

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

May 2020

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

I am confident you have heard this a hundred times over in the past month, but I am going to say it anyway. I hope this month's issue of *The Leader* finds you, your family, and friends happy, healthy, and most of all sane. We have been through frustration and some trying times lately, with no real end in sight. With that said, there will not be any meetings during the month of May. Fishouts will be at the discretion of the Fishout Leader.

I know each of us is looking forward to a bit of normalcy in our daily lives. I think our past definition of "normal" may be just that, a thing of the past. We will need to adjust our britches and design a new "normal" for ourselves. Who knows, the new normal may turn out to be better than the old one. Please

know, I am here to listen or help each of you in any way I can. I will do my best to keep you up to date on the status of club events. Be safe and healthy.

Upper Sacramento River Spring Fishout Wednesday, May 27th to Sunday, May 31st

by Tony Jelinek - Fishout Leader

The 8th Annual Upper Sacramento Spring Fishout will be taking place Wednesday, May 27th - Sunday, May 31st.

Home-base for the fishout will be Soda Creek Farm. Unfortunately, houses available to rent with adequate room to accommodate our group for sleeping have dwindled in the area. But, Soda Creek Farm offers a great place for all to congregate to recharge during the day, tell tales of the day, tie-up leaders, eat a meal, or just hang out. It also offers a great place to start off the day, as it is very close to the Soda Creek portion of the river. Many camping and motel options exist in the Dunsmuir area.

Thursday evening we will have the traditional barbecue for a minimal charge per person (\$5 - \$8). Several lunch, breakfast, and dinner spots are in the area for your other meals.

The Upper Sacramento River abounds with great pocket water. This time of year has long days, great for nymphing during the day, with a good chance of some good dry fly fishing with caddis and stonefly patterns in the evening. This is a great fishout for anglers of all capabilities. If you are new to the river and/or new to fly fishing, you will be paired with a fellow angler familiar with the Upper Sacramento River. The fly fishing method of choice is short-line nymphing, an easy method to learn. If you are unfamiliar with the method, you will be shown how to short-line nymph, as

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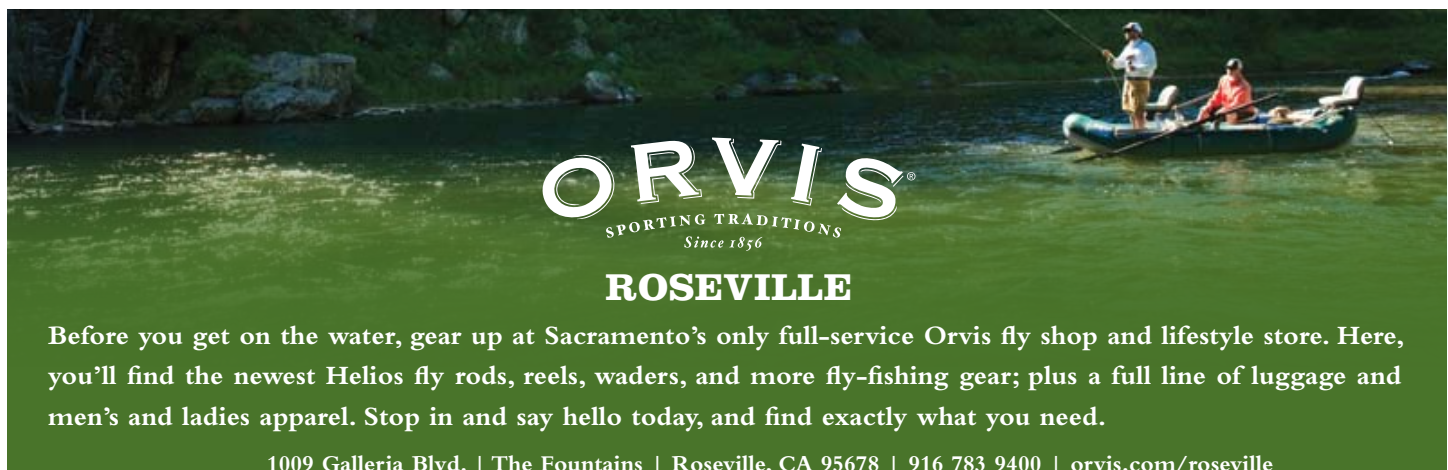
M A Y 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1.	2.
3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12. Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM	13.	14. Monthly Meeting CANCELLED	15.	16.
17.	18.	19. Fly Tying Jam CANCELLED	20.	21. White Pine Reservoir TENTATIVE	22.	23. Sly Park Fishout TENTATIVE
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30
<div> <div></div> <div>May 27 - 30 Upper Sac Fishout - TENTATIVE</div> </div>						

Upper Sacramento River Spring Fishout - Continued from page 1

well as be provided with the necessary leader, and also be shown how to set-up the rig. Come up for all four days, or just overnight, to enjoy the great fishing for rainbow trout on the 35 miles of fishable water from just north of Lake Shasta to Lake Siskiyou!

Please note, the fishout is usually a 4-day event, but was expanded to 5 days to help support the Club's Annual Dinner, which had to be moved to May 31st due to concerns with the Corona Virus. This way you can add a day on the front-end, if you wish to shorten the trip on the back-end, or you can leave for home by 10 A.M. on Sunday, May 31st to make it to the dinner and still have time to unpack and get ready.

For more information, please go to the posting [here](#) on the club's website, and/or get in touch with me at jelinea@me.com.



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Annual Elections

The annual election of officers and directors takes place at the June general meeting. Below is a list of the positions to be voted on and the members who have been nominated.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominated</u>
President	TinaLyn Sell
Vice President, Membership	OPEN
Vice President, Conservation	Ed Lloyd
Secretary	Dave Fujiyama
Treasurer	Jerry Furlong
Director, 3 year term	Bruce Emard
Director, 3 year term	Joey Nizuk
Director-at-Large, 1 year term	Chris Kight
Director-at-Large, 1 year term	OPEN

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

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.

Matthew Comfort

Sly Park/Jenkinson Lake Fishout

by Doug Kytonen - Fishout Leader



The Sly Park Fishout this year will be on Saturday, May 23rd. I am not sure on the crowds at the lake for a weekend this time of the year, but I hope it is light. I normally do this fishout during the week, but was hoping to get more club members interested in float tube fly fishing for smallmouth bass. With many of our members still part of the working class, this will give them a chance to join us for a day of fun on the water.

Rainbow, german brown, mackinaw, large and small mouth bass, and bluegill can all be caught here. The Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains the fish planting program of trout.

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Sly Park/Jenkinson Lake Fishout- Continued from page 3

From the narrows of the lake back to Hazel Creek there is a 5 mph speed limit. The area we will be fishing is called the "Chimneys". Here are a couple of pictures from the message board Gene Goss took last year. Big Thanks to Gene.

If you're interested in going after some nice fighting fish, smallmouth bass is the ticket. With this area being a 5 mph zone, it is quite safe, and no worries about skiers and fast boats. A 5-8 wt. rod will be the way to go, with a floating or intermediate line working fine. Flies would be an assortment of wiggle tails, wooly buggers or maybe a crawfish or small bait fish pattern will work.

There is a boat ramp at the cove prior to the Chimneys called Stonebreaker Launch and campground. Day use entrance is \$14.00/\$10.00 with senior discount; boat launch is \$10.00/\$9.00 senior and disable discount. You can sign up at the next meeting, or contact me at Travelmaster@surewest.net. Also, there is more detailed info [here](#) on the website.



Let's Go Fishing: Practice Your Knots Now, Not on the Water

by Jim Degman, a "knotty" guy

Now that we have cleaned our reels and flylines, polished our guides, flushed our ferrules and fondled our fly collection for the umpteenth time, it is time to think about the next step in fishing: getting back in shape to fish when things finally open up.

If we've been laid off for a while, we may be rusty in many things—casting, hiking, wading. But we can improve our manual dexterity now by practicing tying on flies, joining different sizes of leaders, maybe even tying up some of your favorite rigs and putting them on foam spools. Then, when we break off (hopefully on a rock or moss and not the fish of the year), we can repair our setup and be back on the water in no time. We buy rod, reel, lines, leader, tippet and hooks; we alone own the knot.

Knots should be automatic, like casting, only they are more simple actions. Like casting, it takes practice, drill to tie good strong knots fast. They should be a habit. Here are some ideas to keep your fly in the water where it belongs.

Remember, fish live in the water, not on land, so you won't have a chance of catching anything while you are rigging up, i.e. tying knots.

1. If you have a subscription to the [California Flyfisher](#) magazine (and you should), check out the article "Knot Epiphanies" in the March edition. It is filled with a lot of very interesting data, and defines knot failure in a whole new way.
2. Dig out your old Maxima and heavy leader materials, 0, 1, 2 X. How long have you had them? Are they really any good anymore? Put them to good use now by practicing knots in the heavy stuff. It is easier to tie knots in larger, stiffer material. Start with simple knots—clinch, Uni-

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Let's Go Fishing - Continued from page 4

- knot, improved clinch. Try to break them by really cinching down on them with forceps. Tie some Three Turn Surgeon's knots and then some barrel or blood knot. Don't waste your expensive fluorocarbon materials on this; they don't seem to deteriorate with age. You can also just buy a spool of cheap material for a few bucks.
3. Build your confidence and speed in these materials. Pull hard, set hard. Most knots slip because they are not set tight enough. If you are a little tentative in your knot skills, you might be afraid to really wrench down on the knot for fear of breaking it. Practice breaking knots, finding out what it takes to really set the knot in the first place. You might be surprised at the force it takes to break 2X.
 4. Move on to finer materials down to 5X (.006") at least. Sure, you're burning off reels of Rio, but you can order more from your favorite fly shop, and it will be fresh and ready for the new season. Support our few remaining flyshops. Again, see how much force is required to break 5X tippet to hook, or 4X leader to 5X tippet.
 5. Keep a spool and nippers on the table next to where you sit to watch television. Tie a few knots during the commercials. Tie a few every day, going first for well-formed knots and then for speed. Check the formed knot for conformation, i.e, don't bunch or pile wraps. Pull the knot tight.
 6. Try some different knots; some may be new to you:
 - a. Tippet to fly: Becker or Orvis knot. This is the strongest of all the tippet-to-fly knots tested, but takes a little bit of practice to tie quickly, especially in finer diameter materials.
 - b. Davy's knot: Favorite of the Tenkara/Tanuki flyfishers. Easy to learn, quick to tie, but not as strong as the Becker/Orvis knot, but for our smaller streams, quite adequate.
 - c. The Seaguar knot: developed by the makers of fluorocarbon materials. Quick to tie, especially when joining fluorocarbon tippet to monofilament nylon.
 7. Now, run some tug-of-war tests on your knots. Take a length of tippet and tie a hook or swivel with a snap to each end. Use a different knot or the same knot with more or less turns. Hook the assembly to something solid and pull hard to break the line. See which knot breaks first. "Knot Epiphanies" has a more detailed description of this method. Good idea to wear glasses and gloves when testing, stuff flies everywhere. Mark your hooks with a bit of yarn so you can see them when they land on the carpet.

Finally, if all this seems strange and you need some more information about some ways to improve your knot tying skills, feel free to email me at jd293@comcast.net and we can discuss this. "Knots...are one of the most important, yet underrated aspects of fishing. Tight knots and tight lines." (R. Ketley, "Knot Epiphanies")



A well-formed clinch knot, but prone to unwind.



Improved clinch knot. Notice how the tag is trapped a second time. This is where it gets its resistance to unwind.

Manzanita Lake Fishout, June 3 - 7

by Michael Kaul, Fishmaster

Hey there Granite Bay Flycasters,

How about a fishout at Manzanita Lake in Lassen National Park? Sandy and I are leading this fishout June 3-7 (virus permitting, we shall see). You are welcome to come any or all days. Several of us are staying at the Manzanita Lake campground, and have reserved 10 sites (shareable with tenters) all in the "A" loop. Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov. There are also rustic cabins located between the campground and the lake that have walls and a roof, a heater, a table and chairs (except Bunkhouse), bunks with a mattress, and a lantern available at recreation.gov (or www.Lassenlodging.com). The campground has laundry, showers and a store. Others have booked stays at motels close by.

If the experience of last year is any measure, the fishing should be wonderful. Michael does brag about his late evening catch on a Matuka of a beautiful hard fighting bat years ago, but he failed to get a picture, so.... The lake has a beautiful view of Mt. Lassen, and there are several other options for fishing close by, including still and moving water. For non-fishers there is also an abundance of hiking, site seeing and bike riding. At Manzanita, the fishing is primarily float tube (we will bring extra equipment supply instruction on use, and guidance will be available), and ranges from dries to subsurface, with nice well-fed native rainbows and browns to take your offerings. Callibaetis, mayflies, caddis, damsel, dragons, scuds, leeches and ants are a few of the foods in the lake. You can fish subsurface flies with a floating line, but an intermediate sink line is often a good choice. The fish can be fairly large and healthy, so a 4-5x tippet should be good, but at times tippet as light as 7x for dries might be needed (and a box full of flies).

The lake is at 5,890' elevation, so it could be cold. Mapquest tells me it is a 3 hr. 40 min. drive. Sandy and myself are planning to treat everyone to a chili/salad dinner at the campground on either Friday or Saturday

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

Manzanita Lake Fishout - Continued from page 6

evening (menu subject to change). Hope to see you there! There are articles on fishing Manzanita in the *California Fly Fisher*; Dec '18 and June '14.

You can sign up at the May (hopefully) meeting, by email at mikedkaul@gmail.com, or by calling me at (530-677-8022).

White Pine Reservoir Fishout May 21st, Arnold - Sierra Foothills

by Doug Kytonen - Fishout Leader



Last year was the first time we had a fishout at White Pine Reservoir, which is located in a public park next to the town of Arnold. There is no launch fee, and it holds bass and trout. The Calaveras Fly Fishers hold their "One Fly Contest" at White Pines Reservoir each year.

Last Year, I think we were too early in the season, with water temp by the streams about 45 degrees, and fishing was slow to zip. I have scheduled a new fishout a few weeks later this year on May 21st. There are NO MOTORS OF ANY KIND ALLOWED on the water.

If you enjoy fishing, paddle boarding, canoeing, kayaking, or just want to go for a picnic in the woods, White Pines is a great destination. Summer time you can swim, once the water warms, with a welcoming beach to accommodate the children (no lifeguard!). A trail goes around the lake, if you would like to stretch your legs. The lake was created as a part of an old logging operation, and fed by two streams year-round.

The lake is about a 2-hour drive from the Sacramento area, and Arnold is a quaint little town with shops, cafes, and many wineries with tasting rooms. It's a great way to have a day trip and enjoy the heart of the Sierras on

Hwy. 4. Other fishing opportunities in the area include Spicer Reservoir, Alpine Lake, Mosquito Lake, or the North Fork of the Stanislaus. Sign up at a club meeting, or contact me directly at travelmaster@surewest.net. There is more detailed info [here](#) on the website.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and hope to see you on the next fishout.

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.


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

Fly Patterns - Burk's Aggravator Prince Nymph



Burk's Aggravator Prince Nymph

Materials:

Hook:	TMC 2312, Daiichi 1260, or similar hook, #6-14
Thread:	Black Danville 6/0
Head:	Gold bead, sized to match hook
Weight:	Lead free wire wraps
Tag:	Pearl Crystal Flash
Tail:	Brown/Olive Marabou
Rib:	Gold Wire
Abdomen:	Peacock Herl
Thorax:	Peacock Herl
Collar:	Peacock Herl
Wing Case:	White goose biots
Legs:	Olive Silli-Legs

Description

Andy Burk needs no introduction to the world of fly tying; he's practically a legend. But he's also a darned nice guy. Andy has produced many U-Tube videos on fly tying—and, of course, these are all free. He has also made or been featured in commercially marketed DVDs on fly tying. Andy has, over the years, developed many original patterns, some of which have (at least in my case) accounted for many "nice" fish. Andy formerly wrote the "At the Vise" column in the *California Fly Fisher Magazine*; I was honored to take over that column once Andy moved along to other ventures.

I've used Andy's Aggravator Prince Nymph for bass and trout in still water angling. The fly, with its sexy motion, attracts fish and induces strikes and takes. Tie up a few of these and toss them to still water trout and bass.

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

1. Smash the hook barb, apply the bead to the hook, and wrap weighting wire in the thorax area.
2. Cover the shank with thread, leaving it at the rear of the hook, just above the back of the barb. Tie in two pieces of pearl Crystal Flash and wrap them down the bend to the half way point, and then back to the tie-in point. Tie it off and trim the excess.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 8

3. Cut or strip a small bunch of olive-brown marabou from the quill, and tie it in at the front end of the Crystal Flash tag, to form the tail. The tail should be approximately the length of the hook shank.
4. Tie in a piece of gold wire at the same spot; this will be the ribbing material.



Steps 3 & 4



Step 5

5. At the same spot, tie in 3 or 4 long strands of peacock herl and form a loop of the thread; leave the loop with the herl, but cut one leg of the loop at the shank. Move the thread forward to the hook eye. Using your hackle pliers, grab all of the peacock herl strands and the single strand of thread. Twist the thread and herl counterclockwise until you form a herl "chenille."

6. Wind the peacock "chenille" forward to form the abdomen; stop winding when you have reached the 2/3 point on the shank, and tie off the herl. Don't trim it yet, as we will use the rest of it to finish the thorax.



Step 6

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 9

7. At that same front 2/3 point, tie in the first set of legs by laying a section of leg material perpendicular across the hook shank and tying it down. Figure-8 wrap the leg material; don't trim it yet.



Step 7



Step 8

8. Pick up the herl chenille once again and take a few wraps in front of the first set of legs, sweeping them rearward. Tie off the herl again and move it out of the way. Apply a second set of legs in the same manner as the first set.

9. Rib the abdomen and thorax areas with the fine gold wire and tie off the wire in front of the thorax.
10. Cut two long white biots from the stem. Tie them in at the front of the thorax and place a drop of glue at the tie-in point.
11. Using the remainder of the herl chenille, wrap a collar of peacock herl behind the bead and tie it off. Whip finish behind the bead.



Steps 9, 10, & 11

Now go throw one of these beasts to some still water bass or trout with an intermediate sink line, 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. 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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Past President - Wendell Edwards
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