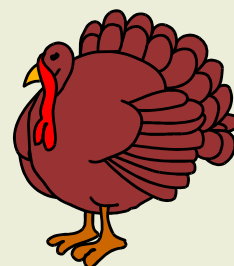


November 2020

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

Not much to say about the club right now, it is business as "Covid" usual. Be sure to keep an eye out for your Zoom invitation for the monthly general meeting and read *The Leader* fully for the most up-to-date club information and great vacation/fish stories.

The fires have died down, the smoke has lifted, and the cool temps have arrived. Fingers crossed, you have all weathered these conditions in a favorable manner. Despite the continuous cyclone called Covid-19, it is time for us to start healing and growing from the experiences and situations we have been faced with. So grab your proverbial world by the gills, shake off the scales, and start your Holiday Season with a smile.

Finnon Lake Fishout Report

by Gary Gale, Fishout Leader

The October 25th Finnion Lake Fishout featured a nice fall day and eight eager GBF fisherfolk. **Mike Churchill** won the derby, so to speak, by landing one nice bass and a good number of bluegill (and crappie?). **Jim Deagan** surprised me by fishing the small cove immediately adjacent to the launch area, and taking down at least three large bluegill right off the bat. Mike recommended an Olive Woolly Bugger, while Jim said he took his fish on a "standard stillwater nymph."

Three of the anglers were outfitted with fishfinders, which allowed a good look at the underwater terrain of Finnion. There were fish marked down on the bottom in the 25-40 foot sections, which I believe were inactive trout, and I only saw a couple of suspended fish at 10' in that section of the reservoir. No one took a trout, and I believe there was a sufficient effort to cast and sink lines down in the "trout section." A couple of attendees headed for the bullrush section thinking that, of course, a large bass could be pulled out of that area, but it was not to be.

So, it being a "three species impound"—well, most folks went into the various holding pockets of Finnion looking for bluegill, and we had two attendees tell me that they were pretty sure that the bluegill they had caught were the largest they had ever caught, as in "dinner plate size." Although one or two of us somehow failed to find the right fly/depth/tempo-of-retrieve, those who got it right were happy to hook up on the jumbo bluegills.

This was the third time I fished Finnion and, being a trout guy, I have looked into where the trout are at, so-to-speak. The water temp at the surface was 62 degrees, and with sections of the water going

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N O V E M B E R 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
8.	9.	10. Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM	11. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM Veteran's Day Fishout - Discovery Bay	12. Monthly Meeting via ZOOM	13.	14.
15.	16.	17. Fly Tying Jam via ZOOM	18.	19.	20.	21.
22.	23.	24.	25. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM	26.	27.	28.
29.	30.					

Finnon Lake Fishout Report - Continued from page 1

to forty feet, I have to think that they didn't all go away. Best guess is that Finnion is intended to be planted twice each spring, including trophy trout—but because of Covid restrictions this spring, it was only planted once. Even though it's catch-and-release, just plain attrition (I hope not poaching?) may have taken place. We shall see. Maybe they are waiting for colder weather to get off the bottom.

In the end, what Finnion offers, as I mentioned in my initial posting, is a one-hour drive to good float tube water that is open year round. Rumor has it that [Frank's Diner](#), located right at the lake, puts out a darn good burger and sandwiches—so you don't have to even bring food! By and large, if you get up there by yourself or with another GBF member, you will very likely be the only ones out on the water. You have to share the fishing with the resident bald eagle, who comes by every so often.

Thanks to all who attended and made the day enjoyable.

**Discovery Bay Fishout, Veteran's Day
November 11, 2020**

by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader

We will again travel to Discovery Bay for a day of fishing for Stripers, Largemouth Bass, Crappie, and Bluegills on Veterans Day. Discovery Bay is located on the south side of Stockton off Highway 4, and is a protected residential development on the water with huge houses and private docks. There is a long rock jetty that goes out to the delta entrance of the community, all great for bass fishing. This is all a 5 MPH zone, so it is great for float tube and pontoon boats to fish from. There is a tide, but little-to-no current, unless you go out

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Discovery Bay Fishout, Veteran's Day - Continued from page 2

to the entrance and right side of the little light house, and then you will fight the current. Fishing can be great because you have a variety of species to target, with all being great little fighters. There is also a chance of hooking a large striper or LMB over 5 pounds.

The days will be shorter, nights will be cooler, hopefully the fishing will be hotter than the weather. Gear will be 5-8wt rods sinking line (intermediate will also work) streamers, sliders and divers, or baitfish patterns. With high tide, fish close to the rock wall and structure; on the low tide, work out in deeper waters by the 5 mph buoys. Dress for cool morning and mild day weather.

Send me an email if interested travelmaster@surewest.net and I will send out more information at a later date, like weather and wind forecast, along with a tide table This will be open to float tube, pontoons, kayaks or regular fishing boats. We keep connected by walkie-talkie Ch. 6 as always. This has been a regular outing for the past few years, so please join us for some fun fishing.



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Welcome to Our Newest Members

by Eric Palmer, VP Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members who have joined us recently. Make sure you keep an eye out for them at our meetings and events so that we can make them feel that they are an important part of our club.

Hal Koehncke

Danny Martinez

Walt Savage

Yellowstone Journal: A Fishing Sampler in Paradise

by Ron Davidson, Michelle Davidson, Gary Millhollen, Barbara Millhollen

Part 2

(Continued from the October Issue)

Paradise Sampler #4, July 11—Hebgen Lake, Madison River, Gibbon River

Gulpers are a phenomenon that occur on Hebgen Lake, often beginning in early July and continuing throughout the month into early August. At this time, large "Cuts and Bows" cruise the lake, often porpoising and slurping up the huge hatches of Callibaetis and tiny Tricos. It is said you can actually hear the fish gulping as they course through the surface water. We went in search of gulpers with the aid of Scott, from Blue Ribbon Flies, who guided **Barb** and **Gary** just a few days ago. Once again, the hatch didn't happen, so no gulpers. "Plan B," Scott rigged us up with some Split Cased Callibaetis Nymphs under Tilt Winged Callibaetis Duns. And as is often the case, **Michelle** had two fish in the boat before I had a hit. Looked to be an epic day ahead, but then things slowed to a crawl. We worked hard, and by lunch time I got three fish to the boat, while Michelle added one more. Every fish was a beautiful bow exceeding 20 inches.

Scott suggested we make our way down to Lyons Bridge and do a mini afternoon float on the Madison. We ran the gamut of top water flies, and Scott worked hard changing out rigs and maneuvering the boat into fertile looking water. The fish simply didn't like our offerings. So, we switched tactics to double nymph rigs under indicators and, immediately, the action picked up. We both landed a number of fish, mostly Rocky Mountain Whitefish, but we each bagged two very nice rainbows. Although the float was a short one, we once again learned a great deal from Scott, who was energetic and great fun to be with. We heard some great stories relating to his Native American heritage. We took out at Windy Point, exhausted and ready for food and bed.



Michelle with a nice Hebgen Lake 'bow

In the meantime, Barb and Gary were having a great time exploring the Gibbon River and landing some fun little cuts, all on dry flies.

They focused mainly on the section of river between Gibbon Falls and our campground at Madison Junction. This is a beautiful section of water, with riffles, pocket water and pools winding through a wonderful little canyon. "B" and "G" decided to put the rods down, drive northward and make a walking tour of the river as it worked through Gibbon Meadow and Elk Park. Beautiful lush valleys, and the rivers meandered slowly, with quite a few cut banks for fish to hide under. They saw a few fishermen, but didn't seem to be many fish being taken. I'm a little sad that "M" and I didn't get a chance to fish the Gibbon on this trip. But, there is another one in the planning!!



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Yellowstone Journal - Continued from page 4

Paradise Sampler #5, July 12—Slough Creek

Slough Creek is a legendary tributary of the Lamar River in the Northeast Corner. You have the option of fishing the Lower Creek below the campground down to its confluence with the Lamar, or hike into one of the Three Meadows where renowned bug factories reside in these winding valley sections. We decided to head into the first meadow, about an hour's hike over the ridge. Of course, the bugs heard we were coming, so they took the day off and didn't come into the factory. It turned out to be quite a blustery day, and we threw everything in our arsenal at those reluctant fish. We all caught a few smaller guys, but the bigger ones occasionally flashed on our flies, but none enjoyed the meal. However, Gary was again the persistent one. He had a huge fish break him off early on, and he noted that spot. After we three decided to begin the trek back later in the day, Gary returned to his spot, and with a Yellow Hopper gained his revenge and landed the troublesome guy, another beauty of a Yellowstone Cut. Although not a productive day in terms of numbers of larger fish, it was amazing. The view back over to the Lamar Valley from the top of the ridge was an incredible panorama, and the wild flowers painted the entire area in a dazzling array of color. I love catching fish, but when you are hanging out in Paradise, a slow day is pretty trivial.

Paradise Sampler #6, July 13—Yellowstone Lake Revisited

Our last full day in Yellowstone, so we had a vote, where would we like to spend this day. It was unanimous...return to Yellowstone Lake!!!! This time we got to the lake earlier, hoping to enjoy a longer spell of calm water. And, once again, this beautiful beach was all ours, no one on the water in our large cove, and no one on the beach. Michelle and I changed up a little, moving from the soft hackle callibaetis nymphs we used last time to a jigged black and silver leech pattern. Barb and Gary threw a variety of Leech and Wiggle Tail Patterns. Enjoying the calm water, we all met with some success, and when the winds did arrive, at times very gusty, we learned from our previous day, and dragged our float tubes well down the beach, paddled out, and the wind brought us right back to our beach headquarters. By the end of the day, we had landed eight fish, everyone easily exceeding 20 inches, and Barb put a cap on the day by landing an amazing 26-inch golden hog. These fish were muscular fighters, and we learned it was best to let the wind help you back to the beach, and let one of the crew net the fish from shore. Otherwise, we would be towed around out there for quite a while. What a great way to say farewell to The Park. We once again kicked back in our float-loungers, enjoyed the views and some snacks, and reminisced about the week before heading back to camp to prepare for tomorrow's move to Westfork Camp and Cabins on the Madison River.



Barb's Yellowstone Lake Beast

Continued on Page 6

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Yellowstone Journal - Continued from page 5

Moving Day, July 14

We broke camp mid-morning and headed to Westfork. A quick stop at Galloup's Slide Inn, since we had a guide trip with them the next day, and we wanted to check in. Kelly Galloup was affable as ever, and had lots of time to talk with us. Our arrival at our Next Camping Spot was unsettling, a sign on the office door announced that one of the guests was diagnosed with Covid, and she was self isolating in her trailer. This troubled us a great deal, but decided to set up camp, and then head out on a 70-mile drive through the fishing hamlet of Ennis, and the Historic Village of Virginia City, bound for Twin Bridges and a tour of the Winston Rod Company. You would think the stupid tourists would call and check, but they didn't. The Winston Company was closed due to the pandemic—a lovely drive, however! On the drive home, we decided that we were taking an extreme risk, with known Covid diagnosis in camp, and that we should pack up and head home.



Gary's persistence pays off

That evening, we celebrated summer with a fun (socially distanced) Hot Dog BBQ with Barb and Gary, and shared our plans to head home. We were on the go so much, we never really had a relaxing evening in camp like this on the entire trip.

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Yellowstone Journal - Continued from page 6

Paradise Sampler #7—Madison River to Ennis



Barb's cutthroat, last day on the Madison

We said our goodbyes, stopped by Slide Inn and paid for the trip that we cancelled this morning, and headed for home. Barb and Gary had one more fishing adventure before heading to Colorado to visit their daughter and grandkids.

Dan, their guide from Slide Inn, took them on an epic 13-hour float, from the put in at Storey Road, all the way to Ennis. They saw the river change character from its fabled "long riffle" identity to a multi-braided, meandering section with undercut banks, ideal for concealing big browns. Barb caught a large brown on a nymph right away, and Gary followed with a nice 19" Rainbow. They saw some good action with dries early in the going, then switched to a sculpin pattern which they drifted, and did very well. They each landed 7 or 8 fish, a mixture of "Bows and Cuts," all over 16 inches. Dan (six month CPA, and six month river guide) was extremely interesting, a great teacher, and worked tenaciously for the entire trip. Again, exhausted but elated, they returned to camp late, simple meal and bed time.

Post Script

Although we had to cut our trip short by 3 days, we felt we made the right decision. We later learned that 4 more campers at our campground had been diagnosed with Covid. The trip abbreviation did not dampen the wonderful time we had. Being able to fish multiple locations with the marvels of Yellowstone as a backdrop, and sharing the experience with old friends was (as the commercial says, "Priceless"). We have all recounted our adventure many times, and plans are in the making for a return to Paradise, and names like Henry's Lake, The Henry's Fork of the Snake, Teton River and others may just be in the mix.

Tight Lines and Happy Fishing Travels,

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

Fly Patterns - Shambles Caddis II



Shambles Caddis II

Materials:

Hook:	Tiemco 102, sizes 14, 16
Thread:	Tan 8/0
Tail (shuck?):	Temple dog fur (olive or light brown)
Abdomen:	Medium opal tinsel and "touch dubbed" antron dubbing (olive or light brown)
Hackle:	Palmered dry fly quality neck feather of a neutral color
Wing:	High quality deer hair (natural or burnt orange)
Head:	Thread

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 7

Description

Yes, I'm still on a Caddis kick. Maybe it's because lately I seem to be catching a lot of fish on Caddis imitations. In the July, 2009 *Leader* I featured a very successful fly that I call the "Shambles Caddis." I like to tinker, tweak, and fiddle around when I hold a hook captive in my vise—perhaps it's an exercise in creativity, an artistic expression if you will. Sometimes (not always), it's based on something I've observed while stumbling around on a stream, but mostly I think it's just a "what if....?" that flits through my psyche as I crank the bobbin. These brainstorming are not always productive—meaning they sometimes result in miserable failures when presented to wily trout: rejections, or just downright ignoring of the rendition that I am so proud of. But on occasion, something I've created does actually work—and when I say "work" I mean it catches fish regularly in a routine of rigorous testing over time.

And so it was with the Shambles Caddis. It has never failed me when I fish it myself, and it has amazed guide clients in canyon stream settings—even rookies. In fact, I recently took two of my young grandsons to a little stream at around 6,000' elevation, and they both caught trout on the S.C.

But, I couldn't leave it alone; there's always that little tickle or voice inside that prods me to mess with success. And so I did. The result was Shambles Caddis II, and after a year or so of testing, it has proven itself by outshining Shambles Caddis I. The new features are a "tail" that I believe the fish mistake for a trailing shuck; a body base of opal tinsel; and a touch-dubbed rib that allows the opal tinsel to show through. The tail is made of a material called "Temple dog." I looked this term up on the Internet, and got numerous conflicting stories about what the devil a temple dog is—it seems that no one really knows. But I love the material; it's soft, pliable, and easy to work with. Oh, I forgot—I also stack the wing hair, which I didn't do for the original Shambles Caddis.

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. Smash the hook barb.
2. Cover the rear of the shank with thread, leaving the bobbin at the back of the barb. Keep thread winds very sparse (don't overlap them) because we want a nice flat surface for the opal tinsel to lie on.
3. Tie in a "tail" made with a small pinch temple dog fur; keep it sparse, and the length should be no longer than the hook shank.



Steps 1, 2, & 3

Continued on Page 9

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.

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 8

4. At the same spot, tie in a properly sized rooster neck hackle by its tip, and then a 3" length of medium opal tinsel. Leave the bobbin at the tie-in point.



Step 4



Step 5

6. Apply tacky dubbing wax to the thread; take a pinch of antron dubbing (hint: chop it finely with your scissors beforehand) and touch it to the waxed thread. This will trap some of the fibers of the dubbing in the wax and results in a sparse, translucent effect. Wind the dubbed thread forward, to the 1/3 point on the hook behind the eye, and leave the bobbin there. The winds should be spaced so that the dubbed thread appears to be a rib.



Step 6



Step 7

7. Grab the hackle with your hackle pliers and wind the hackle forward in the spaces between the dubbed rib. Tie the hackle off at that same 1/3 point and apply a tiny drop of superglue at that spot. Important: rotate the fly so that the hook point is in the up position, and trim all of the hackle from the bottom of the fly; this will allow the fly to sit flat on the water, as a natural insect does. Return the fly to the normal upright position.

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 9



Steps 8, 9, 10 & 11

8. Stack a medium sized clump of natural or burnt orange deer hair after cleaning out the under fur. Measure the hair so that it will reach from the front 1/3 point to just beyond the hook bend; any longer is too long. Pinch the hair, add 1/4" in length, and trim the butts. Keep it pinched tightly in preparation for the next step. We want that additional 1/4" so that we can create a "top notch" such as is sported by the Elk Hair Caddis.
9. Take a loose turn around the butts of the hair before applying it to the hook; this turn should be taken about 1/4" behind the butts. Bring the thread and butts to the top of the hook and hold the hair there tightly while taking 10 tight turns around the hair and shank. Keep all of the hair on top of the shank; don't let it roll over or you'll have an unbalanced fly.
10. Push the top notch back and up and create a small head in front of it. Whip finish the head.
11. Turn the fly over and put a drop of superglue at the base of the wing tie-in point. Return the fly to normal position and with your bodkin put a drop of superglue on the front of the "top notch." Push the top notch upward and rearward with your bodkin, holding it there for a few seconds until it stays in that position. Gluing at these two spots will make the fly very durable. A few days ago I guided two anglers on a small stream; they managed to fish the entire day each with one of these bad boys, while catching many trout. They even managed to keep the flies out of the trees and bushes (which is where most flies are lost, and no amount of super glue will help save them from oblivion).

Tying Tips

1. Gluing at the two spots mentioned in step 11 will make the fly very durable. A few days ago I guided two anglers on a small stream; they managed to fish the entire day each with a single one of these bad boys, while catching many trout. Miraculously, they even managed to keep the flies out of the trees and bushes (which is where most flies are lost, and no amount of super glue will help save them from oblivion).
2. The touch dubbing process is a Gary LaFontaine innovation. For more information, do a Google search on "touch dubbing."
3. If, at the end of step 9, your clump of deer hair wants to spin around the shank, it's probably because you didn't cover that part of the shank with some thread over the opal tinsel, or because your turns of thread were not tight enough. If it wants to spin, unwind it and do it over as there is no cure for this malady, at least in my view.

Go build and float a few of these bad boys, and....See ya on the creek.

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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