Hello Members,

October is here...which means the holiday season has officially begun. I do not know about you, but that makes me very happy. The Halloween decorations are down from the attic and ready to be put up. Fingers crossed, we will be able to have our annual Christmas potluck this year. Let me know if you are excited for the holidays...

I am happy to report, despite recent events in our neck of the woods, (pandemic, fire, and smoke) our club is persevering. Joey Nizuk (new “Facilities” board member) and his team did an awesome job cataloging, photographing, and listing all the items for the online auction. It was quite successful, raising over $4,000. I truly hope those of you who bid on items enjoyed the experience and were able to win the item(s) you coveted. A big thank you to all who helped put it together, and to those who purchased items.

Be sure to read The Leader thoroughly each month for club information, fish outs, and articles on topics chosen by you, the members.

I miss seeing all your smiling faces at our in-person general meeting. We have had a good turnout for the monthly Zoom general meeting, but I want to see more of you. Please join us on Thursday, October 8th. If you are not receiving the email invite, please contact me and I will send it to you.

Fingers crossed, each of you have been able to embrace our current events and find a new “normal” for your everyday life. National forests and other wildlife areas have opened back up, the smoke is clearing, and we can step outside and start to enjoy nature again. Daylight Savings Time is upon us, both mornings and evenings have less sunlight. With that comes autumn, a time when wildlife starts migrating, and foraging to store that last pit of food for winter. Sadly, they have lost millions of acres in which they can do this. Please stay alert and keep your eyes on road shoulders. If you see an animal, no matter how big or small, slow down and give them a little honk letting them know you are there. Mother nature provided this land for us and them to enjoy.

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**Sly Park/Jenkinson Lake Fishout October 21**

*by Doug Kytoten, Fishout Leader*

Jenkinson Lake is located on Sly Park Creek, a tributary of the North Fork of the Cosumnes River. Jenkinson Lake is a 640-acre lake at 3,500 feet elevation in the Sly Park Recreation Area of El Dorado County, and is the lowest elevation reservoir in California to hold a viable population of mackinaw, with fish up to 18 pounds.

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The lake also has a decent population of brown trout; the lake record for a brown trout is 21 pounds. The lake is stocked with catchable rainbow trout from the late winter or early spring. Most of the planted trout are 12-14 inches, with some holdovers 2-3 pounds. Smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and bluegill are also found in Jenkinson Lake, but smallmouth bass are the predominate species because the lake offers the rocky points, ledges and flats that smallmouth prefer. Every year I hook a couple of smallmouths between 17-19 inches, 3 to 4 pounds of hard fighting fish.

A 5 or 6-weight rod, clear or camo intermediate line will keep you into the fish this time of the year, 10 ft. leader with 8 lb. tippet, a size 4-10 woolly buggers, wiggle tails, streamers, leeches pattern. My favorite way to fish is to cast to the shoreline and rip back a gold olive streamer, or slowly troll a leech in 10 ft. of water along the rocky points or rocky shoreline. The Grassy Noel where it drops off to deep water is a great place to troll a woolly buggers or wiggle tails to entice smallies to strike. A watercraft is the best way to fish this lake, something you can pick up and move to a new spot if fishing is slow in that spot. A float tube is best for this type of fishing where you can fish 3 or 4 places in a day.

We will meet at Chimney Camp day picnic parking lot at 9:00 am. Bring a lunch and chair, but there is a bench on the beach. You can fish the inlets for trout at the far end or across the bay from the chimneys.

This is one of my favorite places to fish. The whole channel is a 5 MPH no-wake zone, so no worries about jet or water-skier’s.
The first fall weather is generally the period that writers mean when they hype “fast fall fishing.” Water temperatures are still relatively warm (above 57 degrees), but food sources are declining, and the smallmouth bass’s energy requirements are high because of developing gonad production. Plus, lower light intensity makes fish less wary. This can all add up to those “died-and-gone-to-heaven” days that smallies fans fondly recall years later. I’ve had plenty of days with exceptionally high number of fish, and I have also seen many big fish caught during the early fall period.

Depending on the latitude and that year’s weather, this early fall period can occur anywhere from early September to early October. One big change from summer is the smallies’ switch from crayfish to a minnow diet. They will still eat some craws, but on most waters cooler temps make crayfish less active and available. Plus, crayfish quit molting, so they’re hard-shelled and less appealing. But minnows, including shiners and chubs (and even shad in some rivers) are now good eating size and readily available, so smallmouth bass increasingly focus on them. Especially when the water is still 60 degrees or more, these minnow-chasing bronze backs sometimes nail top waters with gusto. However, early fall surface fishing isn’t as sure a bet as it is in summer. Instead, fish often want you to mimic the motion of darting minnows.

For more details, go to the fishout template [here](#) on the club website.

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**Upper Sacramento River Time is Here!**

by Tony Jelinek

The 27th annual fall Upper Sacramento River Fishout will be taking place from **October 29th to November 1st** (Thur-Sun). The Upper Sac boasts 30 miles of river access, with the center being the town of Dunsmuir.

Due to abundant pocket water, short-line nymphing is the method of choice on this stream. If new to the river, or new to fly fishing, you will be partnered with someone who knows the ropes, and everyone who signs-up will receive information on lodging, an agenda, and directions for river access points. If you are new to short-line nymphing, you will be shown how to tie the leader and obtain instruction on the technique. In the evening, depending on the Coronavirus guidelines, we plan to gather for dinner at a local restaurant to appease our hunger, and tell tales of the day. Plan on joining us for 4 days, or as many days as you can make it for fun, fishing, great camaraderie, and a chance to get to know this beautiful fishing water.

Need lodging? Home-base for the fishout will be the [Dunsmuir Lodge](#), which is offering GBF members attending the fishout a discount on lodging, but in order to get it, **you must contact the motel directly, not through a booking service.**

More details of this event are posted [here](#) on the GBF web-site. If you are interested in participating in the fish-out, or have any questions, please contact Tony at [jelinea@me.com](mailto:jelinea@me.com).

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**Finnon Reservoir Fishout**  
October 25, 2020 — 900 AM

**Fishout Site:** Finnon Reservoir is roughly 10 miles from Placerville

**Fishout Leader:** Gary Gale  
[g.gale.granitebay@gmail.com](mailto:g.gale.granitebay@gmail.com)  
916-223-0682

**Max. # Attendees:** sadly, only 8

**Directions:** see fishout posting on the website, or email me for the info!

**Alternatively:** From Sacramento on Hwy 50, at the second stop light, Spring St./Hwy 49, turn left, heading north about 1 block to the stop sign. Turn left, staying on Hwy 49, approximately 1 mile. Turn right on Hwy
Finnon Reservoir Fishout - Continued from page 3

193. Travel approximately 3.1 miles to Rock Creek Road. Turn right onto Rock Creek Road and travel 8.9 miles to Finnon Lake/Frank’s Diner on the Left.

Why go to Finnon? Where the (heck) is Finnon? Well, prior to last fall, we had two different presentations four months apart on the upper South Fork and upper Middle Fork of the American River. Both fly experts mentioned Finnon Reservoir, which is 10 miles to the northeast of Placerville in the farm country above Coloma. Last year on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, I convinced fellow GBF member Corley Phillips to trek up there. Simply put, it was worth the drive, and we had a great day.

I made the decision back then to lead a fishout to Finnon for the fall of this year. It’s a catch-and-release (artificials, barbless) impound, smaller than Rancho Seco, but similar in nature. The lower (berm dam) end of the reservoir is deeper, and trout were active on a sinking line fished about 10 feet deep or so. At the upper end of the impound, there are bullrushes and subsurface vegetation—you can target bass and perch up there in water ranging from 3-8 feet deep. This is good float tube water. There is a nice gravel ramp area that we launched and recovered from.

If you can’t make this date, or if the fishout gets filled—BUT—you are interested in finding a new place to hit the water, please make sure to follow up when I post the report on our Oct 25th date. If we have a decent day, I will contact a second group of those interested. The first wave will be the official test dummies. I am hoping that this will provide a worthwhile daytrip option for all club members on a pleasant fall or spring day.

Finnon is open year round. Look for more information here where I posted here on the GBF site, and there is good information to be had using the link to Finnon’s website. Thanks go out to Ed Lloyd for arranging the speakers that motivated us to go up there.

http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com/

Discovery Bay Fishout, Veteran’s Day
November 11th

by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader

We will again travel to Discovery Bay for a day of fishing for Stripers, Largemouth Bass, Crappie, and Blue Gills On Veterans Day, Nov. 11th. Discovery Bay is located on the south side of Stockton off of Highway 4, and is a protected residential development on the water with huge houses with 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

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Discovery Bay Fishout - Continued from page 4

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 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 5-8 wt. rods, sinking line (intermediate will also work), streamers, sliders and divers or baitfish patterns. With high tide, fish close to the rockwall 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 at travelmaster@surewest.net. 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.

More details are available [here](#) on the website.

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Yellowstone Journal: A Fishing Sampler in Paradise

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

**Part 1**

We had already lost a trip to a remote Alaskan Lodge (bought at the 2019 Annual Dinner) due to the Covid-19 crisis, so when Yellowstone announced that they would be opening for visitors, we devised a plan to make this trip a reality. The trailer was provisioned with every possible necessity, so we would not have to stop at grocery stores, tourist attractions, public restrooms, or restaurants. (Only the rare necessary Fly Shops.) Fuel stops were a quick in-and-out by the masked man and his faithful sidekick. So, with masks, gloves, antiseptic wipes, and hand sanitizer on board, we set out. The plan: Camp and fish in Yellowstone for a week, then down to the Madison Valley for four more nights of the same.

*Continued on Page 6*
The Journey

Get away was early Monday, July 6\textsuperscript{th}; we would be joined in West Yellowstone by long-time close friends, and fellow GBF\textsuperscript{ers}, Barb and Gary Millhollen. Other than a trailer tire totally evaporating into thin air, and getting pulled over for speeding, the trip was a smooth one. After spending the night in Twin Falls, ID we pulled up next to Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone on Tuesday afternoon. Barb and Gary met us there; they camped at Angel Creek near Wells, NV the night before. We met our guides for the next day, picked up a little gear, got our Yellowstone Fishing Permits, a couple of mementos, and headed out for our campground in the park. It was reassuring to see BRF implementing a complete protocol for the health situation, especially since we would be in the shop multiple times, and spend a couple of days with their guides. A scenic 14-mile drive along the Madison River led us to our campground at Madison Junction. Our site was a gorgeous spot, a short walk to the magnificent meadow where the Gibbon and Firehole Rivers joined to give birth to the Madison. By this time in July, all of the thermal activity along the Firehole had rendered it too warm for fishing (along with most of the Madison in the Park), so our focus would lie elsewhere.

Paradise Sampler \#1, July 8--Gallatin River, Madison River

We had decided that a guide on our first day would be a good idea to help us set the groundwork for the rest of the week. So, we hooked up with Curtis bright and early at the shop, and headed for the Yellowstone Park section of the Gallatin River. Barb and Gary, with their guide, Scott, headed for the Three Dollar Bridge area on the Madison. The Gallatin meandered through grass and willow stand meadows, with lots of undercut banks and riffled bends. I started off with a size 6 Sunken Stone and a Frenchie nymph as a dropper. Michelle had a pink Hopper and the dropper, a Turquoise Baetis. Hopefully, a hatch would materialize and we would switch to smaller dries later in the morning. Michelle hooked up first, netting a thick, 18" bow on the dropper; then she picked up a large Rocky Mountain Whitefish that put up a spirited battle. I also landed a great "Bow" on the dropper. The highlight of the day was when Curtis spotted a couple of fish feeding in a riffle...
on a bend of the river. He quickly switched me over to a dry, “Mercer’s Missing Link,” size 20, and I cast to the fish feeding in the lower part of the riffle. On the third cast he smashed the fly, and after a great fight, a beautiful “Cut-Bow” ended up in the net.

The other fish was still feeding about 10 feet up stream, so Michelle moved over from her spot. Curtis hooked her up with the same fly, and she began her stalk. She had to make a precise cast, with a timely mend, and on the third presentation, once again, the fly was eaten. It was an epic fight, and the fish came to net, another beautiful “Cut-Bow” in the 20-inch range. It was a thrill, to say the least, sight fishing in crystal clear water, knowing that fish can see you as well as we see it, and having to, stealthily, make precision casts, afraid of putting the fish down, and then bringing it home on 5X tippet—all in all, a great day. Curtis was a patient, communicating teacher, and we both felt we learned a great deal. Although we did not run into one of the famous Montana hatches, we had great fun, caught some brawny fish, saw some big elk, and enjoyed a beautiful day on the river.

Meanwhile, down on the Madison, Barb and Gary were having a great day with Scott. They headed downstream from the iconic Three Dollar Bridge, taking note that there were very few other fishermen sharing this beat. Off to a slow start with Mayfly nymphs, they...
switched to a couple of Little Yellow Stoneflies fished under an indicator, and began to get some action. They both picked up a couple of broad shouldered “bows” in the 16-inch range. Barb later recounted that because of the athleticism of the jumping fish, the length of the fight, the beauty of the fish, and the setting, these Rainbows were her favorite catches of the entire trip. A big statement, since she would, in just a few days, land an awesome 26” Yellowstone Cutthroat on Yellowstone Lake. After lunch, they moved down river near The Westfork Camp, working several riffles on the camp side of the river, and again got some good action. Barb netted a whitefish and a couple more bows similar to the ones they caught earlier. Gary landed several more bows, in the 16-inch range. Scott was positive and enthusiastic, loved bugs and the river, and was great at sharing his knowledge. Two fisher people returned to camp very exhausted, but very happy.

**Paradise Sampler #2, July 9—Yellowstone Lake**

Today, a little change of pace, up early, pumped up the float tubes, loaded up our truck, and headed for Yellowstone Lake. It was a beautiful drive up the Firehole River, past Old Faithful, and over the Continental Divide to Yellowstone Lake. I’m always in awe of the magnificent thermal features with the mountains as a backdrop. At the lake, we turned North, bound for the Gull Point area. We rounded one corner to be surprised by a gigantic bull elk grazing by the road. I don’t believe I’ve ever seen a rack of antlers that large, totally covered in velvet. Our turnout at Gull Point was a beautifully wooded knoll where we unloaded the tubes and made a short trek to the Lake. Unbelievably, with hordes of people at venues all around the park, we had a picturesque quarter mile long stretch of sandy beach all to ourselves! Our research had led us to think we could nymph from shore for a while, then a callibaetis hatch would come off around 9:00 or 10:00, and we should get some good dry fly action, from the tubes, for cuts in the 10’ to 16’ range. This was not to be the case. Once again, a fabled Montana hatch failed to materialize. As is her bent, Michelle hooked up first, a very soft take, but then judging how she was being towed around the cove, it was not a 10-16 inch cutty. She finally landed a thick, thick, thick 24-inch hog of a Yellowstone Cutthroat. The wind really came up and I was heading in, when my rod bent, and I had a big one. Not quite as big as Michelle’s, about 22 inches and thick of girth, a Yellowstone cutty. Finally, the wind was just too much, we all came in, except for Gary who tends to persist, and finally Rigging up at Yellowstone Lake
his rod began to dance and another hog came to the net.

Our day was cut short by the wind, but it was exhilarating. Not many fish, just three, but three offensive tackles (first round picks). So we kicked back on our private beach, and our float tubes became beach loungers. We had a couple of adult refreshments, some beach food, and a good ole chill session, while enjoying the view of the Absoroka Mountains as a backdrop to Yellowstone Lake. We continued our counter clockwise circle on the way home and it paid off, as Michelle and I got a very good look at a GRIZ, not too far away. Home again, very late, and exhausted. Unpacked and locked up the float tubes, had a simple meal and hit the sack.

Paradise Sampler #3, July 10--Soda Butte Creek

I’ve fished in Yellowstone previously, but one thing I always forget is how expansive it is. Our drive yesterday to Gull Point took an hour, today we head to Soda Butte Creek in the Northeast corner, and it will be a two-hour, non-stop drive. The trip into the Lamar Valley is always fascinating because of the abundance of wildlife, as well as the sprawling beauty of the area. We saw a Black Bear, a Coyote, Pronghorn Antelope, Trumpeter Swans, Bald Eagles, Sand Hill Cranes, and of course, Bison galore. We parked at the Outfitters Parking Lot near the point where Soda Butte Creek flows into the Lamar. Michelle decided to take a day off from fishing to enjoy the vistas and relax along the river. Barb, Gary and I rigged up and worked up stream. I saw no top action, so started out with a couple of small nymphs on my short line rig. No action, then I spotted some fish feeding in a riffle upstream. I changed over to a Missing Link dry, on a 5x tippet, and began to cast

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.
upstream to the fish. The strategy proved successful, and within half an hour I landed 4 nice Cutthroats. I was surprised by the size, ranging from 16 to 20 inches. I was not expecting that at all. Things later ground to a halt for quite a while. Finally, I spotted a nice fish working in a back channel, and managed to get him to take my “link” on the topwater. Another nice 20-incher. Gary picked up a nice 20+ Cutty in a nearby riffle on a Caddis dry Fly. We decided to call it an early day, and drove to a lovely viewing area, pulled out our lunch, and enjoyed Wildlife on Parade. This was truly a marvelous spectacle in Paradise.

Our lunch spot was very close to the place where Michelle and I, a few years ago, spent several hours watching both a Grizzly and a pack of Wolves feeding on a fresh Elk kill on the banks of the Lamar. The Griz even settled in for a nice nap right next to the carcass, right out in plain view. Amazing!

“Part 2 of this wonderful trip to Yellowstone continues next month”

Friends of Auburn Ravine - Update

by Kim Lloyd

Last year, Jim Haufler, from “Friends of Auburn Ravine” gave a presentation at a monthly club meeting. As you may recall, this organization monitors salmon in a stretch of Auburn between Joiner Parkway and Fowler Road in Placer County. I traveled with some of the teams during last year’s monitoring effort, and found the wading quite easy. This is mentioned because Jim sometimes accepts new volunteers. If you’re interested in volunteering, Jim can be reached at jbwx@att.net, or give me a call.

There was not much rain last year, and the creek typically ran 20-30’ wide, and 6” to 18” deep. A photo of the creek is provided below. You guess the depth.

Coho salmon returning home
Fly Patterns - Bill’s Fall Phase Stick Caddis

Materials:

Hook: Daiichi 1260 or similar bent shank 2x Long hook, sizes 6-10
Bead: Burnt orange glass bead with silver lining
Thread: Brown 6/0
Tail: Small tuft of dark brown marabou
Body: Brown dubbing mix “Paxton’s” Buggy Nymph highlighted with bronze brown Lite Brite “Sticks”: Pheasant tail fibers mixed into the body Collar: 1st collar: burnt orange Buggy Nymph; 2nd collar: black Buggy Nymph Legs: Dark brown or black hen (Optional) Weight: 15-20 wraps of .020 lead or substitute

Description

The Stick Caddis pattern has been very successful over the years. It was born many years ago in its original form on the North Yuba, one of my favorite streams. The current versions of the fly (there are several) reflect a long metamorphic history of tweaks and improvements. One of my favorite versions is the one I call the “Fall Phase.” Although I use the Stick Caddis in one form or another all year long (even for Winter steelies on certain rivers), the Fall Phase is reserved for the magic months of late September, October, and November when the October Caddis hatch is in full swing. Those who have fished the fly can attest to the fact that it is deadly when fished properly, meaning fished as a “rock roller” as Andy Burk would say, right on the bottom. I combine this fly with an emerger on the rigging, but that’s next month’s article. For now, let’s kick out a few Fall Phase Stick 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.

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1. Smash the hook barb, unless you are using a barbless hook. Place the bead on the hook and cover the shank with 15-20 wraps of lead or substitute. Push the wire up against the bead and cover the shank and wire with thread. Apply a coat of Flexament to hold it all together.

2. For the tail, cut a small bunch of dark brown marabou and tie it in just above the back end of the barb. With your thumb and forefinger, shorten the marabou by pulling on it sharply; don’t use scissors to cut it, as it results in a blunt, non-lifelike appearance.

3. Form a dubbing loop and insert your dubbing loop tool into the loop. Fill the loop with the dark brown dubbing mix by pulling small bunches of it from a wad held in your hand. This technique is very important to the overall silhouette of the fly.

4. Twist the loop into a “chenille” by spinning the dubbing loop tool. It helps to hold the loop closed at the point where the dubbing inserted into the loop ends, and then spin the tool.

5. Using hackle pliers, grab the “chenille” at its bottom end, cut the thread below the pliers, and wrap the rear 1/3 of the body. Don’t cut the “chenille,” rather, keep the hackle pliers attached and move them out of the way.

6. Tie in six pheasant tail fibers, two at a time, spread around the hook. Sweep them back and take a few wraps in front of them. These are the “sticks;” they should be of random lengths when you are done.

7. Move the thread forward and repeat steps 5 and 6 for the middle 1/3 of the body.

8. Take two wraps of dubbing in front of the last set of sticks, and tie off and cut the dubbing loop. Place a few more “sticks” in front of these last wraps.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 12

9. Form a second dubbing loop; place three small bunches of burnt orange dubbing and two small bunches of black dubbing into the loop. Twist the loop as in Step 4, and wrap the “chenille” forward to behind the bead. This creates the two collars—first the burnt orange, and then the black. Tie off and trim the loop.

10. Tie in a black or dark brown hen hackle wet fly style and take three wraps behind the bead. Tie off and trim the hackle. Whip finish.

Tying Tips

1. Don’t blunt-cut marabou after it’s been tied in as a tail. Instead, use your fingernails to “pop” it off at the proper length. This creates a more lifelike, uneven appearance that looks much better in the water.

2. When forming a dubbing loop, always close the top of the loop by dropping the bobbin over the loop and then wrapping forward on the shank. This makes it much easier to keep the material inside the loop as you work with it.

Fish this beast in pocket water. The reason I call it the “Fall Phase” is because during the emergence the larva changes color from pale yellow to a burnt orange tone. See ya on the creek.

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

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Granite Bay Flycasters
8757 Auburn Folsom Road, #2842
Granite Bay, CA 95746-9998

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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