamers. **Dan LeCount** brought his skills as a guide to the table and helped kids to build fish-catching woolly buggers and nymphs. He extended the lesson by introducing conservation issues, and highlighted why we mash down barbs or buy barbless hooks when we create our own flies. There were some mighty creative flies turned out from the vises that day!



In the past, GBF has purchased commercially tied flies to give to the kids. For next year's Youth Trout Camp, I plan to ask for volunteer GBF fly tiers to sign up to tie barbless flies instead. Stay tuned for this opportunity to help!

### The smile says it all!

You remember your first trout on a flyrod: fishing changed your life. Let's pull together to make that happen for more kids! It takes a lot of work to make it all come together. If you have some extra time and are willing to help out next year, please make a notation in your calendar for mid- to late June 2019 for TU Truckee Youth Trout Camp. Get in touch with me (Dave Fujiyama, cell

949-212-1337, email [davefujiyama@gmail.com](mailto:davefujiyama@gmail.com)) in the spring. We can use adult guide volunteers (knot tying, casting, entomology, fly tying, fish handling and release) and pre-trip preparation volunteers (fly tying, barb-mashing, fly-box-filling). It'll give you the opportunity to do the shouting: "Strike...Strike...STR-I-I-I-IKE!"



Let's show the next generation what fly fishing is really all about!

---

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner  
(Taken from the Article Written in August 2009)

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## Fly Patterns - Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle



*Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle*

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### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Tiemco 2457, #14-18
<b>Bead:</b>	Small copper bead to match hook size (e.g. 2mm for #16 and smaller)
<b>Tail:</b>	Partridge, sparsely applied
<b>Thread:</b>	70 denier flat nylon, olive
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Chartreuse wire, extra small
<b>Hackle:</b>	Partridge, tied in soft hackle style
<b>Head:</b>	Fine, small peacock herl

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### Description

No, the fly's name, the Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle, is not a typo. I named it "Peatridge" because two of the main ingredients are partridge and peacock. The "hotwire" part comes from the type of wire used for the abdomen. I am partial to the soft hackle configuration because it can also serve as a nymph—in effect, a two-for-one fly. The soft, wavy hackle appears to be enticing to fish, especially on the swing when the fly rises up in the water column, making it resemble a swimming nymph on the way to emergence.

Of course, all of this is guesswork (albeit somewhat educated), since I've never had the pleasure of interviewing a trout. Let's face it—a good deal of the art of fly tying is more for the pleasure of the angler than anything else. That said, once in awhile we do land on a pattern that really does work. It's at that point that we tyers begin to invent reasons why the fly is effective—there's plenty of pontification out there, for sure. But we really don't know what it is that triggers a trout's instinct—and we'll likely never know.

In any event, this month's pattern is one that does indeed entice trout. Why? Quien sabe, but my guess is that it just looks buggy, and has some motion to it. Not very cerebral, but it's the best I can do. The fly can be tied on any standard nymph hook, but I prefer the "scud" type of hook which allows for a more natural shape to the bug.

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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.

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*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 12**Step 1*

2. Cut a small section of partridge feather barbles; use the feathers that are well-marked. Measure the tail fibers so that they protrude from the rear of the hook approximately 1/8". Tie the bunch in just behind the bead. Hold the bunch up above the hook as you work rearward, ending mid-bend. This technique will keep the bunch right on top of the hook. Leave the thread at the rear, and clip the excess feather behind the bead.

*Step 2**Step 3*

1. Crimp the hook barb and place the bead on the hook. Cover the hook shank with a single, flat layer of thread; extend the thread halfway down the bend of the hook. Move the thread back to behind the eye.

3. At the same point, tie in a 4" section of wire and wrap the thread forward to the back of the bead. Make sure that each layer of thread lies flat in order to avoid build-up of thread which results in a bulky body. Wrap the wire forward in tight turns and tie it off about two hook eye's width behind the bead, thus leaving room for the hackle and the head.

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*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 13*

4. Cut another bunch of partridge—larger than the tail bunch. Measure it with tips pointing rearward, so that the tips extend to the point of the hook. Place it on the hook just ahead of where the wire was tied off, and tie it in using two loose wraps. Pull the thread tight; that should distribute the hackle evenly around the hook. If it looks too sparse, add another bunch, but don't over-do it. Sparse is good.



*Step 4*



*Step 5*

5. Cut two pieces of peacock herl from the eye area of the feather; this part of the feather contains colorful, very small barbules. Tie these two pieces in by their tips and take 3 or 4 wraps. Tie it off and whip finish. Place a tiny drop of superglue on the end of your bodkin, and cement the thread.

## **Tying & Fishing Tips**

1. Keep the fly sparse, and avoid a thick body. Mayfly nymphs are very slender
2. I like to flatten the part of the wire that will be tied in so as to eliminate excessive bulk when building the body. Use flat-nosed pliers for this purpose.
3. Use your bodkin to apply superglue rather than squeezing a drop from the bottle directly onto the fly. Your placement will be much better.
4. I keep a cloth next to my vise for wiping the bodkin clean after each application of superglue to prevent glue buildup on the needle. If you do get buildup, use a lighter to burn the buildup off.

Now, go crank one of these bugs, go fish it, and...as Ryan Miller says, when in doubt....go fish! I live by that simple philosophy.

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



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## 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 a \$12 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, contact Don Whitecar at 916-804-5384, 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 [editor@gbflycasters.org](mailto:editor@gbflycasters.org). Please put **GBF Leader** in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month.

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