

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

June 2021

<http://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

It is June, and summer is here. Fishing season is in full swing, and there have been some beauties caught by club members in the past few months. There are two or more fishouts scheduled per month for the next several months, so get out and get your fish on...

I do not know about you, but I can hear mother nature yelling for me to come visit. Excited to see what she has been working on the past several months. With most of the population staying at home this past year, the flora and fauna have had time to flourish. While visiting past favorite spots and exploring some new, remember to keep the "Leave No Trace" 7 principles in mind...please look them up...Let's help promote outdoor conservation...

See next month's issue of *The Leader* for an article on "Leave No Trace...."

## Nominations for Board Officers and Directors

by Kim Lloyd

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. Any other club member desiring to run for an office can have their name added by contacting me at: [kim@westernprojectmanagement.com](mailto:kim@westernprojectmanagement.com), or (916) 425-7680 prior to the June general meeting.

### **Position**

President  
Vice President Membership  
Vice President Conservation  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Director, 3-year term  
Director, 3-year term  
Director at large, 1-year term  
Director at large, 1-year term

### **Nominated**

TinaLyn Sell\*  
Mike Bean  
Ed Lloyd\*  
Chris Kight  
Kim Lloyd  
Drake Johnson\*  
Ron Davidson\*  
Don Harris  
Brett McKague\*

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\*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.

J U N E 2021						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1.	2.	3. Fuller Lake Fishout	4.	5. Truckee River Fishout
6.	7.	8. Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM	9.	10. Monthly Meeting via ZOOM Manzanita Lake Fishout June 8 - 12	11. Tenkara Outing	12.
13.	14.	15. Fly Tying Jam via ZOOM	16.	17.	18.	19.
20.	21.	22.	23. Little Truckee Fishout	24.	25.	26. North Yuba Fishout
27.	28.	29.	30.			

## Greenstone Fishout Report

by Wendell Edwards

April 21, 2021 was a beautiful day at Greenstone. The weather was perfect, the weeds were way down, and we had the lake to ourselves; except, that is, for the many geese proudly showing off their new families of chicks. **Tony Hamamoto** was host for this excellent day of bass fishing. Thank you so much, Tony! Everyone enjoyed visiting with you that day.

We had 20 members signup for this event, and had 19 attendees. Fishout leaders love this type of excellent attendance. We all netted several nice fish, and as with fishing, the catching comes and goes, but we had good numbers.

Looking forward to next year, right Tony?

## 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

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*French Meadows Reservoir Fishout - Continued from page 2*

sitting at 5,300 feet elevation. French Meadows is a quality trout fishery containing Rainbows and Browns with plenty of forage. 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.

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.



*Why we came here.*

**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](mailto:joey.nixuk@gmail.com) to sign up.

**Directions:** From Auburn on Highway I-80, go Northeast 2 miles to Auburn-Forest Hill Road, Turn East and go 18 miles to Mosquito Ridge Road at Forest Hill. 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**



*Middle Fork American River entering French Meadows Reservoir*

## Upper Sacramento Spring Fishout May 13 - 16

*by Tony Jelinek*

The second largest group (18) took part in the 2021 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Upper Sacramento Spring fishout. The number of anglers in this group was only surpassed by the number in 2018 of twenty-two participants.

We had beautiful days, good flows, a few bugs, and a few fish. The Upper Sacramento, as usual, did not readily give up its wild rainbows and brown trout. With clear skies, clear water, and a good flow around 400

*Continued on page 4*



*Upper Sacramento Spring Fishout - Continued from page 3*

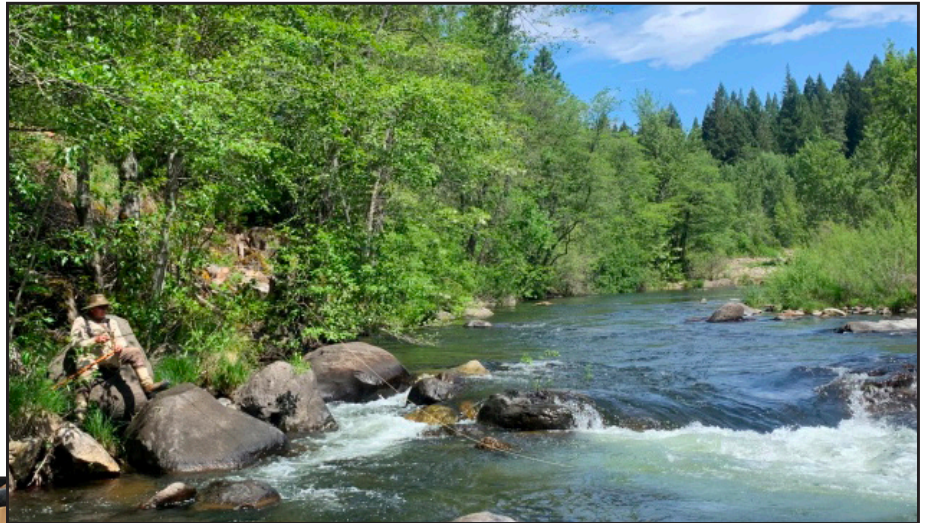
cfs, the fish were wary and hiding in pocket water and deeper running water under rocks with walking speed flows, with the occasional splash for bugs on the surface. A few caddis and mayflies were out, and stonefly shucks could be seen on the exposed rocks, but no big bug hatches were to be had this trip. Most fish were caught on nymphs—and no surprises here for the Upper Sac—Jimmy Legs, Sweet Pea, Peaches & Cream, Flashback Pheasant Tail, Prince Nymph, Dark Lord, and Copper Johns.

The trip had a great mix of first- and second-timers to the Spring Fish-out on the river, along with veterans. The veterans included: **Michal Biggs, Wendell Edwards, Don Hansen, Eric Palmer, Corley Phillips, Steve Pitts, Frank Stolten,** and **Chris Warren.** Those making the trip for their first or second time were: **Paul Estridge, Chuck Honeycutt, Gary Krause, Bob McCarthy, Brett and Trevor McKague, Michael and Debi Zacharia,** and **Rick Wiesner.**

After a day of driving up, or a day on the water, for the first evening we congregated at the Dunsmuir Brewery to enjoy the local brew, dinner, and their great warm German Potato Salad, and a chance to catch-up and meet everybody. Where is the salmon BLT? So far, it has been a victim of the COVID pandemic. I do hope they get it back. We closed the place down. Yes, GBF'ers are such party animals. Well, it was only 8:00 PM, but we were the last ones there, and did close it down.



*Michael Zacharia with his first Upper Sac "bow."*



*Scoping out the river.*

On Friday, we met in the morning to figure out the day's fishing plans and make certain everybody had a fishing partner. **Gary** caught the biggest fish he has ever caught on his own in fast pocket water without the help of a guide—a 13 1/2" rainbow. **Chris** and **Michael Biggs** managed to pull-out a couple of 13 1/2 inchers too, at their favorite spot—the Wall. Now, this Wall is different than the one in town or the one in the State Park, or even the one just north of Shasta Lake. There seem to be a lot of walls, and for some reason, they are good for fishing. **Michael Zacharia** lost a couple of nice fish, but finally landed his first fish on the Upper Sac—a 14 1/2" rainbow. He was thrilled, but I did have to warn him that it would probably be all downhill from here. It would be tough to top that fish in size for a while. While **Michael** was fighting the burly brute, his wife, **Debi**, was hiking Mount Shasta, Castle Crags, Mossbrae Falls, Hedge Creek, and hiking to Weed for some decent espresso. The youngest member of the group—11 year old **Trevor**—showed his dad, **Brett**,

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Upper Sacramento Spring Fishout - Continued from page 4

and their guide, **Corley**, how it is done by landing two nice fish.

Friday evening we gathered for the annual tri-tip dinner at the Soda Creek Farm house. While Corley applied his skills to barbecuing the perfect tri-tip, **Michael Biggs** provided musical entertainment, while we relaxed on the deck and told tales of the day. After dinner, it was into the hot tub, for the fish of the trip—**Rick, Trevor, and Corley**. I think they figured by staying in the hot tub they could figure out the ways of the fish for even better luck fishing on Saturday.



*Relaxing and swapping stories on the deck.*

Saturday brought clouds and some rain in the morning, but not enough to affect the river. **Don** spent the day searching for the perfect fishing hole. **Wendell** paid homage to his honey hole, while **Eric** experimented to develop the perfect short-line nymphing rig. He said something about using a rubber band, but I couldn't quite picture it. Look for the schematic in version 27 of his short-line nymphing rigs document (Actually, I am very grateful for all of the research and schematics Eric has developed for the short-line rigs; along with the maps for fishing the area. I use them all of the time, and send them to all those participating in the fish-out). **Bob** almost pulled out his spinning rod, but stuck with the fly fishing and started getting the hang of this thing called, "short-line nymphing." **Chuck** showed **Paul** and **Steve** some of his favorite spots on the river; then got a short 13.1 mile run in—no marathon this time. We had another

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# WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...



## OUR FLY TYING STAFF

**BRETT DRURY**  
Fly Tying Instructor  
Renowned Fly Tyer, Sacramento Area

**RICK ANDERSON**  
Contract Fly Tyer  
Montana Fly Company

**RON SPERONI**  
Contract Fly Tyer  
Pacific Fly Group

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



## Upper Sacramento Spring Fishout - Continued from page 5



*Dunsmuir Brewery, social time after a day on the river.*

hard day of fishing; then gathered for a spaghetti dinner provided by **Paul**—a perfect meal to top off the day. It was back in the hot tub for the fish. As we enjoyed more music and tales, **Steve** slipped off to his favorite watering hole. Whoops, I meant, fishing hole. He ended-up catching the biggest fish of the trip—a 17 1/2" brown trout. Why is it that fish sizes always seem to be in 1/2 inches? I guess that's good, since obviously anglers never exaggerate, and if we rounded-up that would be exaggerating.

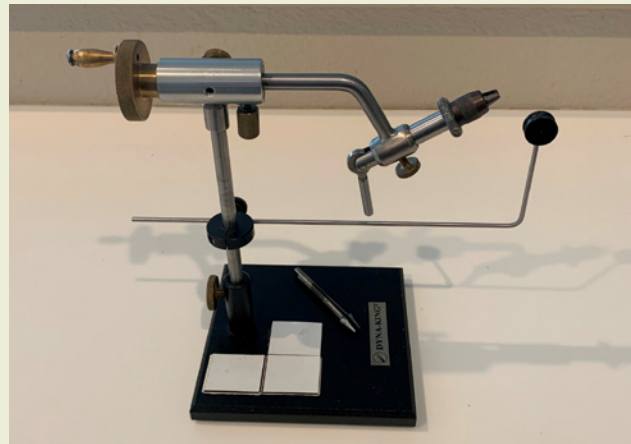
We all enjoyed a chance to enjoy great fishing, great scenery, great food, great camaraderie, and just a great time in a gorgeous fishing spot in California.

### Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

I'm reluctantly selling my Dyna-King rotary fly tying vise. It comes with the optional midge jaws (\$115 value) and will accommodate hooks from size 30 to 6/0. It makes tying fun and does everything but back-flips. This is the last vise you'll ever need, so you might as well get it now as they rarely show up used.

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*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](mailto:editor@gbflycasters.org). All ads must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.*

### A Park, a Chair and a Fly Rod

*by Eric Palmer*

So, here I am in my tattered green fishing trip lunch break chair in a Fair Oaks park slowly absorbing the small slice of Americana at leisure arrayed before me. It's a near balmy Monday afternoon in mid-January, and I'm doing something I virtually never do, being a grand master at procrastination. I'm actually practicing casting in prep for **John Hogg's** upcoming FFI casting challenge. And, fortunately I had the foresight to bring along a comfortable folding chair.

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*A Park, a Chair and a Fly Rod - Continued from page 6*

I've just concluded that a chair is a critical part of this process, almost as critical as the fly rod. The chair can double as a rod stand as well as encourage a periodic break from casting repetition—to maybe rest an overworked shoulder or elbow, and alleviate any fatigue that can cause us to get sloppy and unconsciously cut corners with our casting strokes. But, for me, and equally important, a chair creates a valid excuse to just sit and do nothing for a few minutes with the brain in neutral while calmly soaking up the park ambiance.

To my right in the middle of an abandoned soccer field was Yoga Boy, a twenty-something fellow on his mat working on his moves oblivious to any spectators. Farther across the park, a group of parents with a good number of small kids scarcely older than 3 or 4 were getting an early start on their soccer careers with colorful toy-like plastic goal posts and really small soccer balls.

To the left, a couple hundred feet away, a small gaggle of little girls, maybe 5-6 years old, are doing their level best to launch their little parachutes—the kind where you take an old handkerchief or torn piece of sheet, tie strings to each corner then secure a rock to the other ends, toss it high to watch it fall. They struggled mightily to launch their parachutes more than a foot or two over their heads, but were still having great fun judging from the giggles and laughing. I did the exact same thing as a kid 70 years ago, and was astonished to see that it's still a thing kids do. There's comfort seeing that some things in this fast-paced world have not changed. And this includes old men casting in a park, as I witnessed as a 10- or 11-year-old at the Golden Gate Park casting ponds in the early '50s with my dad, learning how to cast a bamboo bait casting rod while avoiding backlash with my new Shakespeare level wind reel.

But, what I found as the most important benefit of a chair for a periodic break is that it provides opportunity for quiet reflection on that last cast that unexpectedly fell apart into a pile of leader several feet shy of the target. What the heck happened there after my double-haul seemed to be finally on track? So, you start to think...what have we learned from John and Rick at our many GBF casting clinics that is essential to the follow-through of a good cast? Firm stops! The back cast seemed fine, I had good line speed, a tight loop, but what if my final forward stop was bad? Maybe I blew right through it in my excitement to get some serious distance, or maybe it was just soft and mushy. I could almost feel the cartoon lightbulb go off over my head. I decided to conduct a controlled experiment to see just how critical that forward stop really is and maybe deduce what I was doing wrong.

I got up, grabbed my 5wt St. Croix, and stripped in enough line to permit an easy series of simple overhead casts with no more than about 30 feet of line aloft. This would allow for an easy beginner level pickup-laydown cast. I visualized a 2x4 positioned rigidly at 11 O'Clock in the rods path, making it physically impossible to overshoot. Just a second after impacting the 2x4, I slowly followed my line down till the rod tip touched the grass.

The result was astonishing! The line laid out before me on the grass as straight as an arrow. It could not

have been straighter if someone had given the piece of yarn a gentle tug to straighten it out. I repeated the exact same cast and got the exact same result. And again; same result. Holy cow! Is that all it is? Next, I purposely blew right through the stop sign, and my line landed in a jumbled pile well short of the target. Repeat...exact same lousy result. Next, a repeat but with a soft mushy stop. The line landed only marginally straighter. OK...sold!!!

But, as we all know only too well, knowing and doing can be two very different things. For a decent cast there are a multitude of do's and don'ts swimming around in our head, and it can be tough to focus. My solution is to forget it all but the one thing I need to fix, and to keep my double-haul on track it was apparently that dang forward stop. Next, it's just repetition till it becomes automatic. Before I left the park that day, I was hitting my bright yellow rope at 60 ft. four times out of five, and occasionally overshooting by a safe margin. After another park session in a couple of days, I should be ready for John on Saturday.



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*A Park, a Chair and a Fly Rod - Continued from page 7*

I had another very interesting revelation during those park sessions dealing with rod loading for peak performance with a given line. Conventional wisdom says just over-line the rod till it does what you want it to do. I learned in the park that it is not that simple. On my first park visit I brought four rods in 5, 6, 7 and 8 wt., all relatively fast action, but none particularly expensive high-end names. I also brought three reels loaded with 6, 7 and 8 wt. lines. The 5 wt. St. Croix Imperial is always loaded with a 6 wt. Cortland 444 (peach) line, and it casts and mends like a dream. It's always felt like a perfect fit, and with the rod as light as a feather, it seemed perfect for casting practice where fatigue is a concern.

But, here was the eye-opener for me: I figured if I overloaded the 6 wt. RX8 Larry Lee rod with a 7 or 8 wt. line, I'd have a rocket launcher. Or, slap the 8 wt. Rio Salmon/Steelhead line on my 7 wt. Redington CPS and I'd blow past my target with ease. Nope! With either set-up, I struggled to just barely match the 5 wt. St. Croix/6 wt. line results. Same problem with the 8 wt. line on the 8 wt. 9 ½ ft. Fenwick Aetos. On a repeat park visit a couple days later for a sanity check, the same disappointing results. What gives? Best I can figure is that these lines are just not an optimum match for those particular rods, even with over-lining. Yet, they work just fine for middling casts, or nymphing where distance is not a factor.

Fly rod construction is a complex art where each rod maker employs their own proprietary blank chemistry and taper strategy which can even include guide placement and thread wrap strategy. The same intense design strategy goes in to fly lines where, for a given AFTMA line rating, taper and body lengths will vary, along with head weight and total line weight. It seems there has to be just the right "chemistry" between rod and line to squeeze the last bit of energy out of the casting stroke as we build up line speed for that final line shoot.

So, my conclusion, and I'm pretty sure our club's actual experts on this will agree, is this: When shopping for a new line for a rod, or on acquiring a new fly rod, don't simply grab any fly line off the shelf based solely on its line weight spec. If possible, try to borrow a reel from a friend with the line you're considering for a test drive, or see if the fly shop will rig one for you to check out in their parking lot. Or, perhaps even call the rod maker for their recommendation. We've been told repeatedly by our spey masters how critical it is that a spey line be precisely matched to the rod, so this should be equally true with single-handed rods if you're seeking peak performance for distance casting.

The next time you pass a Fair Oaks park on Sunset Ave., and see an old guy with a GBF cap in a tattered green chair people watching while pondering why his last cast went awry, stop on by to say "Hi."

## GBF Education Corner

*by Ron Davidson, Education Director*

**Yes**, we are in the middle of a Pandemic; **Yes**, we cannot meet face to face; **Yes**, many of our classes, clinics and fishouts have had to be postponed; and, **Yes**, despite all of that, we are **thriving** as a club. Behind the scenes we are active, we continue to welcome new members, and our club membership is up over 300 for both individuals and families.

**WHY IS THIS?** First of all, we have a dedicated Board that is determined to move the club forward. We have creative clinic and class leaders that are finding ways to share the latest fishing ideas, and skills, and we have tireless fishout leaders that continue to organize and lead amazing outings. There are 21 fishouts listed on our Message Board from April to July of 2021.

We have many members that have come aboard in the last two years, when things were forced into a slow down, and have never really seen the club in full operation. And, there are our long time members that have patiently hung in there. For both of these groups, I just want to share a "shout out" of appreciation to those that have kept us thriving, and remind all of what lies ahead.

Our Board has been meeting regularly via Zoom to keep operations well oiled. And, our clinic zoom pioneers,

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*GBF Education Corner - Continued from page 8*

**Gene Goss** and **Jim Holmes**, have built great platforms to share their programs, and I know we will continue to hear from them.

**Jim Degnan** has had some excellent "Knot Tying Classes" on Zoom, and has developed a very professional Knot Tying Manual that can be down loaded from our website. Jim will continue to show us how to build those leaders and fasten on hooks that will make us all better anglers.

We have had an unparalleled casting program, thanks to **John Hogg** and **Rick Radoff**. With the ability to meet outdoors, John and Rick have been able to hold some "live" sessions during the health crises. Watch for announcements, as it has been difficult to put classes on the schedule very far in advance.

The new "Casting Challenge" program has been hugely successful, as a number of members have advanced through the challenge stages, and we'll also continue to see traditional casting instruction for all skill levels. We are blessed to have our own Tenkara guru in **John Pelegrin**; John has been able to share his Tenkara Skills Clinics, which complement his fishouts. These have been very well received, and will continue to be part of the club's future.

Our librarian, **Kim Lloyd**, along with our resident photographer, **Chris Kight**, have introduced a monthly photo page where members are invited to send in fishing-related photos that will then be featured, and later archived, in "The Leader." We've already seen some amazing shots...keep sending them in!

One of our newest clinics has been "Drift Boat Rowing and Safety" presented by guide and VP Membership, **Mike Bean**. Members that have taken the course have raved about the great experience. Unfortunately, we will temporarily lose Mike as he heads back to Idaho, where he guides professionally on the South Fork of the Snake River, but we will see him and his boat back on our rivers next fall.

As members are participating in all of the above events, they are, at the same time, able to fulfill some of the requirements of our Golden Trout Program administered by **Victor Maiello**, who has developed a means to sign off requirements on-line. To find out more about the program, check out our website and/or contact Vic.

One of our oldest and most outstanding programs has been the "Eggs in the Classroom" project headed by **Frank Stolten**. Every year members, under Frank's guidance, work with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to deliver Salmon and Steelhead eggs to aquariums that have been set up in classrooms throughout our area. Teachers then build a wonderful curriculum around the life cycle started by those eggs. Although the health situation has forced some modifications, this program will continue, and it is a wonderful way for our members to get involved with our area youth.

There are two publications that serve as a glue to help bind this club together, and if you are reading this article, you will know that I refer to **The Leader**, expertly edited by **Frank Stolten**; and the second, of course, is our very professional quality website, and for that we can thank **Don Whitecar** and **Eric Palmer** for all of their expertise. Be sure to take advantage of these excellent publications!

**There is much more ahead!** All of this was going on during our slow down! Look for this in our near future. **Art Hawkins** and **Michael Kaul** lead a net building class that will include up to three sessions in a "State-of-the-Art" workshop at Art's home. You will have a great time working with fellow members, and in the end have an amazing net that you will show off on the river for years to come.

**Larry Lee** will help you build your own custom fly fishing rod/s, and like net building, you will have a beautiful, professional grade rod at a fraction of the cost. I built my first rod with Larry eleven years ago, and it is still my "go to," and I love it.

**Barry Norman** has developed a unique product, and he will guide you through the building process—non-slip soles for your wading boots/ shoes. This has been a popular offering, and you will have a great time working with Barry.

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GBF Education Corner - Continued from page 9

One of the most realistic wasps you will ever see, is what you will take home after a specialty fly tying class with **Michael Gervais**. This looks so real you won't want to touch it, much less fish with it, but do, you'll catch fish!

Even when unplanned circumstances shut down our ability to get together, we have a great deal going on, but there will be so much more! We have had clinics I haven't mentioned such as rigging classes; Flyfishing 101 (A beginning Flyfishing General Class); classes on purchasing rods, fly lines, and other gear; float tubing; nymphing; and others. Keep an eye on **The Leader**, the Message Board on our website for future announcements, and plan to get involved. And, if you have any ideas you would like to develop...please do.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our president, **TinaLyn Sell**, for her guidance through these uncharted waters. It was not an easy task to take on the Presidency, then be faced with these unusual circumstances. Thanks, TinaLyn.

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

## Fly Patterns - Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle (modified)



*Peatridge Hotwire Soft Hackle  
(modified)*

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Tiemco 2488; sizes 14-18
<b>Thread:</b>	70 denier flat nylon, olive
<b>Beads:</b>	Small copper bead to match hook size (e.g. 2mm for #16 and smaller)
<b>Tail:</b>	Wood duck flank
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Chartreuse wire, extra small
<b>Ribbing:</b>	None
<b>Legs:</b>	Wood duck flank
<b>Wing:</b>	None
<b>Thorax:</b>	Fine, small peacock herl
<b>Weight:</b>	None
<b>Head:</b>	Thread

### Description

This fly was featured in the August, 2009 *Leader*. So why do a re-run? Well, because: (a) I can; but (b) in fact it works so well on the North Yuba River and we have an outing there in June; and (c) I've made a few modifications to the bug and the tying techniques that make it work even better and make it a little easier to tie. The modifications are simple: For materials, I've substituted wood duck flank for the partridge and now use a somewhat different hook; and in the tying instructions, I use a slightly different technique for tying in the soft hackle—one I learned while reading a good book I recently purchased called "Tying and Fishing Soft Hackle Flies," by Allan McGee.

The fly's name is not a typo. I named it "Peatridge" because two of the main ingredients are partridge and peacock. The "hotwire" part comes from the type of wire used for the abdomen. I am partial to the soft hackle configuration because it can also serve as a nymph—in effect, because the wire body makes it heavy, it's a soft hackle nymph, a two-for-one fly. The soft, wavy hackle appears to be enticing to fish, especially on the swing when the fly rises up in the water column, making it resemble a swimming nymph on the way to emergence. Of course, all of this is educated guesswork, since I've never had the pleasure of interviewing a

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*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 10*

trout. Let's face it—a good deal of the art of fly tying is more for the pleasure of the tyer/angler than anything else. That said, once in awhile we do land on a pattern that really does work. It's at that point that we tyers begin to invent reasons why the fly is effective—there's plenty of pontification out there, for sure. But we really don't know what it is that triggers a trout's instinct—and we'll likely never know.

In any event, this month's pattern is one that does indeed entice trout. Why? Quien sabe, but my guess is that it just looks buggy, and has some motion to it. Not very cerebral, but it's the best I can do. The fly can be tied on any standard nymph hook, but I prefer the "scud" type of hook which allows for a more natural shape to the bug.

## 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. Crimp the hook barb and place the bead on the hook. Cover the hook shank with a single, flat layer of thread; extend the thread halfway down the bend of the hook. Move the thread back to the rear of the bead.
2. For the tail, cut a small section of well-marked wood duck flank feather barbs. Measure the tail fibers so that they protrude from the rear of the hook approximately 1/8". Tie the bunch in just behind the bead. Hold the bunch up above the hook as you work the thread rearward, ending at mid-bend. This technique will keep the bunch right on top of the hook. Leave the thread at the rear, and clip the excess feather behind the bead.



*Steps 1 & 2*



*Step 3*

3. At the same point (i.e., at mid-bend) tie in a 4" section of wire for the abdomen, and wrap the thread forward to the back of the bead, making sure that each wrap of thread lies flat in front of the previous wrap in order to avoid build-up of thread which results in a bulky body. Wrap the wire forward in tight turns and tie it off about two hook eyes width behind the bead, thus leaving room for the hackle, the peacock herl, and the head.

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*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 11*

4. Cut another bunch of wood duck flank—larger than the tail bunch. Measure it with tips pointing rearward, so that the tips extend about ½" beyond the bend of the hook. Reverse the tips and place the barbules on the hook just ahead of where the wire was tied off, with the tips of the feather protruding out over the hook eye and tie in the butts of the barbules using two loose wraps. Slowly pull the thread tight; that should distribute the hackle evenly around the hook. If it looks too sparse, add another bunch, but don't over-do it. Sparse is good. Leave the tips extending out over the hook eye for now.

*Step 4**Steps 5 & 6*

5. Cut two pieces of peacock herl from the eye area of the feather; this part of the feather contains colorful, very small barbules. Tie these two pieces in by their tips and take 3 or 4 wraps and tie it off. Clip the excess herl.
6. Sweep the barbules of the wood duck rearward and place a few thread wraps ahead of them so that they remain in that position. Don't attempt to flatten the barbules against the shank; rather, use only enough wraps to make them stand upright with a slight curve to the rear. 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. Mayfly nymphs and uncased caddis larvae are very slender.
2. I like to flatten the part of the wire that will be tied in so as to eliminate excessive bulk when building the body. Use flat-nosed pliers for this purpose.
3. Use your bodkin to apply superglue rather than squeezing a drop from the bottle directly onto the fly. Your placement will be much better.
4. I keep a cloth next to my vise for wiping the bodkin clean after each application of superglue to prevent glue buildup on the needle. If you do get buildup, use a lighter to burn the buildup off.

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

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

Our website is designed to be a resource for club members who want to enhance their fly fishing experience through participation in various club activities. Check often at [www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org) for information on club fishouts, conservation projects, classes & clinics, and other activities that support our mission.



## Tight Lines, Good Times, and Bragging Rights

by Kim Lloyd

It's been said that one picture is worth a thousand words. Got a good one? Then let's see it! Each month a couple of photos will be shared at the Club's Zoom meeting, and then published in *The Leader*. The criteria for submitting a photo? It must be related to tight lines, good times or braggin' rights. Here's a couple of the photos that were shared at the February meeting:



*Ilya Manzyuk, Yuba River, Highway 20 evening hatch*



*Daniel Retherford, Cutthroat, Snake River, Wyoming*



*Dave Sloane, Trophy Rainbow, Rancho Seco*



*Joe Tax, Folsom Lake, Carp on a fly*

Photos can be emailed to Chris Kight ([kightboy@aol.com](mailto:kightboy@aol.com)). Be sure to include your name, the location and the date of the photo.

## 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](mailto: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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