

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

February 2020

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



How many of us have made a new year's resolution? Let's examine the typical resolutions. Statics show the most common are: exercising more (50%), saving money (49%), eating more healthy (43%), and of course losing weight (37%). While all good choices they typically fall to the wayside within months.

Three years ago, I realized I was letting the daily grind of life take over my existence. Life became all about fixing this or that on the house or property, and taking care of the kids' or animals' needs first. This was not good for me or my family. So, I decided to make my standing New Year's resolution something both I and my family could benefit from—getting outdoors and enjoying nature.

Having a minor in psychology, I can tell you "[Nature Deficit Disorder](#)" is a thing. Why let it happen to you and your family? Nature is free, and both mentally and physically good for you. So, pick up one of your many rods and head out into nature and, while you are there, reevaluate your New Year's resolution, and ask yourself, "Which is better for me?"

Now, for a bit of business—be sure to check the website for [fishout dates](#) and other scheduled activities. If you have not purchased your dinner tickets, you may want to do it soon.

If you are at the next meeting, come say "hi" and let me know what your New Year's resolutions are, or were.

Monthly Program



Ryan Williams

Our February speaker is **Ryan Williams**, a full-time guide & fly tier centered in Oroville. With 9 years of guiding experience, he now focuses on the Feather and Sacramento Rivers for trout, steelhead, and stripers; Lake Oroville and Berryessa for Bass; and Clear Lake for both bass and crappie. Ryan is best known for his re-discovering of the "Float n' Fly" with the fly rod, and its application for stillwater bass during the winter. He's also been a major proponent of top-water fly fishing on California's public reservoirs, and is the current Costa Bass n' Fly Champion along with Brian Pultz.

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F E B R U A R Y 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1.
2.	3.	4. Knot Tying Clinic Part 2	5.	6.	7.	8.
9.	10.	11. Board Meeting 7:00 PM	12.	13. Monthly Meeting	14.	15.
16.	17.	18. Fly Tying Jam Wading Sole Clinic	19.	20.	21.	22.
23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.

Monthly Program - Continued from page 1

Ryan will be doing his presentation on Crappie/Bass combo trips on Clear Lake. All the crappie information in the presentation applies to bass on Clear Lake, or any lake in general, as the same techniques and flies are used. A good portion of the presentation will focus on the new "Float n' Fly," a technique that took off in 2015, now being used all around the state for bass in public reservoirs year round.

Annual Dinner News

by Wendell Edwards, Dinner Chairman

- **Where:** Rocklin Event Center, at 2650 Sunset Boulevard in Rocklin. It's easy to find, and there's plenty of free parking!
- **When:** Saturday, March 21, 2020. 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.

The famous Granite Bay Flycasters Annual Dinner, Raffle, and Auction is almost here! (March 21, 2020). This is our club's biggest bash of the year—and is absolutely positively the best way to show your support in 2020.

Fantastic dinner served by Back Forty BBQ. Massive raffle, outstanding auctions, plus...the chance to break bread and share a nice evening with club-members, new friends, and families.

Tickets are going quickly! Do you have your tickets?

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Annual Dinner News - Continued from Page 2

- **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!

2020 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 2020 Annual Dinner extravaganza on March 21st? If you have someone in mind, just contact any GBF Board member to relay the deserving story. And remember...think wet!

Please consider donating something for our Annual Dinner in March

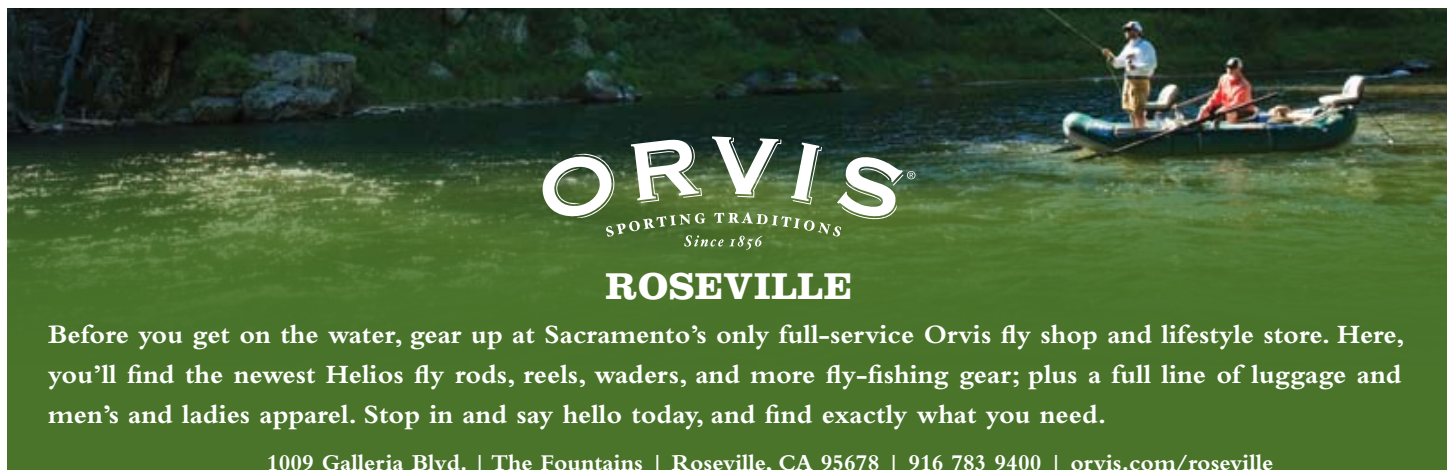
- New, unused merchandise – fishing-related or otherwise.
- Flies you tied (favorite or specialty pattern?) in a fly box.
- Other handcrafted goods – fishing-related or otherwise.
- Professional services – in gift certificate or coupon form.
- Funds specifically designated for the purchase of prizes.

Free Flies Anyone?

We're asking club members who tie flies to share their passion and patterns with other club members by donating a box of their favorite flies for our Annual Dinner Silent Auction. If you can tie up some of your favorite patterns and put them in a new fly box for the club, you'll be helping fellow club members catch more fish.

Our success at collecting raffle and auction items is directly related to our success at funding the club's operations, activities, and events for another year. Contribute now and benefit all year!

If you can help, please contact Wendell Edwards at wendelledwards@icloud.com. Any contribution is appreciated, and all donors are acknowledged at the dinner. Thank you, in advance, for helping your club in this generous way!



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Pyramid Lake Fishout April 1-4, 2020

The sixth annual Pyramid Lake fishout and all-around fun time is near, so mark your calendar for **April 1-4** (Thur-Sat). Then, be sure to sign up at the February or March meetings, or shoot me an email (ejpalmer@pacbell.net) to get on the list.

Pyramid Lake, 45 minutes north of Reno and the destination of the Truckee River, is about the size of Lake Tahoe, and a remnant of an ancient inland sea that once reached from Oregon to Reno, and west to Susanville, CA. I learned this when asking how its native [Lahontan cutthroat](#) trout arrived in a lake in the middle of the Nevada desert. Answer: they swam from the Columbia River 17,000 years ago!

Anglers on Pyramid face the oddity of hoping for windy, cloudy, cold, rainy weather that seems to improve the fishing geometrically, versus the



To get fish, you generally follow the crowd.

comfort of fair weather and a subsequently lower catch rate, but maybe not; that's Pyramid. So, while our timing is on the cusp of more comfortable conditions for humans, come prepared for cold and rain...or sun and a warm gentle breeze—you just never know with Pyramid.



Just hangin' out; a vital part of every fishout.

too. Call the main Crosby's lodge for reservations.

A couple years ago, at the top of her game, was **Michelle Davidson** with 13 beautiful cutts to the net—and most did nearly this well—including the little fellow you see here. This 34-36 inch beast fell for Doug Ouellette's Pyramid classic chartreuse/white Popcorn Beetle with optional white tail seen below. Although, there is no critter in Pyramid Lake actually matching those colors, the fish don't seem to care.

Lodging is found either on the lake in rental cabins, or trailers at Crosby's Lodge, in personal RVs at the paved Pelican Bay camp ground (now with convenient tank toilets), or 45 minutes back in Reno or Sparks. We typically have at least a half dozen member's trailering it at Pelican CG. And, you can tent camp there



Michelle's big one.

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

Pyranud Lake Fishout - Continued from Page 4



The "fly" that fools many Pyramid Cutthroats. Tail optional.

If you're new to the lake, or need a refresher, you will receive any desired orientation or coaching to launch you on a fun and successful weekend, but the catching part is up to you.

Should you hook anything even close to what Michelle's holding, you may want to quickly summon a "wing man" with a big net for an assist. I once watched three anglers spend 20 minutes corralling a much smaller fish into a net.

Members who sign up will receive ample supporting documentation via email on flies, rigging and how to fish the lake, along with lodging information. So, sign up and join us. In the meantime, go [here](#) to the GBF site Message Board Pyramid fishout template for more details on this fun and popular outing.

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.

Greg Dwyer

Devin Eliseo

Jeff Fink

Amanda and Trevor Tufts

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GBF Library - Check It Out

A number of new west coast steelhead books have been added to the Library, thanks to the generous donations made by club members. A list of current additions is provided below.

- The Teeny Technique for Steelhead and Salmon – Techniques, tackle and flies from Jim Teeny; the guy who created the “T-series” fly lines.
- Steelhead Fly Fishing – Almost 500 pages explaining west coast steelhead rivers, tackle, techniques and flies.
- Advanced Fly Fishing For Steelhead – killer full color plates of steelhead flies.
- A Passion for Steelhead – More good stuff.
- Flies For Steelhead – A fly tying guidebook with several hundred color photos and recipes.



And don't forget the silent auction for classic books. 3 books will be offered to members through a silent auction. The auction will open at 6:30, and close when the refreshments have been served. Bidding will start at \$10, and there will be a minimum bid increase of \$1.00. The books that will be offered are listed below. Do your research and come with cash!

1. [Caddisflies](#) by Gary LaFontaine. Hardback with dustcover.
2. [Steelhead Flyfishing](#) by Trey Combs. Softcover.
3. [Fly-Fishing Stillwaters for Trophy Trout](#) by Denny Rickards. Hardcover with dustcover.

Contact me, Kim Lloyd, at kc.lloyd@comcast.net, with any questions or comments.

2020 ISE Show Report



by Dale Spear

Thank you to all the club members who volunteered to staff our booth at the 2020 ISE Show. Several people came by the booth to ask questions about our club and share stories about fishing. We had 66 people leave their contact information, and our club president sent them a greeting via email with one of our *Leader* newsletters attached. We need a volunteer to organize next year's show. We have many of the logistical steps written down and stored on our My Cloud site. If you are interested, please contact one of our Board members.

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

Fly Patterns - Bill's Swimming Starling Sally Dry



Bill's Swimming Starling Sally Dry

Materials:

Hook:	Standard dry fly hook, sizes 14-18 (I like Tiemco's 900BL)
Thread:	Pale yellow 8/0 or smaller
RIBBING:	Fine gold wire
Body:	Pale yellow natural dubbing with a slight olive tinge
Thorax:	Same as body
Under wing:	Pale yellow CDC
Over wing:	Pale yellow find deer hair
Hackle:	Starling feather, tied soft hackle style

Description

The **Swimming Starling Sally** was featured here last month. In that article I briefly referred to a subspecies of the little yellow stonefly that will actually transform into an adult in the water column, contrary to the habit of all other stoneflies. That information was garnered from Internet articles authored by respected entomologists. What I didn't mention is that there is no general consensus among scientists on this point. For example, Ralph Cutter, I believe (based on what he says in his excellent book, "Fish Food,") would disagree with such a conclusion. In any event, it matters not one whit and I don't know who is correct—the fact is that the soft hackle pattern works.

This month, let's look at the adult insect for clues as to how to create an effective floating imitation. That is the regimen that I follow when I sit down to design a new pattern. The adult Sally is very delicate, tiny, and slender. Its wings are gossamer, and its body is a pale yellow hue (with some variations). These characteristics render it nearly invisible when it is in the surface film. In flight it is somewhat more visible because of those same characteristics that make it difficult to see on the water—i.e., its pale colors reflect light against the sky and landscape. Still, as pointed out last month, it is readily and regularly mistaken for other insects.

So how do the Sally's characteristics affect fly design? Obviously pale colored materials are required, but it is the manner in which those materials are applied that is critical, and somewhat less obvious. What it takes is actual, close-up observation and attention to detail. The watchword is sparseness—overdressed flies will be ignored by picky fish.

Using those principles as design guidelines, I came up with the Starling Sally dry fly. This pattern employs a new design concept: a marriage between a soft hackle fly and a dry fly. The hackle is starling, which of course is not intended to aid flotation; rather, it allows the fly to lie flat within the surface film with legs that move about, imparting some motion to the bug. The fly sports an egg sac made of fine rust colored dubbing (red is too bright), and utilizes the same pale yellow-olive dubbing as the nymph for the abdomen and thorax. The ribbing is fine gold or copper wire, to mimic body segmentation. The under wing is pale yellow CDC, and the over wing is fine (for translucency) deer hair in a pale yellowish color. Let's sit down and crank a few.



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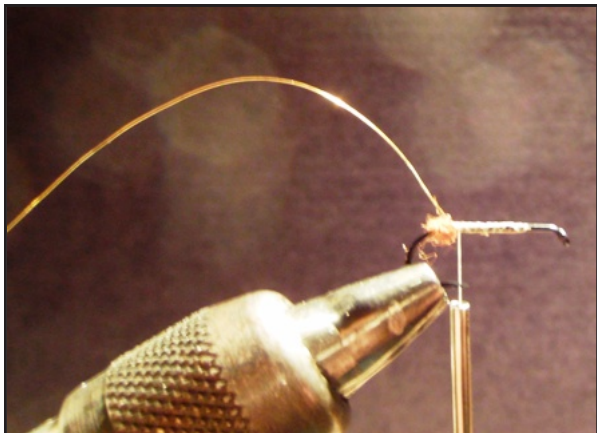
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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 7

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. At the same point, begin dubbing the body forward in a nice slight taper. It is important to keep the body slender but achieve a slight cigar-shaped taper as you proceed forward. Stop at the 1/3 point on the hook.
4. Rib the body with 4 or 5 turns of the gold wire and tie off the wire at the front of the body.



Steps 3 & 4



Step 5

5. Take two similarly shaped CDC feathers, lay them together, and trim the butts so that what remains is the tips of the feathers; they should be no longer than the hook shank. Tie them in just ahead of the abdomen, and don't crowd the hook eye.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 8



Step 6

6. Cut, clean, and stack a small bunch of fine deer hair. Trim the butts so that the hair length equals the hook shank. Tie the hair in at the same point as the CDC was tied in, tightly securing the butts. Add a tiny drop of super glue to ensure that the CDC and deer hair remain directly on top of the hook. Again, don't crowd the hook eye.

7. Dub a sparse thorax around the base of the wing.
8. Prepare a starling feather (see below) and tie it in by its tip, just in front of the thorax. Since the fly is designed in the soft-hackle style, the concave side of the feather should face the rear of the hook.
9. Wind the feather around the hook at least 3 times, sweeping the barbs back on each turn. Tie the feather off just behind the hook eye, trim the excess, and wind the thread in close wraps rearward to help sweep the hackle backward. Whip finish and apply a small drop of super glue to the head.



Steps 7, 8, & 9

Tying Tips

You will note that some of the steps for this fly resemble those for the soft hackle pattern. This is intentional, as it makes for easier tying and fewer necessary materials. The following tips were included last month but because they apply also to the dry fly version, I have included them again here for convenience.

1. Starling feathers from the neck area have an iridescent black shine and a tan-ish tip. These are the feathers you should look for.
2. To prepare a feather for a soft-hackle fly, there are several methods that have been written about. I prefer to follow these steps:
 - a. Strip the fuzz from the butt end of the feather, but don't cut the stem.
 - b. Isolate the feather's tip by grabbing it with a pointed tweezer and sweeping the remaining barbs rearward.
 - c. Tie the feather in using the isolated tip as a tab.

Remember to tie sparsely, and.....See ya on the creek (which is where I'm headed today).

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. 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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