



The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



January 2019

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Wendell Edwards, GBF President



The New Year has arrived!

I truly hope that all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year season. It was a great holiday season at my house.

This past month the club had a great Swap Meet and Chili Cookoff. The early morning chill and rain did not slow the sellers and buyers. We had lots of fishing gear that moved from one garage storage to a new happy owner's home. Mark your calendar now for this annual event, it's the first Saturday in December 2019.

There were 7 chili pots steaming hot with a wide variety of chili. Chili tasting started about 8:30AM, and those pots were empty by 10:00AM. We had four chili's that tied for second place! We had a repeat winner by one vote. Congratulations go to **Doug Kytonen** for bringing another winner. Doug, wait till next year. There are some cooks that are determined to move you off the annual plaque. See Drake Johnson's report for more details.

The Holiday Potluck was well attended. There was lots of chatter, smiles and happy tummies after sampling those appetizers, entrées and desserts—another item to put on your calendar for 2019. This is always our general meeting night for December. See Ron Fay's report for more details.

The Board of Directors meeting will be January 8th, and our general meeting will be January 10th.

Tom Simms will present a slide show for our January meeting. Thanks, Tom, for sharing your travels with us.

The Conservation Committee Meeting will be January 14th at Round Table Pizza on Sierra College Blvd. The speaker will be on at 6:00PM with pizza to follow. Please advise **Dave Fujiyama** if you are planning to attend, as we have to pre-order the pizzas. You may email Dave at davefujiyama@gmail.com. See Dave's article for more details.

Fly tying will resume with **Jim Holmes** on January 15th, 6:30PM at the Activity Center. Check the message board for details on the fly patterns to be tied.

The ISE Show will be January 17, 18, 19 and 20. **Dale Spear** still has a few time slots to fill. Sign up at our January general meeting, or email Dale at dalespear@sbcglobal.net. See Dale's article for more details.

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JANUARY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	9.	10. Monthly Meeting	11.	12.
13.	14. Conservation Committee Meeting	15. Fly Tying Jam	16.	17.	18. ISE Show Jan. 17 - 20	19.
20. ISE Show Jan. 17 - 20	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
27.	28.	29.	30.	31.		

Monthly Program



Tom Simms with a Golden Dorado

Our guest speaker this month is **Tom Simms**, a long time member of Granite Bay Flycasters, though we don't see him very much because he has the perfect excuse we'd all love to have; he's too busy traveling the world fishing in exotic locations, living the dream. His program on fishing in Bolivia is one you won't want to miss.

In Tom's words:

I have lived in Granite Bay for the past 26 years with my wife, Ginny. We have two grown children and three rescue dogs. I am retired after spending 38 years in law enforcement. I was a police chief for 25 years and retired from the Santa Rosa Police Department in 2009 after serving as police chief in Roseville for many years. I spent five years in the Army, completing my last tour in Viet Nam as a Captain. I started fly fishing about 25

years ago, and love to fish and tie flies. I have been a member of Granite Bay Flycasters for nearly the entire time. I love to fish local streams, and spend a lot of time on the Lower Yuba River and the Middle Fork of the American. Alaska is a real favorite, and I have made many trips. I have traveled extensively throughout the West and Canada in pursuit of trout. I just returned from my seventh trip to Patagonia, one of my favorite places anywhere. I got into saltwater fly fishing a few years ago, and have been to the Seychelles, Christmas Island, the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Bolivia.

His Program: "In Search of Gold"

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Leader's Line - Continued from Page 1

Now that the holidays are behind us, please take a moment and go to gbflycasters.org and order your annual dinner tickets. Tickets and raffle tickets will also be available at the general meeting. This is our only fund raiser for the year! Thanks to those that have already purchased dinner and raffle tickets.

Fishout leaders are busy working on 2019; check the website for proposed fishouts. Anyone can volunteer to lead a fishout; fishmasters are there to assist. Get involved!

Membership renewals are due! Go online and renew at gbflycasters.org, or at the January general meeting.

Want to go fishing and need a partner? Use the message board to post your proposed outing; lots of members will receive your message.

Wishing All a happy 2019!

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Monthly Program - Continued from Page 2

The jungles of Bolivia serve as the headwaters of the Amazon River. It is a remote area, accessible by a two-hour ride in a small plane, landing on a grass strip. Anglers are met by members of the Tsimane Indian tribe and are transported upriver in dugout canoes. After about an hour, they arrive at one of the Tsimane lodges where they will stay for a week. There are no phones, no radios, no vehicles and no cars. You live in an amazingly beautiful jungle surrounded by animals, flowers and butterflies. The sounds of monkeys, birds and other wild critters at night add to the exotic setting. As you explore the tributaries, you will be blown away by their similarity to Sierra streams. One important difference—you will have the chance to land one of the most beautiful fish you have ever seen—the "Golden Dorado." Specimens can exceed 25 pounds, not inches, in streams reminiscent of the North Fork of the Yuba.

Flyfishing Backcountry Sierra Streams

by Royal B. Pocketwater
Part VII

(originally published in *The Leader*, March 1992)

[We left Royal and ATC last month enjoying their post-sucker camaraderie and their for-the-road sodas. We rejoin them now as they prepare to walk out of the canyon].

After dispatching the dead (and now quite stiff) sucker in an open spot where some bullyish predator could find it, breaking down their 4-piece rods and stowing them in their day packs, Royal and ATC inched their way back up the deer trail and across the avalanche path & other assorted obstacles that formed the route upward. Royal patiently waited along the way for the silent ATC, whose brooding look of sheer terror had reappeared. Finally, reaching the top of the cliff, they rested on the flat mossy rock where they had earlier lunched. The climb had caused them to sweat, and the northerly breeze which by now had freshened and become more pronounced, chilled their moist skin to the point where they donned their flannel shirts.

The trail out was flat and relatively well defined three miles along the spine of a windswept ridge punctuated by the ghastly hulks of lightning-blasted pines & junipers. "I guess we'd better get along," says ATC. "We've probably got an hour of daylight left and three miles to hike."

"Yep," said Royal as he squared up his weather-beaten hat and shouldered his pack. "By the way, did you lock your truck ATC?"

"A fine time to ask," ATC retorted, "and yes, I do have the keys," he followed, with a mock look of frustration, anticipating Royal's (usual) next question. "Why do you always ask me that when we're three miles into the woods and on the way back to boot?"

"Because it's so much fun to watch you react," laughed Royal.

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Flyfishing Backcountry Sierra Streams - Continued from Page 3

"You know," said ATC as they walked along a wide canopied section of trail, "today's sucker escapade may have been a 'classic' as you put it, but your antics in 'The Hole' last year had all the earmarks of an epic."

"Yeah, I guess," replied Royal, as if to even the score, "and, you've got your photos too, right?"

"Yup, did I ever show you the one standing there in your skivvies trying to wring out your pants? It's a riot," quipped ATC mischievously.

Royal didn't hear ATC's last remark, as his thoughts strayed back to that midsummer afternoon. After ATC had broken off the huge trout that afternoon, they rested "The Hole" for an hour or so, all the while discussing the details of the incident—that is, after ATC had calmed down and stopped shaking and muttering incoherently. "Where did he take the fly?" asked Royal, as if anxious to get another whack at the geezer.

"Right in front of that big fissure in the wall across the pool," replied ATC. "He stopped that nymph directly in front of the crack I think, though, we can forget about him for today."

"Right, and I doubt I'll be able to raise another fish in there at all today actually," said Royal. "After that battle, they're probably all down for the day."

"Maybe," replied ATC, "but it's sure worth a try. There could be another hunk in there; and, that Golden Stone nymph you've got there different than my Ida May. So, give it a shot—nothing to lose," he said encouragingly, despite still being a bit shook.

When they agreed the pool was as rested as it was going to get, Royal took up position on the slippery rock ledge amidst the mist from the falls. ATC sat above him on the outcropping, watching the indicator. Royal's first cast (and his next 25) went unheeded. His enthusiasm on the wane, he decided to try a couple more casts and then call it quits. "What if I mended in the opposite direction of the way I should," he mused. "Maybe a little drag wouldn't hurt—and, it could well be that the current on the bottom is different." So, he threw his slack downstream instead of up as he came abreast of him. The indicator seemed to speed up unnaturally, but then rapidly changed direction just as it reached the big fissure in the far wall. Utterly startled out of his near-coma, Royal reared back on the rod with such force that his feet slid beneath him on the mist-slick rock, sending him headlong and feet first in The Hole. He bobbed quickly to the surface and scrambled onto the slippery rock, rod in hand, line limp. He looked up to see ATC shaking his head and guffawing loudly. "Well, I guess I do look like a dweeb," muttered Royal as he smiled into ATC's ever-vigilant camera lens.

He quickly stripped to his skivvies, wrung out his clothes as ATC's camera shutter repeatedly clicked in staccato fashion, and laid them on a flat rock to dry in the warm mid-day sun. Glad that he dropped his pack on the cobbled beach above the falls, he dug through it for the dry socks. "You know, ATC," he said, "the water in The Hole seems far colder than the rest of this creek."

"I wouldn't know, I haven't gone for a swim," said ATC, laughing both at his own wit and Royal's appearance in white skivvies and even whiter skin atop the falls.

"Very funny," said Royal, "but I do think it's colder and not just a little colder."

"Now that you mention it," said ATC, "I guess it does seem colder. One quick way to find out—just drop your thermometer in up here and then do it down in The Hole," suggested ATC.

"It's 56 degrees up here," said Royal, still in his skivvies, as he scrambled over the rocks to the slippery ledge below.

"My, if he doesn't look ludicrous," mused ATC.

"Forty-eight," cried Royal as he pulled himself back up. "I thought so."

"Could it be the depth?" asked ATC.

"That might account for a degree or two, but not seven degrees—and, that water's moving," replied Royal. "It's like an ice box in that water—I'm still shivering. From now on I'm calling the place 'Ice Box Hole.'"

Annual Dinner Update

With the holidays behind us, it's time to think about celebrating our club's 32nd anniversary with a BIG PARTY!!! We call it our Annual Dinner event, and everyone's invited to come and help the club ring in a new year—and rack up some great raffle prizes, auction items, and more! Here's the lowdown on all the highjinks...

- **Who:** Club members, friends, families, co-workers, neighbors...anyone who's interested in having a great time, winning great prizes, and supporting a great cause.
- **What:** Fantastic dinner, massive raffle, outstanding auction, plus...the chance to break bread and share a nice evening with club members, new friends, and families.
- **When:** Sunday, March 24, 2019. The festivities start by 3:30PM (bar opens at 4:00; dinner begins at 5:30), and the closing remarks are scheduled to occur by 8:00PM.
- **Where:** The dinner, raffle & auction will be at the Rocklin Event Center, at 2650 Sunset Boulevard in Rocklin. It's easy to find, and there's plenty of free parking!
- **Why:** Because you want to show support for your club at it's biggest annual event—and possibly win thousands of dollars in fishing gear, trips, and other great prizes.
- **How:** Buy your dinner tickets at the next club meeting, or just visit our website (www.gbflycasters.org) to buy tickets securely online. Tickets are just \$40 each!

Lastly...If you can't attend the dinner, please consider making a donation for the raffle or auction. If you can help, just contact David Jones at djj6451@yahoo.com.

2019 Wet Fly Award

The Board is once again accepting nominations for the club's infamous Wet Fly Award. This annual recognition is bestowed on the club member that has demonstrated the highest level of 'oneness' with the waters we fish... who has taken that fateful extra step leading to an intimate bonding with the environment of our quarry... who has gone above and beyond the limit of mere waders to immerse him/herself in the world of our noble nemesis...who, in other words, has fallen in the water while fishing!

Who do you know who's slipped, tripped, stumbled, fallen, crashed, capsized, or otherwise gotten soaked while fishing—and won't mind having the story recounted aloud at the club's 2019 Annual Dinner extravaganza on March 24th? If you have someone in mind, just contact any Board member to relay the deserving story. And remember...think wet!



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John Hogg on Fly Rod Action and Loading

with Introduction by Eric Palmer

A few years ago I emailed John a question about how my rods handled sinking tip lines with varying degrees of success, along with a query on rod action vs. cost; that is, fast/stiff action (what Orvis calls "tip flex") vs. slow or soft action ("full flex" in Orvis parlance). I was getting confused, because in my beginning years with the sport when I was shopping for my first rods, I equated fast action with high dollars, and vice versa, and I had concluded that the rule was immutable. But then we started seeing rod makers and shops touting slower action rods for high dollars too, specifically for dry flies. I figured why not just get a cheap \$80 entry level rod at Walmart and call it a day. John sent me a very thoughtful reply, and on rereading it recently, I thought the greater GBF audience might find it as enlightening as I had; so, with John's permission, here it is:

Hi Eric;

Here are a couple of thoughts on rod action with your rods: The standard AFTMA weight for a 5 weight line (first 30 feet) is 140 grains. Your Teeny 200 rated at 200 grains for the first 24 feet could be just too heavy for your St. Croix 5 wt. [Ultra Legend]. Fly rods are designed with the AFTMA standard in mind, at least to some extent. As soon as you go to sink tips, you have to start matching weight to rod by feel. For example, I have a 400 grain head line, and it takes my 9 weight to handle it. My 300 grain works best with a fast action 7 weight that I have (Loomis GLX), or a slower action 8 weight (Sage SP). I have only been able to learn this from trial and error.

As to cost vs. value, that is up to the individual buyer. Many, many anglers, including myself on occasion, have paid more for a rod just because of the brand and reputation. On the other hand, I bought a rod at Kiene's, an Orvis Clearwater 10 foot, 4 weight, which I wanted for high sticking [aka short-line nymphing]. Bill Kiene [now Kiene's former owner] stocked that, along with three other rods in the same category, a Grey, a TFO, and a Sage. My evaluation was that the Orvis had the best dampening effect on spring back,

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"They have the largest selection of fly tying materials in California!" - Andy Burk

John Hogg on Fly Rod Action and Loading - Continued from page 6

and for that, I liked it the best. Turns out it was also the least expensive. Any of these rods would be lousy for traditional overhead casting. But, what do we want to do with them for nymphing? Basically, alley-oop a heavily weighted 2 fly nymphing rig. Anyway, I appreciate the fact that Kiene's shop carried sufficient stock to let me make that comparison, and I always buy my stuff from him.

Fast rods are easier to cast than slow ones, because the timing of the pause on forward and back casts is shorter. And what do casters do when the action is too fast? They put a heavier weight line on it to slow the action. At present, each rod manufacturer defines their own actions, and the manner in which they will perform. I will say that now, a decent rod can be purchased for \$150 and up. In the early 2000's you had to pay at least \$400 (thanks to inflation it would be \$600-\$700 now), to get a rod that had a consistent and faster action.

Recently, I talked to a club member who is getting rid of all of his old rods that are two piece, because when he goes to Montana, he wants to carry compact rods. So here is a judgment being made solely on the 'travel length' of the rods!

Anyway, trying to discuss and quantify fly rod "value" is very tricky business, as it is too subjective. If I had 10 readers, I am sure 8 would disagree.

Regards, John

[For GBF new-comers, John Hogg is our own Certified Casting Instructor and fly rod guru, who, with help from others comparably skilled, runs the annual GBF casting clinics. Check [here](#) for the spring 2019 schedule, to be posted when it becomes available.]

Trinity River Fishout Report

by Corley Phillips

In mid-November, a dozen GBF members attended the Trinity Fishout. Most of us kicked things off during the drive up the valley with a debrief at Granzella's, a convenient breakfast stop along the way. The base of operations was the Indian Creek Lodge, which did its usual fine job of taking care of us. Such good care, in fact, they fed all of us the first night, which saved my spaghetti feed for the second night.

The camaraderie on both nights was the highlight of the trip, mostly because only three steelhead, all in the 17"-18" range, were landed. The major problem was a lack of rain. Other than a brief storm in September, which brought in the first pulse of fish, there had been no rain in the Trinity basin, and the flows were sustained only by the minimum allowable release from Trinity dam (300 cfs). In addition, it was cold—guides were icing up until mid-morning. The combination caused what fish were there, to really hunker down with a case of lockjaw. The cold water made swinging unproductive (fish won't chase down a fly when cold), so the predominant technique was fishing rubber-legs and nymphs under an indicator, which produced all three fish landed.

Current fishing on the Trinity remains spotty. There are fish from Lewiston to Witchepec, but the fall run



is winding down and the winter run isn't in yet in significant numbers—and probably won't be until after the New Year's Day. So, stay home for Christmas and think about the Trinity in January. As long as the flows don't get too high due to rain, it can be very productive (a buddy and I landed 9 adults over two days this January). With the fire damage, be sure and check road conditions on 299 between Redding and Weaverville, as there will probably

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Trinity River Fishout Report - Continued from page 7

be mudslides this year due to bare ground. And, allow extra time, as some reconstruction remains with localized control.

Eric Palmer and Don **Hansen** drove downstream to the Klamath and found fish there. We're considering moving the fishout to the Klamath in 2019.

Holiday Potluck - 2018

by Ron Fay



On December 13th, GBF held its annual Holiday Potluck dinner with a festive flair. The turnout was great, with about 70 in attendance. All had fun telling fish stories (with many exaggerations included), socializing, drinking Frank's



Special Holiday Coffee, and eating from a wonderful buffet. The food had a wide array of delicious and tantalizing appetizers, salads, entrees, and desserts. There was not an empty stomach in the crowd (there was an occasional burp coming from the crowd).



Along with all the fun, we had membership renewals, new member sign-ups, and about 14 annual dinner tickets sold.

I would like to thank all of you who attended this holiday feast and the fabulous food



that you brought for all of us to enjoy. Special thanks to **TinaLyn Sell** for providing the festive table cloths, **Wendell Edwards** and **David Jones** who helped in setting up the room, and to **Dave Fujiyama** (who kept the knives and forks plentiful, the garbage under control, and kept an eye out for any needed assistance), and all the others who helped in the clean-up.

Happy New Year to all!!

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. All ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.

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 securing 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 **David Jones** at djj6451@yahoo.com. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donators are duly acknowledged at the dinner.

Sierra History: Chief Truckee and the Missing Link to California Trail

*by Mark McLaughlin, <http://www.thestormking.com/>
As first published in the Sierra Sun, Aug. 26, 2015
(Contributed and edited by Eric Palmer)*

TAHOE-TRUCKEE, Calif. — In his 1843-44 circumnavigation of the Great Basin, explorer John C. Frémont failed to establish the California Trail because he never connected the westward flowing Humboldt River to the eastbound Truckee River.

Only 40 miles of desert separated the two waterways. In fact, Frémont was completely unaware of how close the Humboldt River was from his camp at Pyramid Lake, terminus of the Truckee.

First explored by Peter Skene Ogden in 1828, the Humboldt was the crucial river that crossed present-day arid Nevada for more than 300 miles, providing vital water and grass in desolate country. Establishing this final portion of the trail required a crucial link between the western end of the Humboldt and the Truckee.

That missing piece of knowledge was provided by a Paiute Indian chief whose given name was most likely Winnemucca. The medicine man adopted the name "Truckee" after meeting Frémont and his men at Pyramid Lake.

In his dealings with Frémont, the friendly chief frequently used a word that sounded like "tro-kay," a term that meant "it's OK," or "everything will be alright." He said it so frequently that Frémont assumed it must be the man's name.



Paiute Chief Truckee

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Sierra History - Continued from page 9

THE STEPHENS PARTY

Winnemucca was so enamored with his "long lost white brothers" that he embraced the word as his proper name. In the American West it was not uncommon for an Indian leader to change their name after important personal events or battle victories.

Chief Truckee told Frémont that if he wanted to cross the mountains and safely reach California, he should follow the Truckee River upstream to the west. But the topographical engineer had other plans and instead led his men south along the Eastern Sierra Front.

Ultimately, it was a California-bound wagon company led by Elisha Stephens and Caleb Greenwood who would take Chief Truckee's expert advice. In late summer 1844, the party of 50 emigrants was stuck at the end of the Humboldt River.

There the helpful chief met them and showed the way to the river that flowed from Lake Tahoe. Like Frémont, this group also believed that the Indian's name was Truckee, and after crossing the desert, they named the life-saving river they found for him. The Stephens Party became the first to successfully haul wagons over the mountains and into California, thus opening the trail.



The 1844 Stephens Part was the first to get wagons to California

JEDEDIAH SMITH'S TRAVELS

History plays out in capricious ways, often based on luck or circumstance. There were two other Americans who could have made the vital connection between the two streams and opened the California Trail years before.

In 1826, famed mountain man Jedediah Smith and 14 trappers crossed into California by way of the Colorado River and Mojave Desert. The group eventually traveled to the southern Sacramento Valley, and in May 1827 attempted to cross the Sierra eastbound following the American River Canyon.

They were blocked by deep snow, so Smith and his men retraced their steps. Leaving the bulk of the party in camp, Smith and two others headed south where they managed to cross near Ebbetts Pass.

If Smith had succeeded in his Sierra passage via the American River, he would have discovered Lake Tahoe, the Truckee River, and most likely the Humboldt River, thus opening the California Trail 17 years before the Stephens Party.

MASSACRE OF INDIANS

In 1833, mountain man and trail guide Joseph Walker led 58 beaver trappers down the Humboldt River to its terminus, but instead of meeting friendly Chief Truckee, they encountered a large group of Paiutes.

Unsure of the Indians' intentions and believing an attack imminent, Walker and his men preemptively shot and killed nearly 50 of them in two separate encounters. Escaping with their lives, Walker headed south, and his group became the first Anglos to explore Yosemite.

Paiute hostility toward whites from this massacre made emigrant passage dangerous for decades to come.

About two years after his initial encounter with John Frémont,

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Sierra History - Continued from page 10

Chief Truckee joined him fighting for the Americans in the war with Mexico (1846-48).

He was brevetted a captain in the U.S. Army, and for the rest of his life he preferred to be called Captain Truckee.

Tahoe historian, Mark McLaughlin, is a nationally published author and professional speaker. You can reach him at mark@thestormking.com. Check out his blog: tahoenuggets.com. His award-winning books are available at local stores or at thestormking.com.

Swap Meet & Chili Cook-off Report

by Drake Johnson

On Saturday, December 1st, we had the annual GBF Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off. It was a success in spite of the rainy weather. To start the morning, there was a continental breakfast that included donuts, muffins, hard boiled eggs, orange juice and coffee. All of this for a nominal fee of \$1, pretty hard to beat. The doors opened at 7:30AM, which seemed to be a little early, particularly because of the cold rainy weather. Maybe next year we will try 8:30AM for a start time.

This year was a little light on the number people selling their extra goods compared to previous years. **John Hogg** had some super rods for sale, and the biggest vendor was **Rick Radoff**, with a garage load of goodies. A few others brought some of their extra gear for sale. There were at least three pontoon boats for sale outside.

The weather did not detour the Chili Cooks. We had six offerings present—two from recent past winners. The chili ranged from the traditional to the non-conventional. All were worthy of serious consideration for best in eats. By 10:00AM most of the chili was gone, and the voting was completed by 10:30. **Doug Kytonen** was crowned "Chili King" again this year. Second place honors went to **Allie Jones** and **Wendell Edwards**, with **Cathi Spear** being third.

Michael Kaul was the winner of the door prize raffle of a fly box with a dozen flies.

My thanks to all who jumped in and gave me a hand to make this year's event happen.



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Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner (Taken from the Article Written in January 2010)

Fly Patterns - Hogan's S & M Nymph



Hogan's S & M Nymph

Materials:

Hook: Standard nymph hook, #18-20
Bead: 2mm shiny copper bead
Thread: 8/0 olive brown
Tail: 5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules
Abdomen: Pheasant tail
Ribbing: Chartreuse wire, extra small
Thorax: Olive brown dubbing
Wing case: Brown goose biot
Legs: 2 strands of pearl crystal flash

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 11

Description

Hogan's S & M Nymph was the star performer at the recent Upper Sac outing....even out-fishing Bill's Stick Caddis, which is generally the number one fish-getter at this time of year. This year's weather, being warm with crisp blue skies and very low, crystal clear water conditions, seems to have affected the normally heavy October Caddis hatch which, in turn, reduced the effectiveness of October Caddis patterns (larva, pupa, emerger, and adult). Many fish were still caught on the Stick Caddis, but the small nymphs clearly out-performed all others—with the S & M leading the charge.

That's the "bad news;" the "good news" is that there were prolific hatches of *baetis*, or blue winged olive mayflies. BWOs are tiny grayish olive bugs, normally imitated well by tiny Pheasant Tail nymphs. The nymphs were active most of the day, but particularly in low light conditions (early morning, especially) and on days when there was some cloud cover.

The S & M in various sizes probably imitates a host of mayfly nymphs (and probably some species of midges), but in the smaller sizes (16-20) it is especially effective as a *baetis* nymph imitation. My guide clients, on Thursday, Friday, and Monday were able to land many trout using this pattern—with a few fish in the 18" range. Outing participants also found it to be particularly effective.

Since *baetis* hatch virtually all year long, including Winter, let's put a few of these in our fly boxes.

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. De-barb the hook, add a 2 mm copper bead to the hook, and cover the shank with thread.
2. Using 5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules, tie in a tail just above the back of the barb. At the same spot tie in a piece of chartreuse wire.



Steps 1 & 2



Step 3

3. At the same point, tie in a piece of small copper wire. Pull it back and out of the way.

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Steps 4 & 5

4. At the same spot, tie in a brown goose biot with the butt end pointing rearward. This will be used for the wing case.
5. Dub a small thorax in front of the abdomen.

6. Tie in two short strands of pearl crystal flash just behind the hook eye so that there are two "legs" on each side of the fly. The strands should be pointing rearward. Clip the crystal flash legs so that they end at the point of the hook.
7. Apply a tiny drop of Dave's Flexament or similar glue to the top of the thorax and quickly pull the biot over the top. Pull the crystal flash legs rearward so that they lie alongside the body of the fly. Tie off the biot behind the eye of the hook and whip finish.



Steps 6 & 7

Tying & Fishing Tips

1. I like to fish this fly on a 6" or 7" 4X dropper protruding from the main tippet. I use a loop knot to tie on the fly, as it gives the fly more action in the drift.
2. If you begin catching lots of fish on this fly, try putting two of them on—one on the dropper and the other on the point fly—perhaps using different sizes.
3. Fish this fly whenever you see BWOs flying around the stream, or see their nymphs swimming about in the shallows.

Fish this delicate little bug all year long—you won't regret it. See ya on the creek.

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

Our website is designed to be a resource for club members who want to enhance their fly fishing experience through participation in various club activities. Check often at www.gbflycasters.org for information on club fishouts, conservation projects, classes & clinics, and other activities that support our mission.

Granite Bay Flycasters

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. Please put **GBF Leader** in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month.

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Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

President - Wendell Edwards
916-989-1442 president@gbflycasters.org
VP Membership - Eric Palmer
916-987-1359 membership@gbflycasters.org
VP Conservation - Dave Fujiyama
949-212-1337 conservation@gbflycasters.org
Secretary - David Bennett
916-645-8370 secretary@gbflycasters.org
Treasurer - Gordon Tornberg
916-983-2953 treasurer@gbflycasters.org

Directors:
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916-791-1039
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530-320-3598
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Merchandising
Victor Maiello 916-276-9010
Monthly Programs
Ed Lloyd 916-939-0540
Webmaster
Eric Palmer 916-987-1359
Don Whitecar 916-804-5384

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