

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

January 2023

<http://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

*by Kim Lloyd, GBF President*

"A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit." This Greek proverb got me thinking about the club and those that developed it. I'm talking about the folks that formed the club in 1985, incorporated it in 1987, built the clubhouse circa 1992 and laid the foundation for the club as we currently know it.

Let's review the club's history; especially how it all started. Back in the day there was no congressional hearing or state investigation that "determined" a fly-fishing club in the Granite Bay area was necessary or that it should have its own clubhouse. No, it was just some folks that thought these were some good ideas.

But these folks did not want GBF to be just any fly-fishing club. For example, the club's mission statement explains it would be a non-profit public benefit corporation that would educate the community on fly-fishing, conservation and water resources. Put differently, the club was not about catching fish; it was about creating an organization that would preserve those things that allow fish to be caught.

Those are some heavy thoughts for folks who think it's fun to stand in cold water and wave sticks at rocks. These thoughts are heavy because the conservation and water resources efforts the club has performed—plus those that will be undertaken in the future—can continue well past our lifetimes, which is what the Greeks were talking about a couple thousand years ago.

That's the club's provenance, but what about its future? An idea raised by Bruce Emard, VP of Conservation, is consistent with the club's mission statement. Bruce's idea is for the club to "adopt" a waterway. How cool would that be?

Tight lines.



## Monthly Program

Our speaker this month is **Mike Pease**, who will present a program on "**Fishing the Lost Sierra**." This is a return visit for Mike, who spoke to us a few years ago. He is a fly-fishing guide, the owner of [Mike Pease Adventures](#), and founder of the [Feather River Fly Fishing School](#) in Plumas County near Graeagle, California.

Mike grew up trout and steelhead fishing with his father and grandfather on many of the well-known streams of Northern California. He took his skill and art to a new level when he learned to fly fish over 30 years ago in the Greater Redding area with many of the masters of the North state. Mike is a patient and skilled fly-fishing instructor and guide. He combines a career as a Stanford-trained educator with a lifetime

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J A N U A R Y 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
8.	9.	10. Board of Directors Meeting	11.	12. Monthly Meeting	13.	14.
15.	16.	17. Fly Tying Jam	18.	19.	20. ISE Show January 20 - 23 <a href="https://www.sportsexpos.com/attend/sacramento/">https://www.sportsexpos.com/attend/sacramento/</a>	21.
22. ISE Show January 20 - 23 <a href="https://www.sportsexpos.com/attend/sacramento/">https://www.sportsexpos.com/attend/sacramento/</a>	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.
29.	30.	31.				

*Monthly Program - Continued from Page 1*

of fishing and adventure to provide a unique approach to the pedagogy of teaching others to fly fish. Mike strives to make you a client for life, while helping you hone your angling skills and serving all of your fly-fishing needs. Mike is a permitted guide in the Plumas National Forest, and will take you to hidden river gems like the Middle and North Forks of the Feather River, along with Central Valley rivers, including the Calaveras, Lower Yuba, Lower Sacramento, and the Lower American.

In addition to walk and wade guided trips, Mike also leads fly-fishing classes and clinics at an exclusive Sierra dude ranch and personalized classes in the Central Valley. The summer program is a 1-, 2-, and/or 3-day course offered at the serene Greenhorn Ranch near Graeagle, CA, which is approximately 2.5 hours from Sacramento. Information can be found at <https://www.greenhornranch.com/>.



*Fishing the Upper Feather River*



## Another Successful Swap Meet and Chili Cook-Off

by Drake Johnson

This year's annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> was a grand success. Despite the rain, it got off to a good start with lots of eager bargain hunters when the doors opened at 8:30 AM. **Jim Degnan, Mark Bellici, Chris Kight, Jack Peuler, and Mike Bean** arrived several hours earlier to set up and make sure everything was ready for the 8:30 start. Jim, Mark, and Jack watched over the continental breakfast that included donuts, muffins, water, soda and coffee. All of this was provided for a nominal fee of \$3—hard to beat. In addition, Jim, Mark, and Jack helped throughout the day to keep food things moving along with organizing the chili



Between sellers and buyers, it was estimated that around 60 people showed up. We had at least 25



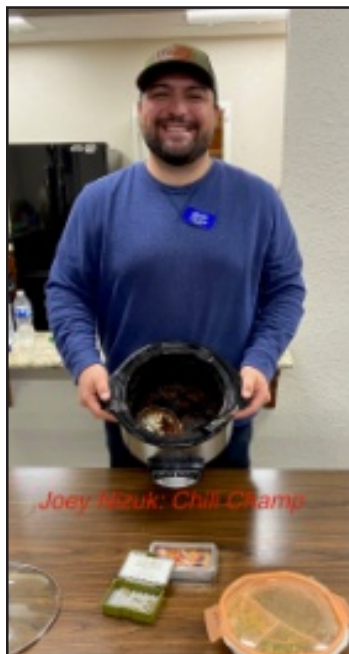
people selling their extra goods. Unique to this year, **Frank Stolten** had four tables set up with a combination of items that had been donated to GBF. It ranged from gear, to fly tying materials. Some of it was even free!! **Eric Palmer** also had several tables of mostly fly tying materials that had

been donated to the club in recent years. There were float tubes galore featured outside.

Chili Offerings were provided by the following: **John Gordon**, with "Tex Mex Chili," **Lloyd Gillespie** with "Buzz's Montana Chuck Wagon Chili," **Marilyn Floyd** with "Did You Bring

Tums?," **Kim Lloyd** with "Folsom Express," **David Jones** or was it **Allie Jones** with "Bull Dog Beer," **Joey Nizuk** with "Venison/Tri Tip Chili with Black Beans," and **Corley** with "Polish Chili." As you can see, the chili ranged from the traditional to the non-conventional.

All were worthy of serious consideration for best in eats. By 10:00 AM most of the chili was gone, and the voting was completed by 10:30 AM. **Joey Nizuk**, with his "Venison/Tri Tip Chili" was crowned king of chili this year, and took home a dozen flies.



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*Annual Successful Swap Meet and Chili Cook-off - Continued from Page 3*

Shea Blonski and Son:  
Raffle Winner!

Second place honors went to Lloyd Gillespie with "Buzz's Montana Chuck Wagon Chili," and third place went to John Gordon with "Tex Mex Chili."

The raffle prize of a dozen flies donated by **Mike Bean** this year was won by **Shea Blonski** and her son, **Bryton**.

It's exciting that there were a few more sellers and buyers at this year's Swap Meet than last year. It feels like the club is waking up, members feeling safer and wanting to participate, and this portends a wonderful and activity filled 2023!

My thanks to all who volunteered to give me a hand to make this year's event happen. Specifically: **Chris Kight** for being floor manager during the event and taking some pictures; **Jim Degnan** for procurement, setting up and managing the continental breakfast; **Jim, Mark, Jack**, and Chris for overseeing the chili competition; and **Mike Bean** for his donation of flies for the awards and helping with the set up. I am looking forward to seeing you all at next year's event.

## Annual Dinner Update

With the Holidays behind us, it's time to think about celebrating and supporting our club in the new year by making plans to attend our 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner event in March! We hope all club members will get this important event on their 2023 calendars—because all club members will benefit from what this event represents.

The Annual Dinner is our club's only fundraising event of the year—and directly generates the funds needed to operate for another year. Club member contributions (buying Annual Dinner tickets...maybe some raffle tickets...maybe an auction item or two) make this event successful...and keeps the club solvent! Here's the gist...

- **Who:** Club members, friends, families, co-workers, neighbors...anyone who's interested in having a great time, winning great prizes, and supporting a great cause.
- **What:** Fantastic dinner, big raffle, outstanding silent auction, plus...the chance to break bread and share an evening with ALL club-members, friends, and families.
- **When:** Saturday, March 25, 2023. The festivities start by 3:30 PM (bar opens at 4:00; dinner begins at 5:30), and the closing remarks are scheduled to occur by 8:00 PM.
- **Where:** This event will once again be taking place at the Rocklin Event Center, 2650 Sunset Blvd, Rocklin. It's easy to find and has plenty of free on-site parking!
- **Why:** Simple...you want to show your support for your club—and have a real chance to win thousands of dollars in fishing gear, trips, and other great prizes!
- **How:** Buy your dinner tickets at the next club meeting, or just visit our website ([www.gbflycasters.org](http://www.gbflycasters.org)) to buy tickets securely online. Tickets are just \$50 each!

Lastly...If you can't attend the dinner, please consider making a donation for the raffle or auction. If you can help in that important way, just contact Kim Lloyd at [kim@westernprojectmanagement.com](mailto:kim@westernprojectmanagement.com).

**Thank you for supporting your club!!!**



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## The December 8<sup>th</sup> Potluck Dinner

*by Kim Lloyd*



Photo by Chris Kight

The club traditionally hosts a potluck dinner at its December meeting. A couple of potlucks have been missed due to the restrictions necessitated by Covid-19, but things got back on track this year. Although the number of attendees was down a bit, the food and camaraderie were extraordinary. It was rewarding to “break bread” with such a good group of people.

A special shout-out to **John Peterson** for donating the “fly appetizers.” Each attendee received at least two of John’s low-cal and gluten-free flies.

It can be seen in the picture below that **Jim Holmes** (yeah, the guy without a name tag) is reviewing his choices, while **Gavin** is reaching for one that will catch a big fish. In the meantime, **Bruce Emard** is wearing a fly on his hat, perhaps the result of a dangerous back cast. Please note the eye-protection worn by Jim, Gavin and Bruce—do these guys know something? Come to next year’s potluck and find out.

## Conservation Corner

*by Bruce Emard, VP Conservation*

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, nine GBF members attended the club’s quarterly conservation meeting and were treated to a talk with Tiffanee Hutton from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Tiffanee holds a BS degree in marine biology from the University of Florida, and a MS degree from Cal State Monterey Bay. She is responsible for representing CDFW in matters of water rights and underground water management in Region 2, which includes local water you may fish.

Tiffanee spoke with us about the complexity of water rights in California and her role in helping preserve and protect the public trust in California’s water. You may not know that almost every inch of water in our area (and all of California for that matter) is governed by contract rights with water districts and private parties, a significant amount of which is sold and delivered to other users outside our area, including water districts in the Silicon Valley and Southern California. Were it not for the work of Tiffanee and others in state service, our local waters, both swift and still, would not support the fish populations that currently exist.

  
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Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner  
(Taken from the Article Written in January 2009)

## Fly Patterns - Bill's Big Fish Fly



*Bill's Big Fish Fly*

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Daiichi 1260 #6, 8
<b>Thread:</b>	Orange 8/0
<b>Hackle post:</b>	Tippet material, at least 3X
<b>Hackle:</b>	Furnace or brown dry fly quality saddle hackle
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Orange closed cell foam, 2mm thickness
<b>Thorax:</b>	Creamy orange Buggy Nymph dubbing
<b>Underwing:</b>	Orange crystal flash
<b>Wing:</b>	Burnt orange deer hair
<b>Legs:</b>	Pumpkin colored Sili-Legs

### Description

This caddis adult imitation is based on a pattern created by Al Beatty. He calls it the Hackle-Top Hopper. When I read his article in *Trout* magazine, I immediately tied a few and tested them out. My findings were that, tied correctly, the fly floats high, has great appeal to fish, and is very easy to see on the water. It worked well fished by itself, but I really liked it fished as the surface fly in a hopper-dropper setup. It can

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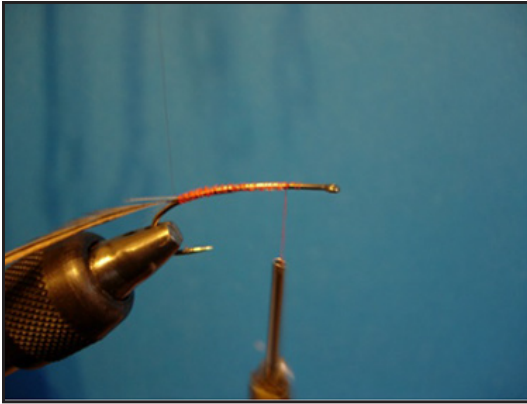


*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 6*

support a couple of flies and 1 or two split shot. I have never liked Stimulators for October Caddis adults (heaven knows I have used them for many years) because of the very unrealistic way that they sit up on the water surface instead of floating flush on the surface film as do October Caddis adults. The name I have given the much-modified fly is Bill's Big Fish Fly. The reason is contained in the name itself. The fly is not overly difficult to tie, but it does require some intermediate tying skills.

## Tying Instructions

For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.



*Steps 1 & 2*

3. At the same point, tie in a long furnace or brown saddle hackle. Wind it counterclockwise and upward around the mono in widely spaced turns; when you reach the 1" point begin winding downward in very close turns. If done correctly, this method will allow you to achieve 30-40 turns. This helps to provide flotation.
4. When you have reached the shank with the saddle hackle turns, tie off the hackle in front of the post. It helps to let your hackle pliers hang over the shank and release the tension on the mono. You can pull the mono/hackle backward and out of the way while you are tying the hackle down.



*Steps 3 & 4*



*Step 5*

5. Cut a 1/8" strip of orange 2mm foam, making a point at one end. Tie the pointed end in just ahead of the hackle post and move your thread forward to the 1/3 point on the shank.

*Continued on Page 8*

6. Wrap the foam strip forward in close, interlocked turns. Don't stretch the foam as it destroys its floatation qualities. Tie the foam off at the 1/3 point. This leaves the front 1/3 of the hook for the rest of the steps.



Step 6



Step 7

7. Apply some Flexament to the top of the body, and then bring the hackle post over the body. Pull it tightly forward, making sure it is directly on top of the body. Tie it off at the 1/3 point.
8. At the same point, tie in a small bunch of orange crystal flash. Trim it so that it extends just slightly beyond the hook bend.
9. Cut a small bunch of burnt orange deer hair, measure it to shank length, and tie it in at the same point, tips facing to the rear. Don't stack the hair.



Steps 8 &amp; 9



Step 10

10. Cut another, slightly larger bunch of the deer hair. Measure it so it equals approximately 1.5 times the length of the shank. Trim the butts even, and tie this bunch in directly behind the hook eye with the tips pointing out over the eye. Keep the hair directly on top of the hook. Wrap rearward, covering up all of the butts. Place a drop of superglue on the tied-down butts.

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11. Dub a thorax of creamy orange Buggy Nymph, leaving the thread at the 1/3 point. To achieve this you'll need to dub rearward from the hook eye to the 1/3 point.



Step 11



Steps 12 &amp; 13

12. Gather up the second bunch of deer hair and pull it directly upward; make sure you have all of the hair, and smooth it out as much as possible. Bring it over the thorax, forming a nice bullet head. Make sure that there is no space left between the front of the bullet heat and the hook eye.
13. Tie the hair down at the 1/3 point. As you do this, push the hair down at the tie-down point, in order to make the hair splay outward. Place a tiny drop of superglue at the tie-down point.

14. Double a strand of pumpkin Sili-Leg material. Place it on top of the fly with the middle of its length at the wing tie-down point. Wrap 3 loose turns of thread over the leg material, and then cut the doubled loop. Pull one of the two sections down onto the far side of the hook, and the other onto the close side of the hook. Wrap the legs down tightly.



Step 14



Step 15

15. Whip finish between the legs and trim the thread. Apply glossy head cement to the top of the bullet head. This increases durability and provides a nice finish to the fly.

## Tying & Fishing Tips

1. When making the wing sections on this fly, don't stack the hair—it gives the wing a more natural profile.
2. Make a black stripe on the top of the wing, along the shank axis, using a black Sharpie.
3. Before fishing the Big Fish Fly, apply silicone paste to the entire fly. Use only a small amount. When the fly begins to lose its floatation, immerse it in floatant powder and rub the powder in with your fingers. It will float like a cork after this treatment.
4. I tie this same fly with an amber body to imitate a Golden Stonefly; all black to imitate a cricket; in yellow and olive to imitate a hopper; and with a yellow-olive body and black wing to imitate a Skwala Stonefly.

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

## Flies for All and All for Flies

Many fly tiers have a few special patterns that they tend to tie more than others—or that they tie almost exclusively. Not surprisingly, these are probably the patterns that they tie the best, fish the most, or both!

These are also the patterns that they're happy...even proud to share with others when the opportunity arises. Giving flies away is a wonderful, personal way to help someone else enjoy our sport a little more.

The opportunity is here! We're asking club members who tie flies to share their passion and patterns with other club members by donating a box of their favorite flies for the Annual Dinner Silent Auction.

If you can tie up some of your favorite patterns and put them in a new fly box for the club, you will be sharing your skill and experience with someone who really wants it—and is willing to pay for it!

Helping the club raise funds this way also helps fellow anglers catch fish—and that's a win-win! If you can help in this fun and creative way, please contact Kim Lloyd at [kim@westernprojectmanagement.com](mailto:kim@westernprojectmanagement.com).

## 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](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.*



## 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: \$35; Family memberships: \$40; and youth (under 18): \$17.50. There is also a \$15 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated. 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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