

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

July 2021

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

The sun is high, as are the temperatures, and summer is officially underway. There were several fishouts during the month of June, and just as many scheduled for July. Be sure to check the schedule for where and when. As far as our July meeting goes, we will be meeting at the clubhouse for a face-to-face. The Board is working hard at making zoom available. In the meantime, read all about the exciting outings and adventures other members are having, especially one of our younger members.

At the time of writing this message, California was anticipating the grand opening of the State, thus allowing the public to move onward and upwards towards the new "normal." Not sure what "normal" is going to look like, but let's take it slow and steady. Remember, Mother Nature has remained Covid-free and remains ready for visitors. She has been working diligently keeping things warm and fuzzy for us. With that in mind, take a look at my "Leave No Trace" article for some guidelines on how you can become Mother Nature's helper.

I look forward to hopefully seeing all of your beautiful faces soon.

The Return of the Annual Dinner!

We are pleased to announce the return of a favorite member event—the Granite Bay Flycaster's Annual Dinner! We have a date (Saturday, March 19, 2022), a location (the Rocklin Events Center), and all we are missing to make it a great night is you! So please make sure to "save the date" on your calendars. As the date gets closer, we will provide updates in regard to ticket sales and other relevant information.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact the Annual Dinner Chairperson, **Brett McKague**, at 415-786-5224. We look forward to seeing you!

French Meadows Reservoir Fishout July 9 - 11, 2021

by Joey Nizuk, Fishout Leader

French Meadows Reservoir is a manmade lake 36 miles northeast of Foresthill, California, on the Middle Fork of the American River. The reservoir is 2.9 miles long, 0.6-mile wide, with 7.3 miles of shoreline, and sitting at 5,300 feet elevation. French Meadows is a quality trout fishery containing Rainbows and Browns with plenty of forage.

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J U L Y 2021						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6. Board of Directors Meeting	7. Truckee River Fishout	8. Monthly Meeting	9. French Meadows Fishout July 9 - 11	10.
11. French Meadows Fishout July 9 - 11	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
18.	19.	20. Tenkara Outing Fly Tying Jam	21. Virginia Lakes Fishout - July 19 - 25	22.	23.	24. Little Truckee Fishout
25. Virginia Lakes Fishout July 19 - 25	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.

French Meadows Reservoir Fishout - Continued from page 1



Why we came here.



*Middle Fork American River entering
French Meadows Reservoir*

There's a buffet of pond smelt, crawfish, sculpins, juvenile trout, caddis flies and many other invertebrates for growing trout to feed on. Pond smelt and crawfish are the lake's primary forage. Caddis hatches occur on most evenings from summer through early fall. The headwaters of the Middle Fork of the American River is home to stream-bred, wild rainbow trout in the 6-10 inch range.

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French Meadows Reservoir Fishout - Continued from page 2

The reservoir is best fished from a float tube, kayak, pontoon, small boat or pram using sinking lines with streamers such as Woolly Buggers and Leech Patterns in Olive, Brown, or Black colors. The most productive areas for fly fishing are at the inlet where the Middle Fork of the American River comes into the reservoir in the areas around downed trees and along rocky drop offs. The Headwaters of the Middle Fork of the American River can also be accessed from the reservoir, or a very easy hike to a productive stretch of the headwaters right above the inlet that can be accessed from several road points, campgrounds and trailheads.

Directions: From Auburn on Highway I-80, go Northeast 2 miles to Auburn-Foresthill Road, Turn East and go 18 miles to Mosquito Ridge Road at Foresthill. Turn East and go 36 miles continuing on Mosquito Ridge Road to French Meadows Reservoir.

I have booked a group campsite that can accommodate up to 25 people (**pay me \$10 per person for weekend campsite**) and I will be making a Chili Colorado dinner (paying homage to the great **Michael Kaul** and his amazing Chili that doesn't require ketchup!) Saturday night for all attendees.

I'll be posting detailed information regarding flies, tackle, etc. on the fishout template on the website. If you're interested or have any questions, contact me at joey.nixuk@gmail.com to sign up.

Virginia Lakes Fishout July 19 - 25, 2021

Flycasters, it is time for the annual Virginia Lakes trip. For those of you unfamiliar with Virginia Lakes, they are on the eastern slope of the Sierra, just south of Bridgeport off of 395, just before you drop down to Mono Lake. The scenery is "eastern side incredible." We will be staying at Trumble Lake campground at 9,700 feet. If you are concerned about the elevation, you might consider staying a night at Twin Lakes or the Tahoe area on the way. Drink plenty of water on the way up! This is a nice campground with water and exceptionally nice pit toilets. Reservations can be made on line (6 months in advance), but unless there are cancelations, they will be gone. Only 2/3 of the sites are reservable, so we usually are able to secure sites without them. There is also unimproved camping a short distance down the road by the creek (Road 139). These are also very beautiful, and right next to a stream and are free, but have no water and very limited bathrooms. There is very limited cell service in the entire area.

The two Virginia Lakes are easy walking distance from the campground, which sits right next to Trumble Lake. There is excellent wet and dry fly fishing at all three lakes, as well as in the multiple lakes just up the trail. There are plenty of opportunities for stream and river lovers as well. These include Virginia Creek, Green Creek, and the West and East Walker Rivers just down the road. There is a store at Little Virginia with high priced goods, a little restaurant (very nice breakfasts and lunches), and hot showers. They also rent cabins, usually for a week, but will do a weekend at the last minute if they aren't rented: <http://www.virginalakesresort.com>. Bridgeport is a 30- to 45-minute drive, and there are motels if camping is not your thing.



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There will be a communal dinner on Friday or Saturday (the 23rd or 24th) for all who attend (be sure to check with the host for possible changes). Looks like tacos are back, thanks to vaccines. This is a great family outing, as there are a variety of things to do besides fishing. The hiking is excellent, with relatively short distances between lakes. Just down the road there is horseback riding, and the old gold ghost-town of Bodie is within 45 minutes. The city of Mammoth is less than an hour away, as is the entrance to Yosemite.

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Virginia Lakes Fishout - Continued from page 3

The lake fishing is generally float tube with sinking line (intermediate - fast). Catching twenty fish in a day has not been extraordinary; however, last year the hatcheries on the eastern side were hit with a fungus infection, and they had to toss out 1.5 million fish, so who knows. I will be available to help anyone who desires it. Flies will be plentiful, as I will bring my tying stuff, as will others. There will be extra equipment available for anyone to use (newcomers), including tubes and fins. Rods from 3-6 wt. are the norm.

Please call me if you have any questions and let me know if you are planning to come so I can get enough camp sites and bring enough taco fixin's.

Michael Kaul - mikedkaul@gmail.com
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Sturmer White Sendoff



Sturmer White

Sturmer White, a GBF member for almost 30 years, is pulling up stakes and moving to Oregon. On June 6th, he was honored with an ice cream social at the home of **John Hogg**, which was attended by over 40 club members and spouses. One of GBF's staunchest supporters, Sturmer led the Casting program for many years, attended innumerable fishouts and fly tying jams, and was always on hand to meet and support the Club and its members.

Sturmer was honored with a Club plaque noting his 30 years of service, friendship, and support of the Club.



Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

We're selling our 2 Scadden Outlaw Escape pontoon boats. They have only been used a few times and are in almost new condition. They feature:

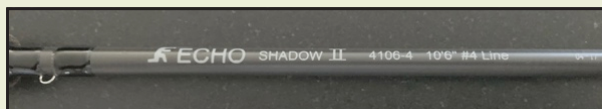
- * Frameless design, light weight 21 pounds
- * Breakaway footrest bar
- * 2 oars
- * 2 large gear bags
- * Travel/storage bag
- * Highly maneuverable in lake or stream, rated for Class III moving water

More Info: 1. [Easy setup](#)
2. See [here](#) in use

Retails for \$899, selling for \$450. Contact Dave Williams at williamsdave@comcast.net



New, Never Used



Echo Shadow II 4wt - Graphite Ultralite weight 9' rod - designed for travel (can be rigged up to a #6 line)



Fast action Tube - Fabric-covered rod case & sock
All guides SIC chrome plated
Reel seat black anodized reel steel
Includes customization kit for length & balance (counter weights 10 gram), fighting butt, & 2 - 6" extensions so rod can be either a 9', 10' or 10'-6"

Original price \$329.99
Asking \$275.00 FIRM

Website: <https://echoflyfishing.com/project/echoshadowii/>
Contact Henry Sandigo at 415-716-0666, or hsandigo@gmail.com

Slightly used i.e., 1 time

Redington Rise Reel 5 - 6 wt
Includes RIO 6WF Perception line, Fabric case

Original price \$199.99; Asking \$150.00 FIRM
Website: <https://www.demystify.com/post/2016/11/21/redington-rise-fly-reel-review>
Contact Henry Sandigo at 415-716-0666, or hsandigo@gmail.com



Nominations for Board Officers and Directors

by Kim Lloyd

The annual election of officers and directors will take place at the July general meeting. Below is a list of the positions to be voted on, and the members who have been nominated. Any other club member desiring to run for an office can have their name added by contacting me at: kim@westernprojectmanagement.com, or (916) 425-7680 prior to the June general meeting.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominated</u>
President	TinaLyn Sell*
Vice President Membership	Mike Bean
Vice President Conservation	Ed Lloyd*
Secretary	Chris Kight
Treasurer	Kim Lloyd
Director, 3-year term	Drake Johnson*
Director, 3-year term	Ron Davidson*
Director at large, 1-year term	Don Harris
Director at large, 1-year term	Brett McKague*

*A bylaw amendment was passed at the May general meeting allowing office holders to serve an additional year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Existing officeholders with an asterisk behind their names have agreed to serve an additional 1-year term if elected.

Thoughts of an 11-Year-Old Fly Fisher

by Trevor McKague



Trevor McKague

I am now in my third year of fly fishing, and I love it. The first time I fished was in Oregon during the summer of 2018. It was a small pond stocked with trout in a park. I caught trout on salmon eggs, and it was fun because I caught a decent amount of fish in a short period of time. I think the pond was stocked for kids to catch fish. On the same trip, the next spot I went to was the Crooked River. This was my first experience flyfishing. My dad helped me, and we managed to land my first trout (rainbow trout) on the fly. We caught it on a small green woolly-bugger. It took about an hour of fishing to catch the first fish, and we caught another one about 30 minutes later.

It can be difficult to catch a fish on a fly. Casting was pretty hard at first, but I think I am getting better. My best day fly fishing was on the Silver Fork of the American. I was fishing with a size 16 Mosquito pattern that I had picked out from my fly box, and began casting behind a rock. I hooked at least 8, and landed 5. Sometimes wading can be difficult, and I've fallen three or four times, which is not so bad in the summer, but pretty miserable in the winter. My favorite places to fish are the Truckee River in Nevada, Silver Fork of the American, and The East Walker. I

like fishing dry flies the most, and my favorite fly is a size 16 mosquito. I really like the adventure of hiking in to places to fish. I don't care how big the fish are I catch, because if you catch one, that is a good day.

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Thoughts of an 11-Year-Old Fly Fisher - Continued from page 6



I am looking forward to learning more about still water fishing for both cold water fish and warm water. I would really like to catch bluegill and bass on a fly sometime.

Last month, I tried out Tenkara for the first time with **Chris Kight** and my dad on the South Fork of the American River. I found hooking the fish on Tenkara to be really difficult. Keeping the fish on the hook also seemed harder than on my regular fly rod. For now, I am going to concentrate on getting better with my 4 weight 10' rod.

My dad and I were teamed up with **Corley Phillips** because we have not fished very much on the river. He helped us find some spots to fish, and I was able to catch some rainbow trout. It was also fun to have dinner with everybody and go in the hot tub.

None of my friends fly fish. The majority of my friends do fish, but with bait and lures. I believe most of my friends have never actually heard of fly fishing. It might be difficult to get them into it because it can be hard to catch fish. Although, what might work is having them fish in stocked ponds with a teacher, or club member, to show them how to hook up on some trout.

In the future, I see myself possibly becoming a guide. I have a true passion for the sport of fishing, so I would love to get other people hooking up on some trout!

What Is Leave No Trace?

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President

"Leave No Trace" is a set of 7 principles, based on insight from biologists, land managers, and other leaders in outdoor education. They offer guidelines to help humans understand how their presence in nature can affect the ecology and habitats of wildlife, and in turn, can affect the ability for future generations to enjoy it.

The simple act of removing branches from a tree, rocks from a stream, or my all time favorite, hammering a nail into a tree to hang a garbage bag. These are all things that can alter the habitat of wildlife and change the environment for the next visitor.

The objective is to plan, prepare, and be more conscious of your impact on nature and keep the wilderness wild. This can be accomplished by following seven simple principles.

1. Plan Ahead & Prepare
2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Be sure to look for my articles over the next few months. We will be diving into each of these principles further, and you can learn how you can integrate them into your next outdoor adventure.

If you have any questions or wish to have a special session for a group, please contact me directly at tinalyn.sell@yahoo.com.

Fuller Lake Report

by Jim Degnan, Fishout Leader

A *Singularity* is defined in Mathematics or Physics as a point at which a function takes an infinite value, especially in Space-Time. While we didn't experience an actual "Singularity of Infinite Fish" at Fuller, we came close. It was a delightful Time in the Space called Fuller Lake. The fishing was extraordinary for that lake: plentiful planters and some very large Brown Trout.



Looks like shad fishing, or Pyramid minus the ladders!

Fourteen members signed up, and all showed up, or let me know they couldn't make it so I could substitute names. Every fishout leader knows how that makes it worth leading a fishout. It is hard to tell who caught the most fish, but **Cathy Hiromoto** landed at least two big Browns. Those on the water were: **Joe Camareno, Chuck Cannon, Mike Churchill, Dave Fujiama, Don Harris, Cathy Hiromoto, Dave Hiromoto, Jim Hopkins, Michael Kaul, Gary Krause, Eric Palmer, Harry Petrakis** and **Dave Sterling**.

Everyone caught fish—some in the high twenties—possibly thirties. Some people were a bit shy about their catch numbers, but most seemed to be in the ten-to-twenty range, with several Browns among the group. We spoiled first-timers with good catching. Successful flies ranged from green wooly buggers, cinnamon and black Jay Fair Wiggle tails,

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Fuller Lake Report - Continued from page 8

other wiggle tails, and small black things like sparse black soft hackled nymphs. The traditional flies, like the Fuller Lake Special and the Sheep Creek, didn't do the job like they normally do. Cathy nailed her Brown on a floating line with an ant. Stripping varied from person to person. There was no real pattern that we could easily discern—depended on the fly you were using.

Fuller Lake is a forebay for the "Rim Powerhouse" on Spaulding. When the weather gets hot, PG&E pulls water from Bowman Reservoir (Elevation: about 5,550 ft.) through a tunnel to Fuller (Elevation: 5340), and then releases the water down a conduit to the powerhouse. This creates a strong flow of water out at the north end, and causes eddies all along the east side channel. As a result, this lake fishes like a spring creek; cold, clear, slowly moving water.

My theory for this extraordinary event was the following: The water was flowing fast because it was hot in the valley, so the powerhouse was running. DFG planted heavily the week of June 6th preparing for Memorial Day. They also planted heavily last September/October. Normally, the fish would be depleted in a few days by people taking fish for the table and freezer. However, the day-use campground was closed for Covid a lot last year, and this year it was closed until just before Memorial Day, so boats couldn't get into the north ramp. The south ramp is blocked with boulders, so boats can't go in there either. This gave the double-planted fish time to get used to the waters, not linger where they were planted, start feeding on natural food, and congregate up in the north where there was more food by the intake than in the south edges of the lake; also, away from the shore fisherfolk. People noted that some rainbows put up an exceptional fight, probably holdovers from the September plant. Like all theories, this theory is up for discussion and modification based on further input and data.

As a side note, the Forest Service website for Fuller still lists it as closed, so this may be deterring people from coming up.

Something also to consider about this lake—in normal years there is a pretty steady flow of water through the lake. They are dumping water from Bowman into Spaulding and on to areas controlled by the Nevada Irrigation District. But, in this drought year, when the weather is hot, PG&E releases water to run our air conditioners, but when the weather's cold like it's been this last



Cathy Hiramoto with one Big Brown Trout!



A boy and his dog.

week or so, they will stop the flow to conserve water. I have experienced this several times over my seven years fishing this lake, and a couple of our brethren also recently experienced no flow and low water levels. When there is no flow and low water, go on up to Rucker Lake and chase small Bass and Sunfish. On a good day, it's a hoot.

We were in the right spot at the right time, and I value the appreciation the members showed after the fishout. It probably won't be this way for a while. With Fuller you can't normally count on big numbers, but you can count on a few fish in a beautiful setting. "A good time was had by all."

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in July 2012)

Fly Patterns - Pheasant Tail Soft Hackle (Modified)



*Pheasant Tail Soft Hackle
(modified)*

Materials:

Hook:	Tiemco 101; sizes 18-12
Thread:	70 denier flat nylon, olive
Beads:	None
Tail:	None
Abdomen:	Pheasant tail
Ribbing:	Copper wire
Legs:	None
Wing:	None
Thorax:	Fine, small peacock herl
Hackle:	Partridge
Weight:	None
Head:	Thread

Description

This month I'm going to give away a little secret about nymph fishing for trout, and soft hackle flies. It's no secret, of course, that my method of nymph fishing is the "short line" or "tight line" technique. The rig sports two flies. The bottom fly (aka "point fly") is normally a large, heavy fly such as Bill's Stick Caddis or a Jimmy Legs; the upper fly, usually a small nymph such as a Dark Lord or PT is on a perpendicular dropper. OK, so what does that have to do with soft hackle flies? Well, here's the rub: I almost always add a third fly to the rig by tying a short (12-14") piece of 5x flourocarbon to the bend of the point fly, and lash a soft hackle fly to the other end. Of course, this complicates the situation because, if this rig is aerialized for any reason (which would be a bad mistake resulting from either striking upward instead of downstream, or from actually trying to back cast the rig), it will inevitably, horribly tangle mercilessly.

The soft hackle adds a new dimension to the short line drift. Normally, the short line drift ends when the line is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ downstream. With the addition of the soft hackle, the line should be allowed to continue to drift all the way to the immediate downstream position. The reason for this is that beyond the $\frac{3}{4}$ point in the drift, the leader begins to rise in the water column due to the upward pressure of the moving water on the tight leader. This upward movement is where the soft hackle shines, and does its work by resembling an insect (mayfly or caddis) in the process of emerging by swimming upward. The soft partridge hackle moves subtly in the current, imparting life to the fly. The secret, then, is that your drift serves two different purposes, doubling your chance of a hookup. I've been quietly testing out this theory for a long time, and I'm now convinced, based on actual results, that it really works. And there is a bonus: Sometimes a trout will take the soft hackle during the short line part of the drift.

I realize that this all sounds highly technical—and I suppose it is. But if you want to increase your catch rate (assuming you know how to properly use the short line technique), you should give it a try. I have chosen the Pheasant Tail Soft Hackle fly pattern because it is on my "ten deadliest flies" list. If you want to read up on soft hackle flies, there are two good, relatively recent books on the subject: one written by Dave Hughes, and the other by Allen McGee. They are available at most fly shops, or through Amazon.com.

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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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 10

1. Crimp the hook barb. Cover the hook shank with a single, flat layer of thread; stop immediately above the hook point and leave the bobbin there.
2. Cut a short piece of fine copper wire and tie it in at that point, along with 3 natural pheasant tail fibers. Tie the pheasant tail in by its tips and trim the excess. Move the thread forward to a point about 2 eye widths behind the eye.

*Steps 1 & 2**Step 3*

3. Wrap the pheasant tail fibers forward along the shank and stop where you left the thread. Tie off the pheasant tail and leave the thread at the same spot.

*Step 4*

4. Tie in two pieces of fine peacock herl at the same spot, by their tips. Trim the excess, and move the thread forward slightly. Take 2 or 3 wraps of the peacock herl—one backward over the pheasant tail, and one or two directly in front of it—but don't crowd the eye. Tie off the herl, trim the excess, and leave the thread there.

*Steps 5 & 6*

5. Tie in a well-marked partridge feather by its tip and trim the excess. Move the thread to the hook eye, and leave it there. The feather should be sized so that when tied in and wound around the shank, the barbules reach to the rear of the hook bend.
6. Sweep the barbules of the partridge feather rearward, and take two full winds around the hook. Tie the feather off, and trim the excess. Whip finish, trim the thread, place a tiny drop of superglue on the end of your bodkin, and cement the thread.

Tying Tips

1. Keep the fly sparse, and avoid a thick body.
2. Use your bodkin to apply superglue rather than squeezing a drop from the bottle directly onto the fly. Your placement will be much better.

Now go crank one of these bugs, go fish it. I live by that simple philosophy.

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 Mike Bean at 208-244-1153, 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

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

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VP Membership - Mike Bean
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916-709-7340 gbf-treasurer@gbflycasters.org

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Through June, 2023 - Joey Nizuk
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Through June, 2022 - Victor Maiello
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Through June, 2022 - Kim Lloyd
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Through June, 2021 - Ron Davidson
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