

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

August 2020

<http://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

We all have been dealing with tumultuous times lately. Covid-19 has now created a loop in our lives. The cycle we're living in I've referred to now as the three "Fs." We all started out with **fear** from what could happen; it has led to **fatigue** due to being done with it all, but through it all **fortitude** prevailed. Now it would seem the cycle is going to repeat itself.

You do not need to go back to Stages 1 and 2, fear and fatigue. Write the word "fortitude" on a piece of paper and put it on your refrigerator so you see it every day. Although our lives are being disrupted in many ways, we are being kept from our daily routines and our family members. Let's not let fear and fatigue take over; be strong, have courage and face it head-on

this go around. Remember, Mother Nature is your friend; she waits with open arms for you. I hope you and your loved ones are all doing well. We will have special email blasts coming out shortly; please be on the lookout for them.

## 2020 Annual Dinner Update

by Wendell Edwards, Annual Dinner Chairman

This Covid-19 has been tough on all of us these past few months, and it seems it's not going to disappear soon. I hope you and your family members are well.

We have cancelled our 2020 Annual Dinner. Thank you to all those members of the Dinner Committee. Stay tuned—we will need you next year.

We have a committee working on an online auction. As you know, this dinner is our only fund raiser each year. We have hope that an online auction will help us continue the support that our club needs for Conservation Programs, along with Eggs in the Classroom, and Net Building.

Stay tuned for upcoming reports and instructions for online auctions.

## Truckee River Fishout, July 15, 2020

by Ed Lloyd, Fishout Leader

On Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, **Don Harris, Gary Krause, Gary Gale** and I traveled to the Truckee River, specifically to "The Loop," just before the Hirschdale turnoff. This has been a favorite spot for years because of the easy access for most fly fisherman, especially for locals, as well as for our club members. Also, this area was just renovated by *Trout Unlimited*, as well as many members from various clubs, including ours, two years ago this October.

*Continued on Page 2*

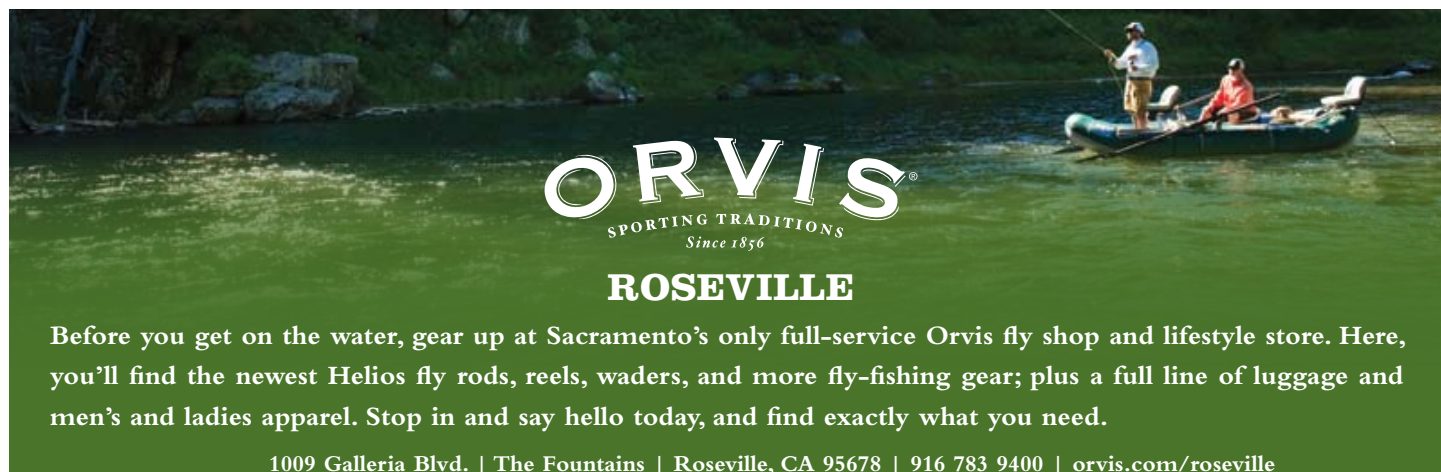
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AUGUST 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1.
2.	3.	4.	5. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM	6.	7.	8. Truckee River Fishout
9.	10.	11. Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM	12.	13. Monthly Meeting via ZOOM	14.	15. Little Truckee Fishout
16.	17.	18. Fly Tying Jam via ZOOM	19. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM	20.	21.	22.
23.	30. 24.	31. 25.	26.	27.	28.	29.

*Truckee River Fishout - Continued from page 1*

The Truckee River, as well as the Little Truckee, are known as rivers that don't yield trout very easily. On this day though, our guys had other ideas. By the end of the day, each one of us caught at least one, and I believe Gary Gale was fortunate to catch two. Considering the fact that this area experiences a lot of fly fishing pressure, especially with it being just off the freeway, to me is testimony that our members realize that if you have very good technique fishing with nymphs, emergers, and dries, you have a great opportunity to be rewarded with a fish. It's actually the first time I can remember that each member of our fishout caught a trout. It's occurred on two occasions on the Little Truckee River. I suspect now that this will occur on many more trips to the Truckee. Congratulations Guys!!!!!! Next Truckee Fishout is Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.



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## Silver Fork Tenkara Fishout

by John Pellegrin

On Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, I held the annual tenkara fishout at the Silver Fork tributary of the South Fork of the American. This year, owing to a much-increased interest in tenkara fishing, I had more signups than usual for this fishout—as early as last December—when I posted it on the GBF calendar. I had 10 sign up at the time, which I consider almost too many for the particular section of the Silver Fork—the area just south of Hell’s Delight bridge. It can be an attractive place to fish in July, as the huge spring runoff period has finally calmed down (controlled from Caples and Silver Lakes), so that wading is much easier, and the fish are not as harried by the high water. It also is at exactly 5,000’, so it is much cooler than at home.

However, since people signed up for the fishout, Covid-19 showed up. And so, for a variety of reasons, the final number of people who came to the fishout was 4, plus myself. That is a very comfortable number of people to fish that part of the stream, even with **Chris Kight** heading up the road a bit to scramble down to his favored spot. ☺ So, **Joe Cammarano** and **Gary Nickless** came, as they do to many of the Tenkara fishouts, as well as **Jim Calle**. It was a good day, and not many other people were around, which can be the case at the Hell’s Delight Bridge area, as it was in the week following July 4<sup>th</sup>. I was quite concerned about what we would find on that Friday.

We fished the morning, and as far as I know, everyone caught fish. We enjoyed lunch together (at least, as close as ‘together’ means these days), and left by mid-afternoon. It was a good day of fishing, and we enjoyed being there.

I mentioned the increased interest in Tenkara, both now and last year. For one thing, many new people to the club have readily embraced tenkara, and fish it regularly. I think that is often the case with people for whom streams are a particularly attractive fishing venue. It has also been the case that a number of people who historically bought Tenkara rods have experienced a renewed interest in it, for a variety of reasons. One may be a renewed interest in streams, both for the intimacy of them and the direct connection with flowing waters and the fish. Also, I think the simplicity of materials to carry around is appealing to some people. As I’ve found, as you get older and always want a wading staff in one hand, the appeal of one-handed fishing becomes more interesting.

The other phenomenon is the emergence of Luong Tam of *Tenkara Tanuki*, as a tenkara rod designer (last several years), and also starting a webinar series as a response to the corona virus, as people have been sitting around home. These he has done for free, and has invited some prominent and very knowledgeable people to produce episodes, which Luong then posts on his YouTube channel, “[Tanuki Fishing](#).” Even if you don’t go there for the webinars, he has some very appealing videos of himself fishing (a great vicarious experience, as many fishing videos are!).

Right now, we have 45 people who own at least one tenkara rod; and about 30 who fish tenkara regularly, or several times a year.



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## The Wonders of Float Tubing

by Michael Kaul

As I was enjoying fishing at Frenchman Lake with a friend, I was musing about how wonderful float tubing is. The ability to watch all the nature around you while waiting for the anticipated strike has always been a favorite aspect. Watching a Bald Eagle or Osprey stalking potential meals, then following their dive to the lake surface is a wonder to behold.

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*The Wonders of Float Tubing - Continued from page 3*

On this particular day, there was a large gathering of Pelicans cruising the lake, occasionally bobbing for food. Trying to figure out the group dynamics was fascinating, all the more so because of the rather slow fishing. There is such grace in a Pelican taking off, pounding their wings to gain altitude, lifting that huge body until they are effortlessly gliding, or landing so smoothly as they adjust wings to the air currents.

As I watched one Pelican lift off and glide away, I noticed a long and large stream of excrement trailing him. This was the first time observing the event, and I was startled at the amount and duration. A while later, as I watched another take off very close to me (and up wind I might add), I saw the same stream coming out and thought "Oh no!" Sure enough, this fellow had crop-dusted me but good. I watched it hit the water to the left of me, then continue over me and over the water to my right. Fortunately, I had my wide brimmed hat on and thought to lower my gaze, and it was not so foul as one might expect. My tube still has white splatter on it because it seemed wrong to try to erase a remarkable natural event.

## Seeing is Believing

*by Dale R. Spear*

There's a little creek I like to fish at the beginning of the season while the waters there still flow strong and high, and the fish have not been harassed to the point of total paranoia. It is not the beginning of the season, but the water is still cold and I have a favorite hole where I am seldom disturbed by others. The drive is close and straight.

I arrived early in the morning, but late enough that the water surface was covered halfway across by sunlight, making it difficult to follow the colored line section from shadow into light. I lowered myself into the water in a small corner, trapped because there is a steep drop-off on two sides, and swift water flowing into the pool from the other. I worked the water for a half-hour or better without so much as a nudge.

I pulled myself from the stream and headed upstream a very short distance. The water here is small but with a nice riffle and run. The creek floor is covered with rocks of various sizes, and a few logs for the fish to use as cover and concealment. I caught two rainbows about the size you would expect in this creek in the span of about half an hour.

I walked out and up onto a bare rock vista that overlooks the first hole I had fished. The water was now completely bathed in sunlight, crystal clear and visible to the bottom. There is a fairly good-sized rock in the water, which I am aware of because it sits out in front of where I fish maybe 10 or 15 feet. I had drifted my little nymphs in front of, beside, behind and on top of that rock earlier that morning. I already told you the results. As I looked into the water from above, I clearly saw a monster trout, at least 8 inches in length, swimming back and forth in front of the rock. He was taunting me.

I had already changed flies a couple of times, so I knew what I had to offer would be something different and possibly more enticing. Also, it is one thing to throw flies into water not quite certain there is a fish there to accept them. Quite another thing to have the opportunity to confirm all the effort and time you spend tying flies, practicing your cast, perfecting your drift, actually works. The opposite confirmation is, well, something else.

I lowered myself back down into that tight spot. I had a Three Dollar Dip on the dropper up above the split-shot, and a Utah Killer Bug on the point fly. First cast is the most important, right? Well, don't believe everything you hear. The second



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*Seeing is Believing - Continued from page 4*

cast is clearly the most important. In this case, about 8 inches worth. I am probably way too old for such confirmation to make me feel so elated, but it does. I don't care how big the fish's brain was, mine is not all that big in the scheme of things. Yahoo.

As luck would have it, I got one more opportunity to stroke my ego on the way out. Further down stream I came to an area where the barren rocks slope steeply to the water, affording little space to fish. I spotted (just the act of actually seeing a fish in the water is a minor miracle to me) a small trout stationed in front of a rock swimming laterally while waiting for food to arrive. No one was around, so I didn't mind sliding on my belly, grabbing onto every spur of the rock slab I could find and down to a tiny patch of ground. I did not adjust my line, so the first cast went directly over and right in front of the little guy. Scared the hell out of him and disappointed me just a little. I reeled in and stood frozen for several minutes. The fish was to my right on the other side of a swift current, maybe 18 feet away. He returned and I cast again. I could clearly see the nymphs float toward the fish and the fish immediately react by swimming to the flies. I think that instance there sums up a large piece of why I fish. Yeah, yeah, that beauty of the nature thing, finding out about my soul, all that stuff too, I suppose. But, to actually watch the fish slide up, take the nymph and head back toward the rock. Well, of course, I set the hook and brought him to my hand for a short moment. That made my day, all in plain sight.

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner  
(Taken from the Article Written in August 2011)

## Fly Patterns - Flashy Chick Caddis



*Flashy Chick Caddis*

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Daiichi 1260 or Spirit River's 312, size 14
<b>Weight:</b>	3 wraps of lead-free weight at thorax
<b>Thread:</b>	Tan or grey 8/0
<b>Tail:</b>	Tan or grey chickabou
<b>Body:</b>	Spoiled Mylar tinsel
<b>Underwing:</b>	Same as tail
<b>Wing:</b>	Tan hen feather tip
<b>Hackle:</b>	Same as tail
<b>Head:</b>	Thread

### Description

If you have not read Ralph Cutter's "Fish Food," you need to do that. This book is clearly in the "must read" category for fly fishers, whether experienced or not. One of the phenomena that Ralph discusses in his book is the egg-laying (sometimes called "ovipositing") habits of certain caddisfly species. Unlike mayflies and stoneflies, adults dive beneath the surface, crawl along the bottom, lay their eggs, and then (if not eaten by then) swim back to the surface and, ultimately, once again become airborne. Trout, of course, know this and anything resembling a caddisfly that looks like it is: (a) swimming down to the bottom; (b) crawling along the bottom; or (c) swimming to the surface, is fair game. There is much more to this than I can include in this short article, so reading Ralph's book is essential if this phenomenon tickles your curiosity.

The **Flashy Chick Caddis** is my creation for all three of the stages mentioned above. The "flashy" part of the name comes from the fact that the body is fashioned of mylar tinsel. The "chick" part of the name is derived from the material used for the rest of the fly: chicken marabou, or "chickabou" as it is sometimes called. Chickabou feathers are found at the bottom of a hen cape (see picture). Some hen capes come without the chickabou patch, so examine each cape to make sure that is not the case before you buy one. I have also seen chickabou feathers separately packaged.

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*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 5*

There are only three materials needed for this fly, other than the hook: a spool of mylar tinsel (medium size is good); chickabou feathers; and a hen hackle. Some of the tying steps are from a pattern called the Tabou Caddis, which you will find at <http://globalflyfisher.com/patterns/taboucaddis/>

Ah, blessed simplicity. Life is good.

## 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, & 4*

1. Smash the hook barb. Wrap 3 turns of weight at the thorax area, which will be about 2 eye-widths behind the hook eye.
2. Cover the shank with thread, leaving it at the back of the barb.
3. Tie in a tail made of chickabou at a point on the shank that is just above the back of the barb. The tail should be about shank length.
4. Cut a piece of mylar tinsel from the spool and tie it in just above the back of the barb.

- 4a. Move the thread to the hook eye. Wind the mylar forward to the hook eye and tie it off there.



*Step 4a*



*Step 5*

5. Tie in a chickabou underwing at a point about 1/3 shank length behind the eye (it's OK to wrap backwards over the mylar). The underwing should extend to the bend of the hook.

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### Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

*To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of The Leader, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: [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.*

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 6

6. Pluck a feather from a hen cape, pull off all of the fuzz, and measure it so it is the same length as the underwing. Lay it flat, concave side down, on the hook shank and tie it in at the same place as the underwing was tied in. Make sure it stays flat as you tie it down.



Step 7



Step 6

7. Pull the wing case over the top of the thorax, tie it down in front of the thorax, and trim the excess. Tie in a chicabou feather by its tip, just in front of the wing base. Wrap it a couple of times around the shank and tie it off behind the eye. Moisten your fingers, sweep the barbuless back, form a nice small head, and whip finish.

Tie one of these gems to the end of your tippet and fish it like you would a wet fly (i.e., swing it). Alternately, tie it as a stinger to the bend of the bottom fly on a short line rig; then do a short line drift, but let it swing into a wet fly swing, and...

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

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**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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