

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

June 2023

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Kim Lloyd, GBF President

The club's fiscal year will end on June 30th, and it would, therefore, be appropriate to recap what the club has done over the last 12 months.

Let's start with the monthly meetings. American society was coming out of its Covid-19 stupor last July. Yes, it seems much longer—but the meeting attendance numbers tell a different story. Check it out: In July and August between 30 and 40 members would show up. In September and October attendance moved up to 40 and 50 members. The December potluck was modestly attended, but then wait for it, there was the swap meet. Oh, yeah, it turns out the boys like their hot chili and sweet deals. That event got 'em out of the house and rubbing elbows!



Attendance at the January and February meetings started pushing 60 members, but Annual Dinner ticket sales were slow, very slow. Luckily, the atmospheric rivers subsided, ticket sales swelled and the rest was history. A complete sell-out of this March event generated more than \$27,000 in gross revenue, and stimulated

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Monthly Program

Our guest speaker in June is **Jason Thatcher**, a full-time river guide and owner of [River Pursuit Guide Service](#) on the Sacramento River near Red Bluff, where he has held a guide license since 2002. He has experience guiding in CA and AK with both jet and drift boats

Regarding his presentation, in Jason's words: *What I would like to share is that when it comes to the lower Sacramento River, there is life beyond Redding, and there is life beyond bobbers; and life is good!*

I will be presenting information regarding the fly-fishing opportunities below Anderson, and reaching all the way down to Corning. This stretch of water generally receives much less pressure, has a very dynamic variety of water types, and maybe best of all the opportunity to deploy tactics other than indicators.



Besides the typical indicator rig, we often use dry-droppers, tight-line (euro) nymphing, dries, and a hybrid technique that combines a euro setup with an indicator that I haven't found a name for yet.

I have invested a lot of time and effort in developing a tight-line rig that functions well in the big water, and I will share some of that practical knowledge.

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J U N E 2 0 2 3						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1.	2.	3.
					Eagle Lake Fishout June 1 - 4	
4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Eagle Lake Fishout June 1 - 4		Board of Directors Meeting	Fuller Lake Fishout	Monthly Meeting		Truckee River Fishout
		Manzanita Lake Fishout — June 5 - 11				
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
Manzanita Lake Fishout June 5 - 11						
18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
		Fly Tying Jam			Upper Sac Fishout June 22 - 25	Truckee River Fishout
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	
Upper Sac Fishout June 22 - 25					Tenkara Fishout	

Leader’s Line - Continued from Page 1

more interest in the monthly meetings. For example, the attendance in both April and May exceeded 80 members, which was more than double where we started in July.

The increasing attendance indicates we must be doing something right. Actually, we’re doing a lot of things right: casting clinics, knot tying classes, monthly fly-tying jams; the list goes on and on. And let’s not forget our conservation efforts. Every autumn we put salmon and steelhead eggs into 35 elementary school classrooms. And every June we donate money to environmental groups that preserve and protect our home waters. In fact, the Conservation Committee will meet on June 12th to divvy up the \$10,000 generated by the Annual Dinner...a generous farewell to efforts well made.

Upon reflection, it’s been a very good year. The events conducted—or sponsored—by the club not only kept members involved, they also strengthened relationships frayed by the pandemic.

Enough about looking at life through the rear-view mirror, it’s time to hit the water.

Manzanita Lake Fishout, June 5 - 11

by Michael Kaul, Fishmaster

Hey there Granite Bay Flycasters,

How about a fishout at Manzanita Lake in Lassen National Park? **Sandy** and I are leading this fishout June 5-11. You are welcome to come any or all days. Several of us are staying at the Manzanita Lake campground,

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Manzanita Lake Fishout - Continued from Page 2

and have reserved 16 sites (shareable with tents) most in the "A" loop. We are in **A-8**. Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov, though there may not be any available, but there are generally plenty of first come sites. There are also rustic cabins located between the campground and the lake that have walls and roof, a heater, a table and chairs (except Bunkhouse), bunks with mattress, and a lantern available at recreation.gov (or Lassenlodging.com). The campground has laundry, showers and a store. Others have booked stays at motels close by.

If the experience of past years is any measure, the fishing should be wonderful. I do brag about a late evening catch on a Matuka of a beautiful hard fighting bat years ago, but I failed to get a picture so... The lake has a beautiful view of Mt. Lassen, and there are several other options for fishing close by, including still and moving water. For non-fishers, there is also an abundance of hiking, site seeing and bike riding. At Manzanita the fishing is primarily float tube (we will bring extra equipment and instruction on use and guidance will be available), and ranges from dries to subsurface, with nice well-fed wild rainbows and browns to take your offerings.

Callibaetis, mayflies, caddis, damsel, dragons, scuds, leeches and ants are a few of the foods in the lake. You can fish subsurface flies with a floating line, but an intermediate sink line is often a good choice. The fish can be fairly large and healthy, so a 4-5x tippet should be good, but at times tippet as light as 7x for dries might be needed (and a box full of flies).

The lake is at 5,890' elevation, so it could be cold. This is the fifth year we are doing the trip, and are four-out-of-five for snow. Mapquest tells me it is a 3 hr 40 min drive. Sandy and I are planning to treat everyone to a chili/corn bread/salad dinner at the campground on Thursday evening. Hope to see you there! There are articles on fishing Manzanita in the California Fly Fisher; Dec '18 and June '14.

You can sign up at the monthly general meeting, by email at mikedkaul@gmail.com, or by calling me at (530) 677-8022.

Annual Elections

The club's annual elections will be held at our June 8th General Meeting. Ballots will be available at the door. Each member will get one ballot, no double-dipping. Here's the current list of candidates that are running:

President:	Kim Lloyd
VP Membership:	Mike Bean
VP of Conservation:	Bruce Emard
Secretary:	Don Harris
Treasurer:	Chris Kight
3-year Director:	Mike McKinley
3-year Director:	Scott Vaughn
1-year Director:	Jim Monical

It is noted that each office currently has only one candidate. The ballot will allow for write-in candidates to be added. The ballots will be counted at the meeting and the winners announced.

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.

Conservation Corner

For all you conservation-minded flycasters, you are invited to attend the Monday, June 12th, GBF conservation meeting at the Granite Bay Round Table pizza parlor on Sierra College Blvd. At this meeting, we will vote on which charitable organizations will receive a donation from the \$10,000 fund the GBF board of directors authorized for distribution to organizations that support our fishing waters. GBF will provide pizza at 6:30 PM. Voting will begin at 7:00 PM.

Upper Sacramento River Spring Fishout June 22 - 25

Fishout Leader: Tony Jelinek

The 12th Annual Upper Sacramento River Spring Fishout will be taking place, Thursday, June 22, to Sunday, June 25.

The gathering place for the fishout will be Dunsmuir Lodge. Many camping and motel options exist in the Dunsmuir area. Many in the group stay at the Dunsmuir Lodge. The Cave Springs Motel is under new ownership, and the motel rooms have been renovated.

Several lunch, breakfast, and dinner spots are available in the area for your meals. Due to the long days, we usually don't have group dinners, but depending on what others would like to do, I can plan some. The flows are currently fairly high, so I am hoping they drop down by the time we have the fish-out. I can keep everyone updated.

The Upper Sacramento River usually abounds with great pocket water. This time of year has long days great for nymphing during the day, with a good chance of some good dry fly fishing with caddis and stonefly patterns in the evening. This is a great fish-out for anglers of all capabilities. If you are new to the river and/or new to fly fishing, you will be paired with a fellow angler familiar with the Upper Sacramento River. The fly fishing method of choice is short-line nymphing (aka high-sticking, Czech nymphing, and Euro nymphing), an easy method to learn. If you are unfamiliar with the method, you will be shown how to short-line nymph, as well as be provided with the necessary leader, and also be shown how to set-up the rig. Come up for all four days, or just overnight to enjoy the great fishing for rainbow trout on the 35 miles of fishable water from just north of Lake Shasta to Lake Siskiyou!

For more information, please go to the posting [here](#) on the Granite Bay Flycasters' website, and/or get in touch with me at jelinea@me.com. As we get closer to the event, registrants will receive additional information on flies, fishing spots, and the agenda.

Welcome to our Newest Members!

by Mike Bean, VP Membership

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

Brandon Barbour	James L. Bogener	Cris Bryceson
Richard Ferrante	David Harvey	Julie Kaye
John Lutter	Tom Mersich	Scott Myers
Charlie & Rozaida O'Neill	Steve Rohrer	Mike Smith
Harry Stockman	Scott & Kathy Vaughn	Ann Ward



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Be Safe Out There

by Trevor Segelke

I have been extremely frustrated for what is approaching the first half of 2023. I haven't been fishing in far too long, and it's been even longer since I caught a fish. It seems like forever since I was fishing in decent conditions. The weather forecast since early November of 2022 to April of 2123 has been nothing but Rain, Snow and, Atmospheric Rivers.

Now we finally get to some fair weather, and I can't find a safe river to play in. I love fishing in moving waters and, I don't own much equipment to be able to fish Lakes, nor a boat for the Delta or Valley Tailwaters. I'm used to wading, and pride myself for being able to wade or swim in waters many would not. Not this year! Three factors for safety for me are: Road Conditions, Water Level, and Water Temperature.

We got record levels of snow. Places I would typically be headed to on Opening Weekend are still under snow. Roads are closed due to still being under snow, or they were damaged by the repeated storms through fall and winter. Downed Trees, Road Washouts, and Mudslides have plagued much of CA roadways this year. Wet, slick, snowy, and muddy roads are enough to keep me off the mountain and foothill roads for a bit longer.

Water levels are the next thing to watch. Typically, in the spring the runoff raises the water in the rivers. The more creeks that feed the main stems, the faster the water is rushing. I would normally look for the smaller feeder streams, or places that have estuary outlets to keep the water at a manageable level. With record snow levels this year, most places I have been able to get reports on are running 3 times higher or more than average. As an example, the Yuba River will run for short periods of time, about 3,000 CFS during spring runoff or a storm. The same time last year, the Yuba was running at 2,000 CFS. I recently looked, and it was running at over 6,000 CFS, has been running between 4,500 CFS and 6,000 CFS for March, and peaked at over 30,000 CFS this winter. With currents 3 times higher than average, and the levels have been sustained at these levels for a long time, there is a lot of debris to contend with also. With water that is running that strong, I'll wait a bit longer.

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

Be Safe Out There - Continued from Page 5

Now, Water Temperature. Have you ever got dunked in water that takes your breath away, or your body starts to get numb when you get into it? It slows your reaction, can confuse you, and/or your body can go into shock. It doesn't feel good. For me, these kinds of things occur in the mid-to-low range of the trout temperature at 50 degrees. Now, with all the snowpack, with water moving faster and deeper than typical, the water temperatures have not quite warmed up to 50 degrees. Reports I have seen were still reporting low water temps, so the fish aren't moving yet. This means the water temperatures are low enough to make the fish lethargic. For Trout, that is about 45 degrees, or so. Much too cold for me not to be concerned about Hypothermia from wading too long, or cold shock if I fall in. I'll wait a bit longer.

This winter was a long and wet one. I have run out of fishing related projects to prepare for the oncoming season. I am not willing to risk myself against bad roads, high turbulent water that is too cold to be caught in for any length of time. I'll have to stay home a bit longer to stay safe enough to be able to fish the summer season.



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Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in June 2008)

Fly Patterns - Burk's Hare's Ear Bottom Roller



Burk's Hare's Ear Bottom Roller

Materials:

Hook:	Daiichi 1130 (or Tiemco 2457) scud hook, size 8
Thread:	Tan monochord or similar thread
Bead:	3.3 mm gold tungsten bead
Abdomen:	Arizona Peacock Synthetic Dubbing—Hare's Ear color
Ribbing:	Monofilament tying thread, or a piece of 5x tippet material
Wing Case:	Pearl "Sili-skin"
Thorax:	Arizona Peacock Synthetic Dubbing—Peacock color
Weight:	.025 lead, wrapped from mid-bend to behind bead

Description

Last year Andy Burk treated 6 Granite Bay Flycasters members to a clinic on "Czech Nymphing," which is very similar to the short line method that I teach in my clinics and during guide gigs. Once properly learned, these methods are extremely productive. Learning the proper drift technique takes time and patience, but it pays significant, real dividends in the long run.

Andy's rig differs somewhat from the rig that I use; actually, I like his rig so much that I've modified my own in a few respects to include some of Andy's concepts. I've learned a lot from watching Andy tie and talking to him about fly construction. Above all, he is a practical tyer—meaning that he ties flies that do indeed catch fish, and are not overly difficult to tie. His "bottom roller" series certainly meets those criteria. The flies are very heavy; consequently they sink quickly and stay down when drifted properly. One of my favorites among the various rock roller patterns is the Hare's Ear Bottom Roller. That's the one we'll tie for this month's fly. If you want to watch Andy tie this fly, check out his YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EO09Ys-8Po>

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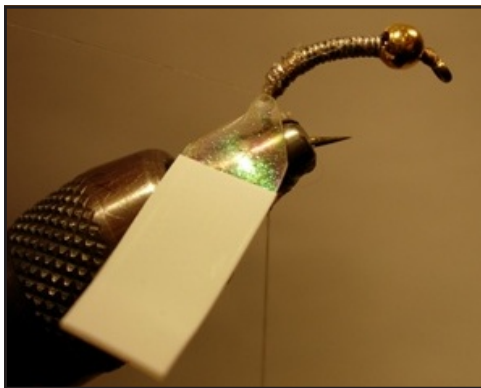
Tying Instructions

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

1. Smash the hook barb unless you are using a barbless version of the scud hook. .025 lead wire from the middle of the hook bend to the bead. Push the bead and lead back from the eye slightly, because the fly will be tied off in front of the bead. Apply a thin layer of Flexament to the bead and lead.
2. Tie the thread on in front of the bead and build up a small bump there to keep the bead from sliding forward. Jump the bead with the thread and cover the shank/lead with thread.



Steps 1 & 2



Steps 3 & 4

3. Cut a piece of Sili-Skin approximately 1/4" wide and 1" long. Cut the end to a point, but leave the backing on for now. Peel the backing back slightly from the point you just cut, and tie that point in, sticky side up. It should be tied in on the lead wraps, and stretched rearward while wrapping the thread over it to the rear. Continue to leave the backing on for now, and let the Sili-Skin hang there out of the way.
4. Tie in the monofilament ribbing at the rear end of the abdomen and place it in your material clip for now.

5. Dub a nicely tapered abdomen with the Hare's Ear color dubbing material. End the abdomen approximately 1/8" behind the bead.
6. Dub a collar (thorax) of the Peacock color dubbing material.



Steps 5 & 6



Steps 7 & 8

7. Pull the Sili-Skin over the top of the body, stretching it slightly over the top of the bead. Tie it down in front of the bead.
8. Wrap the mono ribbing forward, making sure that the Sili-Skin does not move to the far side of the hook as you wrap. Tie the ribbing off in front of the bead and whip finish the fly.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7

9. Using a small wire brush or other dubbing teaser tool, rough up the bottom of the fly somewhat to create a fuzzy look.



Step 9

Tying Tips

1. When you are ribbing the fly, start with close wraps at the rear, widening the gaps as you go forward. If you look at a living nymph's segments, you will see this pattern.
2. Visit the following web site for some color ideas for Czech nymphs, which are very similar to Andy's Bottom Roller flies: http://www.czechnymph.com/en/index.php?show_page=gallery&g1section=1.&g1archive=0&g1current_item=30

Fish bottom rollers in pocket water, using short line techniques. Go rip a few lips, and....see ya on the creek!

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

GBF Loaner Equipment

Are you looking to try out a rod or reel before you buy, or maybe you would like to see if fly tying might be your thing and you're not yet ready to open your wallet? Well, have no fear, your club has your back... Equipment is available to borrow from the club's Librarian on General Meeting nights. See one of the two gentlemen behind the table at the back of the room with the magazines on it. Members are required to sign an agreement to take care of and return borrowed items in good order:

- Spey rods
- Fly rods
- Tenkara rods
- Reels
- Fly tying kits

The rule: you keep the borrowed item(s) for 30 days and return them in original condition at the next general meeting. See **Ben Sell** at the library table at the back of the room at the next general meeting to borrow a Spey or conventional rod. See **John Pellegrin** to borrow a Tenkara rod. John will request that you have some basic instruction from him first before using a Tenkara rod due to their delicacy and specialized nature.

Detailed inventory:

5 ea. - 5 wt rods (9') with reel and floating weight-forward line.

4 Spey rods including:

- 2 ea. Larry Lee 13 ft, 7 wt rods with matching lines.
- 2 ea. Echo rods at 12' 9", 7wt with matching lines.

2 ea. - Tenkara Rods

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. 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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