

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

September 2018

<http://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

by Wendell Edwards, GBF President

Greetings,

As fall approaches and I realize I'm in the last year of my presidency, I agree with the often repeated saying, "Time flies when you are having fun." So, let's make every minute of the remaining year count.

Are there projects that you think our club should be involved with? Contact me at [wendelledwards@mac.com](mailto:wendelledwards@mac.com) with your ideas. I'll get you on the agenda to present your request.

Have you had great success after learning information or techniques from one of our informative speakers? We'd love to have you share your experience in a short article published in *The Leader*.



Have a speaker you want to hear or a subject presented? Share your ideas with our Program Chair, **Ed Lloyd**, at [edwinlloyd@att.net](mailto:edwinlloyd@att.net).

Our speaker this month will be **Brian Slusser** from [Four Seasons Fly Fishing](#). Details of Brian's presentation can be found here in *The Leader* and on the website.

The annual [1 FLY Fishout](#) is fast approaching on September 8<sup>th</sup>! **Jack Ramos** is preparing a special

*Continued on Page 2*

## Monthly Program



Brian Slusser

Our speaker this month is **Brian Slusser** of [Four Seasons Fly Fishing](#) who has been passionately guiding the Truckee-Tahoe rivers and reservoirs since 1997. He is an Orvis Endorsed Guide, and Fly Fishers International certified casting instructor, and enjoys teaching all types of fly fishing styles from

two-handed rods to Tenkara. Being a one-man show, he specializes in smaller groups, whether for walk and wade trips targeting rainbow and brown trout on local rivers, or on reservoirs for trout and smallmouth bass. His presentation will focus on effectively fishing the Truckee River.

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S E P T E M B E R 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1.
2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8. One Fly Contest
9.	10.	11. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	12.	13. Monthly Meeting	14.	15. Truckee River Fishout
16.	17. Conservation Committee Meeting	18. Fly Tying Jam	19.	20.	21.	22. Little Truckee Fishout
23. /	30. 24.	25.	26.	27.	28. Tenkara Class/Fishout	29. Spey Casting Clinic

Leader's Line - Continued from page 1

OctoberFest luncheon for the event. Don't be left out of this fun outing. Sign up **NOW** by emailing or calling Jack. [bassbug1@comcast.net](mailto:bassbug1@comcast.net) 916-899-7803.

**Thank you Bill and Bev Hagopian**, who have hosted our Twin Lakes Fish Out for several years. They are taking a break this year. Will you step up and lead this fishout? Please contact Doug Kytonen at [travelmaster@surewest.net](mailto:travelmaster@surewest.net).

<b>Sept. 8, 2018</b>	<a href="#"><u>One Fly Contest, Rancho Seco</u></a>	<b>Jack Ramos</b> <a href="mailto:bassbug1@comcast.net"><u>bassbug1@comcast.net</u></a>
<b>Sept. 15, 2018 (Sat)</b>	<a href="#"><u>Truckee River</u></a>	<b>Ed Lloyd</b> <a href="mailto:edwinlloyd@att.net"><u>edwinlloyd@att.net</u></a>
<b>No plans for 2018</b>	<a href="#"><u>Twin Lakes/Bridgeport</u></a>	<b>Fishout Leader Needed</b>
<b>Sept. 22, 2018 (Sat)</b>	<a href="#"><u>Little Truckee</u></a>	<b>Ed Lloyd</b> <a href="mailto:edwinlloyd@att.net"><u>edwinlloyd@att.net</u></a>
<b>Sept. 28, 2018 (Fri)</b>	<a href="#"><u>Tenkara #2 East Carson</u></a>	<b>John Pellegrin</b>

Fly tying jam with **Jim Holmes**: September 18<sup>th</sup>. The starting time is 6:30 PM at the Folsom Lake Activity Center—the same place as our monthly meeting.

Get with your friends and go fishing!

## Conservation Committee Meeting

Our September 17<sup>th</sup> Conservation Committee meeting is open to all GBF members and guests, and will be held at Round Table Pizza, 8755 Sierra College Blvd., Roseville, CA 95661, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. The club provides pizza and salad for all attendees.

Meetings are held every other month, so here's a look-ahead for the dates of future meetings:

Monday Sept 17

Monday Nov 12

Monday Jan 14

Monday March 18

Monday May 13

## Introduction to Spey Casting Clinics Scheduled

For those interested in learning the fundamentals of spey casting, it often comes as a surprise that there are different casts depending on which side of the river the caster is positioned. So we will have two clinics, the first for "River Left" casts, and the second for "River Right."

Time and Location for "River Left" (Roll cast, snap T cast, Single Spey cast)

Gristmill Access to the American River

Saturday, September 29 – 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Time and Location for "River Right" (Roll cast, Double Spey cast, Snake Roll cast)

Sacramento Bar Access to the American River

Saturday, October 6, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Use the following link to get directions: <http://www.regionalparks.saccounty.net/>

What to Bring:

Weather-appropriate wear

Chair

Wading Boots (waders and wading staff is needed)

Spey Rod (optional – the club has three which we will bring).

Water and snack

Please RSVP to John Hogg [johnhogg03@gmail.com](mailto:johnhogg03@gmail.com)



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## Conservation Corner

*by Dave Fujiyama, VP Conservation*

### Here We Go Again!



Do you remember trying to fish the Little Truckee before Trout Unlimited spearheaded the campaign to install rip-rap? There was a paucity of structure to provide trout with holding lies until TU Truckee, Balance Hydraulics, the U.S. Forest Service, Habitat Restoration Sciences, and a committed group of volunteers like you and I got together to reshape the river.

Installing rip-rap across the Little Truckee. Photo accessed 8/5/18 from <http://www.sercal.org/the-latest/2017/9/30/creativity-collaboration-and-cost-effective-solutions-enhancing-fish-habitat-on-a-regulated-river-little-truckee-river-below-stampede-dam-nevada-county-california>

Today, the “LT” can still be an ego-buster, sending us home along I-80, with 90 minutes to process that *What-the-hell-am-I-doing-wrong?* feeling. Despite the occasional fishless days, we all agree that after the restoration, we’re hooking up to more fish, larger fish, and more often than not, they’re holding in those fly-eating pockets where the current swirls under root jams and half-submerged logs. Oh, the LT has cost me dearly in terms of my fly box assets, but I know if I just keep rocketing my tenkara fly into those nasty-grabby root gnarls, she’ll give up a fish to my net, sooner or later—or send me home with an empty flybox!



Eighty-nine trees and 150 boulders were installed in a 1.3 mile stretch of the LT. They deepen pools, create holding lies, and eat flies at the end of your tippet! Accessed with Google Maps on 8/5/18 from <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.4401793,-120.0979534,118m/data=!3m1!1e3?hl=en&authuser=0>

Continued on Page 5



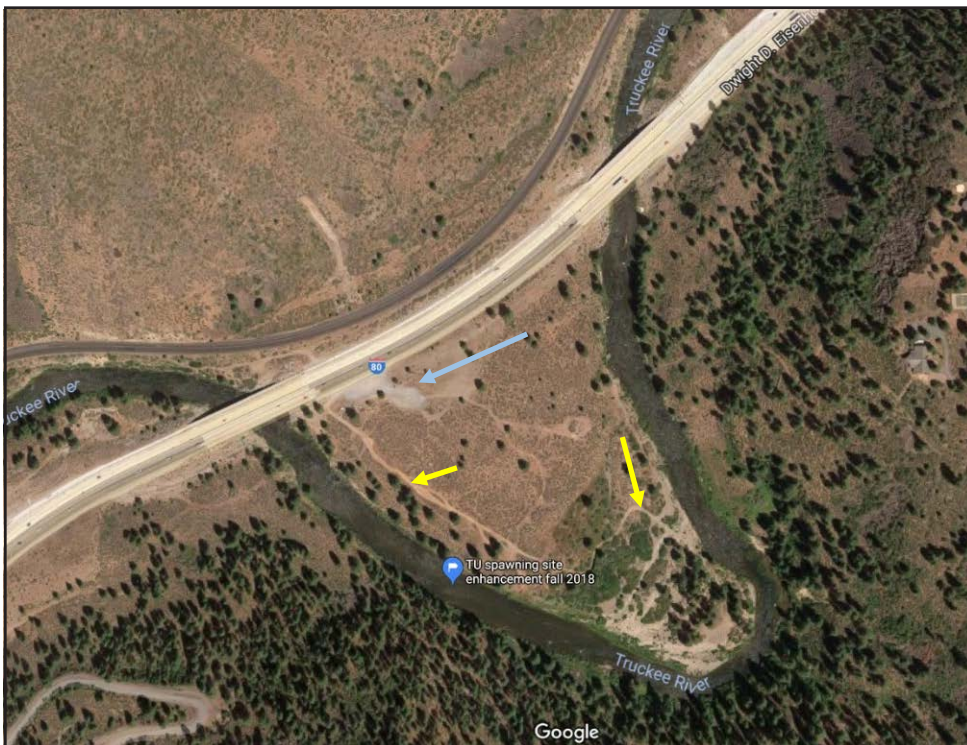
Conservation Corner - Continued from page 4

**Here we go again!** Trout Unlimited Truckee is going to turn a relatively fishless section of the "Big Truckee" into another fly-eating gauntlet, starting in October 2018. This summer Sam Sedillo of TU took me on a walking tour of the "Loop" where, just like in the Little Truckee River, rip-rap will be introduced using heavy equipment and good ol' elbow grease. The goal is to deepen the riffle section across the breadth of the stream, optimize the flux of fine sediment, and increase the growth of macroinvertebrates—it all translates to more fish, and bigger fish! Right now, according to Sam, there are few fish that hold in this section, but after restoration, he expects more successful spawning, and we expect more successful GBF outings!



*This is the upstream boundary of the section that TU Truckee will install rip-rap to improve spawning opportunities, and trophy trout fly-fishing.*

This aerial photograph shows the "Loop" where TU will focus its efforts starting in October 2018. This section lies between the Truckee's confluences with Prosser Creek, and with that of the LT. The two yellow arrows identify illegal but unposted access roads paralleling the river. These rough 4x4 access points encourage erosion, and will be blocked with boulders to prevent further damage. The blue arrow indicates a legal parking lot that will remain accessible. There is no formal off-ramp to this parking lot; once you cross the bridge, be prepared for a quick exit onto a dirt shoulder.



Let's get behind this one! Your Granite Bay Flycasters committed \$2,000 to support this major project this year (we voted on this at the May 2018 Conservation Committee meeting). We've grown to love the Little Truckee, despite her occasional reluctance to relinquish her fabled 20" rainbows and browns. We owe the growth of those prized fish to the efforts of many who likewise love this water.

Now, let's pull together to improve the "Big Truckee" for both fish and flyrodders! We would like to see you sign up to help us on the "Big Truckee" this fall. Stay tuned...updates will be posted on our GBF calendar! Fish on!

TU plans to upgrade this section to enhance holding lies and spawning habitat. Accessed with Google Maps on 8/5/18 from <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.3745571,-120.1047492,813m/data=!3m1!1e3?hl=en&authuser=0>



## Recent Fishout Reports

*by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader*

### Discovery Bay:

Fishing was slow, with 1 striper, some bluegill and 1 catfish caught. Only 3 people showed up. The weather was great, could not have asked for a better day to be out. For a week day, the harbor was busy with a lot of boats coming in and going out, mostly with waterskis and wakeboards. Saw 2 boats with fishermen going out, and that was about it.

### Prosser Creek Reservoir:

Same thing—only 3 members showed up—Thank you guys for participating. Again, it was slow, with a few hits. **Wendell** was the winner that day, with a nice rainbow and a good sized bass. Wendell went to the far side of the cove where we launched, and wind drifted back when it came up about noon. I saw a lot of rises when we first arrived. I have come to the conclusion that Prosser is a very early and late type of lake to be successful fly fishing. With cooler weather, I might try it again, but at the crack of dawn, and see how that works.

## 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: [editor@gbflycasters.org](mailto:editor@gbflycasters.org). All ads must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.*

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## 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.

Jon Fischer

Bill Hollister (returning from 2012)

Stephen Royal

Dan Ward

## Tragedy on American Creek

*by John Hogg*

No, this is not our American River, rather the American Creek that runs for about 45 miles in Katmai National Park at the southern end of Lake Iliamna, Alaska. "Creek" is really a misnomer, as this river runs from 100 to 200 feet in width for most of its length. Five years ago, my son Robby and I booked a trip through a local lodge—we signed up for a 6-day float. The lodge provided a 14-foot raft outfitted with an oar frame, camping gear (including three tents), food, and an experienced guide. The lodge dropped us off via float plane at the headwaters, and we indeed floated for 6 days, landed countless rainbows and char, and saw nary a sign of human existence until the plane picked us up.

Our guide, Jon, was the key to a wonderful experience. The first night he patiently worked with us for an hour to set up camp (on the last day, we could set up in 20 minutes). We averaged 5-10 miles a day in the raft, loaded with not only 3 adults, but all the camping gear, clothing, sleeping bags and food, that when loaded, formed a mound filling the back of the raft, which was so huge that its top was higher than Jon's head. The loaded raft, with us in it, probably weighed 1500-1700 pounds.

Our float was uneventful, but obstacles like sweepers, submerged rocks and a few rapids, required Jon's full and constant attention, and had to be anticipated well in advance due to the weight and sluggishness of the raft. Jon's skills made it a piece of cake. He was a master rafter.

Early this summer, another party of three took to American Creek—they weren't so lucky. Even though it was late in June, the snow melt had still not finished, and the runoff made the river run very high and very fast. The churning waters soon overwhelmed the raft and it flipped, throwing men and gear into the 40-degree frigid water. Two of the party made it out of the river, reaching opposite banks of the river after floating downstream for several miles and suffering many painful encounters with boulders, logs, and other flotsam.

Fortunately for the survivors, another trio of anglers was already camped a few miles downstream. They knew something had happened when they saw food and equipment floating down the river, and were now aware that a party had put in after them, and they surmised that an accident had occurred and there might be survivors. The next

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*Tragedy on American Creek - Continued from page 7*

morning one of the survivors reached their camp, as did the second survivor later in the day, albeit on the opposite side of the raging torrent.

A satellite phone summoned aid, and the survivors were airlifted to safety and medical treatment later on. Sadly, the third member was never found, and has been presumed to have perished.

So, lessons learned? Don't overestimate your abilities in the wilderness; research your trip in context to weather factors that may affect you; rent a satellite phone if air rescue might be a necessity; make sure that someone in your party has skills and experience specific to the area you plan to visit; wear your life vest. (Thinking back to many of my wilderness experiences, I know I have been lucky, because I have not taken my own advice on many occasions—but I will from now on!)

Here is a link to the Anchorage Daily News who reprinted an article written by Julian Emerson of "The Leader Telegram": <https://www.adn.com/outdoors-adventure/2018/07/31/wisconsin-doctors-fishing-trip-to-remote-alaska-turns-into-lifesaving-mission/>

## How to Catch More Fish on a Fly!

### The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Fly Anglers

*by Eric Palmer*

There are two distinct groups of GBF members about to read what follows. The first group are my friends and regular fishing buddies; they're laughing hysterically at the pretentious title above. They know my batting average. The second group are newer members who do not know me from Adam, and others who sorta know me in passing, or as a casual acquaintance. People in this group are hopeful that, "Hey, maybe this guy can get me out of my slump....or get me launched where I'm actually catching *any* fish." Well, this is sorta that kind of article, but not exactly; you might want to curb your enthusiasm.

I'll explain. Say you have a friend or neighbor, or maybe brother-in-law. He's a middle-aged, or "older" fellow, a nice guy for sure, but a bit on the "stout" side with an "over the hill" and burnt-out persona. Maybe too many cheese burgers and ribeye's, or too much time on the couch in front of the TV with a bag of chips on his lap and a pile of empty beer cans at his feet. This fellow goes to his doctor and says, "Hey, doc. I saw this TV ad with this guy with washboard abs and pecs of a 25-year-old, but a weathered roadmap face like mine. Doc, how do I get that look back?" Most of us have seen that infomercial.

The doctor says...well, you know exactly what the doctor says, and you can recite it chapter and verse. This is that kind of article. The "bitter pill to swallow" kind of article.

In my 11 years with GBF, I'm astonished and pleased as punch to have acquired an awesome group of wonderful new friends and fishing partners. And of course, in any group, the catching will vary over time. Often, the "law of averages" kicks in, and it all comes out in the wash. But other times, the law of averages is apparently on sabbatical, and it does not all come out in the wash, leaving some of us scratching our heads and slack-jawed at outsized results of certain un-named individuals who, I won't embarrass here, but they may see themselves, should they read this.

We've considered ejecting them from the group to keep egos intact—ours, not theirs, but that would be unsportsmanlike, plus we need them to share gas expenses, so the idea was rejected out of hand. Further, maybe, just maybe we can learn something from them...and I think we are.

I got to thinking and pondering after yet another great report at a recent fishout, "What the heck is going on here?" We all have comparable fly fishing skills and know-how, give or take, yet, as I pondered and reflected, on past outings too, a pattern emerged. What I think we're seeing is individuals who are sufficiently motivated to go that proverbial "extra mile" figuratively and literally. It's more than just skills and knowledge per se—that's all critical stuff—but a certain disciplined behavior or mind-set.

*Continued on Page 9*



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*How to Catch More Fish on a Fly! - Continued from page 8*

To wit:

1. They get out on the water early. Not just sorta early after a shower and full breakfast, but when there's just barely enough light to find their way from vehicle to water, and if in the north country, just enough light to avoid a "close encounter of the bear kind." This, while others in the group are still unconscious in bed and dreaming of hookups in the comfortable 10-11 AM time frame. Dream on...

2. They fish not just latish with dries, but late until you can just barely get back to your vehicle without tripping over something in the rapidly fading dusk. This, while the others are back at the lodge/cabin/motel sipping their IPAs or wine, and munching crackers smothered with that awesome Costco artichoke-jalapeno spread heated just a tad in the microwave. OMG that stuff is sooo good.

3. If it's a river, they have an aching curiosity of, "I wonder what's around that bend?", and they are driven to find out. And they hike those cobbles and wade that riffle and they do find out, and they get fish up there. And then there's the next bend... And we don't want to hear about the fish when they get back at the end of "happy hour" and it's been pitch dark for 30 minutes.

4. They tend to be aggressive waders, getting out there just a few more feet than most, or even to the far bank. And yeah, they occasionally get wet, really wet.

*Now a cautionary note:* Before you resolve to "turn over a new leaf" and try to channel your 25-year-old-self, consider this: Each of us must know our own physical limits and respect them. Things we have no control over, like bad hips or knees or weak balance. However, *confidence and focus* is a big part of wading, and that we can control with some extra effort and discipline. If you plan to start pushing yourself, be sure it's only on small water with what I call a downstream "plan B." Plan A, of course, is to not fall down. My plan B is that shallow riffle or pool a short way downstream that would allow an easy scramble to the vertical with safe exit to dry cobbles, little the worse for wear, albeit humbled and with maybe a couple gallons of water in the waders. Never ever get aggressive on big rivers like the American, Lower Yuba or Klamath! There, we must act our age and error on the side of caution. And of course, a PFD is always a good idea.

5. They select a target stream to master, like maybe the Truckee River. They ID a particular stretch known to hold fish, and fish that same area over and over until they've memorized every fish lie and the names of the resident fish, including what they expect for breakfast, lunch and dinner. And, of course, this concept applies to stillwater too. In other words, if you can only get out on the water 10 times per year, fish the same venue 10 times, not 10 different venues one time, where you will learn little of each one. It's repetition and practice on the same water that gets results. And to be clear, I'm not talking about cheating and using a guide, but fishing where you actually hunt the fish solo like your ancestors did a thousand years ago; no training wheels.

6. The better stillwater anglers develop a working system and stick to it—religiously. This includes the retrieve speed and retrieve method, and a system for covering the water. One individual we know kicks out from, then back in to the bank at 90 degrees, sweeping left to right, or right to left until a broad area is canvassed thoroughly. And, he consistently out fishes the rest of us, and usually with the same fly every time, a custom one he's known for, but which he will generously share. Others may patrol parallel to the bank increasing their distance out with each successive pass. Trial and error dictates the best method for a given lake, and whether a fast sinking, or intermediate, or floating presentation, or something in between is called for. Yes, it's hard work and tedious; nobody ever said fly fishing was easy.

7. Some are equipped with, and very adept at, reading a fish finder so that they only fish where they see fish, and never ever fish blind if they see no fish, just hoping for the best. Sound familiar? Don't have a fish finder? Follow the guy who does. He'll tell you where the fish are.



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*How to Catch More Fish on a Fly! - Continued from page 9*

I said, "a bitter pill... ." In short, it boils down to discipline, consistency and persistence, a huge dose of persistence. And there are many more "*habits of highly effective fly anglers*" I'm sure, but these are all that space permits here, and plenty to keep you busy for a while and out of trouble. Good luck out there, and when you start getting a lot more fish than I do, please do not tell me about it. I have a fragile ego.

## Virginia Lakes Fishout Report

*by Michael Kaul*



*Lester Grigsby with a typical brookie*

and falling under her float tube while packing it back to camp...within hours of each other!

The weather took a dramatic change Friday and Saturday afternoons and evenings. A torrential rain and thunderstorm was the backdrop for the taco feed. The result was very close quarters for 20 GBF members under pop ups and an awning. Hailstorms resulted in snowman building by **Michael Gervais**. The storm only lasted 6 1/2 hours after David Sterling's prediction that hail always indicates the end of a storm. Voices needed to be loud, and lots of laughter ensued, along with gluttonous eating.

It was fun to have a lot of first timers at the Virginia Lakes Fishout. The weather Tuesday through Thursday was superb! The smoke from the fire looked ominous to folks driving up, but was never a problem at the lakes. Fishing was great the first couple of days. There were 20 or 21 people attending, depending on if you count **Lester** and **Bill** as the same person. **Heather Grigsby**, a first time float tuber, caught her first fish.

There was, as usual, lots of enjoyable conversation and laughs around the campfire. **Sandy Kaul** was nominated for both the wet fly and dry fly award, because of falls in the lake while attempting to board her float tube,



*After the hail storm*

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

*by Jack Ramos, Fishout Leader*

Once again, it's time for the One Fly Contest, Saturday, September 8, 2018 at Rancho Seco, hunting for most, biggest, and combination of Bass, Crappie, and Bluegills, and with any luck, maybe a trout or two. This has been an annual event with GBF for years; let's not let this go to the wayside and get a good turnout this year. There will be a BBQ afterward. At 1:30 PM, Jack said he will have a special dish he will be serving. Rancho Seco gates open at 7:00 AM, and check-in time will be 8:30 AM. The contest will be 9:00 AM – 12 noon. Let's get together and have some fun and test your skills. The sign-up sheet will be at the meeting, or post a note on the bulletin board, or let **Jack Ramos** [bassbug1@comcast.net](mailto:bassbug1@comcast.net) know you are interested.

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*Rancho Seco One Fly Contest, September 8th - Continued from page 10*

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.

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

**Directions:** The most direct way to get there is Sunrise Blvd. south to Hwy 16 east; 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 set on Ch.6 to keep in touch. See you there.

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

## Fly Patterns - Pullover Hackle Flies



*Pullover Hackle fly*

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Any light-wire standard dry fly hook, sizes 14-18
<b>Tail:</b>	Wood duck flank feather barbules
<b>Thread:</b>	8/0 tan or grey
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Fine tan synthetic dubbing
<b>Thorax:</b>	Same as abdomen
<b>Post:</b>	4x tippet material
<b>Hackle:</b>	Dry fly quality grizzly neck feather, sized to match hook size

### Description

This month we'll learn a tying technique called "pullover hackle" rather than tying a specific pattern. I'm not sure who originated the pullover-hackle technique for dry flies. I first learned it from the venerable Ned Long, who passed away a few years ago after a long and productive life. A long time fly tyer well-known in the tying community, Ned created many original (and very effective) fly patterns. The Northern California Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers named its coveted annual award to the "fly tyer of the year" after Ned (I was fortunate enough to have been selected for this prestigious award in 2009). Bob Quigley, another very creative fly designer, also uses this technique in some of his spring creek patterns.

There are several standard techniques for applying hackle to dry flies: the standard Catskill technique, whereby the hackle is wound on perpendicular to the hook shank; and the parachute technique, whereby

*Continued on Page 12*

*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 11*

a post is created for the wing, and the hackle is wound around the post. The pullover-hackle technique is a third way to hackle a dry fly.

The pullover-hackle technique requires that a piece of material (typically 4x tippet material) be tied to the shank at some point in the tying steps, to be used as a post. I utilize this technique for "Bill's Big Fish Fly" which can be found in the fly pattern archives on GBF's web site. For dry flies, the post is typically (though not always) tied in at the front end of the abdomen. The hackle is wound around the post from the bottom up and then back down to the shank, where it is tied off, pulled back out of the way, and remains until the final tying step. Once the thorax is dubbed (immediately in front of the hackle post) the post and hackle are pulled over the top of the thorax and tied off just behind the hook eye. Hence the name: "pullover-hackle." As an alternative to inserting the post at the front of the abdomen, you can tie it in just ahead of the tail and then pull it over the entire fly—abdomen and thorax.

The beauty of this technique is that you can get a lot more hackle on the post and, when it is pulled over the top of the thorax, all of it stays on top of the fly. This creates a very buggy fly profile and a high-floating attitude. Pullover-hackle flies are one of my go-to pattern types for late afternoon and evening fishing on creeks and smaller rivers such as the North Yuba (small caddis patterns work well also—see July 2009 fly of the month, the Shambles Caddis).

Fly color/hue is limited only by your imagination. For example, you can try using two hackles (one brown and one grizzly) for an Adams pullover; or a cream colored hackle for a Light Cahill pullover. For purposes of this month's fly, we'll create a generic dry fly with a tan body and a grizzly hackle. You generally won't find this combination in the fly bins at the shops—but don't underestimate it. Also, we'll tie in our pullover post at the rear of the fly, to be different (besides, it makes learning the technique a bit easier). You will need a gallows tool or some other method to secure the tippet material in an upright position so you can wind the hackle around it. If you don't have a gallows tool for your vise, try attaching a pair of hackle pliers to your light.

## 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.



*Steps 1, 2 & 3*

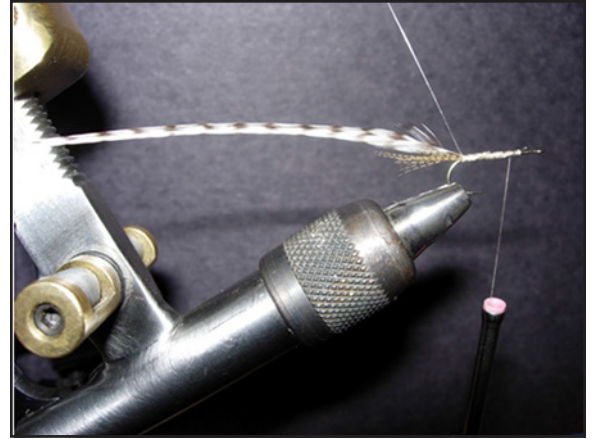
1. Crimp the hook barb and cover the rear half of the hook shank with thread; leave the bobbin hanging so that the thread intersects with the back of the barb.
2. Cut a small section of well-marked wood duck flank feather barbules. Measure the tail fibers so that they equal the length of the shank. Tie the bunch right above the back of the barb, take a few winds forward to secure the tail, and leave the thread there. Clip the excess feather.
3. At the same point, tie in a 8" section tippet material and wind back to where you tied in the tail to secure the tippet material. Place a tiny drop of superglue on the winds.

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- 4a. Secure the tippet material post in your gallows tool (or the hackle pliers you've attached to your light). Tie in a properly sized grizzly neck hackle at the base of the post. Wind the hackle clockwise around the post 3 times, moving upward in wide turns. Begin winding back down toward the shank, using very closely spaced turns so that you get most if not all of the feather's hackle on the post. After the last wind, hang your hackle pliers over the shank, cut the tippet material about 2" above the top of the hackle, and tie the hackle down.



*Step 4a*



*Step 4b*

- 4b. Avoid tying down any of the wound hackle. Once the feather is secured, you can pull the post and hackle rearward out of the way for the time being.

5. Dub a sparse abdomen over the rear 2/3 of the shank, and then dub a fuller thorax, leaving room behind the eye for the final steps.



*Step 5*

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- 6a. Grab the tip of the tippet material with your hackle pliers and pull the entire post forward over the top of the abdomen and thorax, keeping the post directly on top of the body. At a point about one eye-width behind the eye, take 3 turns of thread over the post to secure it in position. Using your hackle pliers, pull the post tight to take any slack out of it and then tie it down securely.



*Step 6a*



*Step 6b*

- 6b. Carefully trim the excess post and hackle and form a nice small head. Apply a drop of superglue to the head and the spot where the post was tied down. Whip finish.

## **Tying & Fishing Tips**

1. Gallows tools are inexpensive and are made to fit the post on most vises. They are quite handy when it comes to making any type of posted wing.
2. Keeping the completed fly in the vise, turn it over and clip off any stray hackle that protrudes below the shank. This fly pattern, like any post-style fly, is designed to float in the surface film. Go crank some of these bugs, go fish them, 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 <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.

Please notify if address change

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