

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

May 2023

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Kim Lloyd, GBF President

For many years, I believed an equinox was defined as when the length of a day was equal to the length of its night. As in many cases, I got the concept about half right. Yes, an equinox occurs when the duration of daytime equals that of the following nighttime. But, I did not know this equal split only occurs because the sun rises and sets exactly at the equator. Hence, there are two distinct elements that comprise an equinox:

1. Equal durations of night and day; and
2. The sun rising and setting at the equator.

So, you may be asking, what's the point? The point is the club's identity is also comprised of two related elements, i.e. time and money...do you know how they interact?

As will be explained in a later article, the Annual Dinner was hugely successful. This success, coupled with membership dues, means the club can make substantial donations to groups that preserve and protect our



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Monthly Program

About Leaders and the Knots to Tie Them *From Horsehair to Fluorocarbon*

by Eric Palmer

At the April 13th general meeting, GBF member, **Eric Palmer**, will provide a presentation on leader materials. He'll discuss the early use of horse hair, cat gut and woven silk for lines or leaders. We'll learn the differences between nylon ("mono") and fluorocarbon, when to use one vs. the other, and which is the "best;" or is there even a "best?" Why do we use tippet, and what's the origin of the mysterious "x" factor for designating tippet

strength? When do we need a well-tapered leader, when it doesn't matter, and the merits of tying up our own leaders from low-cost bulk spools vs. pricey packaged tapered leaders.

He'll also illustrate some favorite leader rigs of top GBF stillwater and stream anglers, along with the minimum set of knots we should master to tie them.



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M A Y 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9. Board of Directors Meeting	10.	11. Monthly Meeting	12.	13.
14.	15.	16. Fly Tying Jam	17.	18.	19. Fly Park Fishout	20. Tenkara Fundamentals Clinic
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
28. June 4.	29. June 5.	30.	31.	June 1.	2.	3.
Eagle Lake Fishout May 31 - June 5						

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home waters. It also means the club will meet the criteria to remain a non-profit corporation. This effort to raise and donate funds as a non-profit corporation, therefore, represents the "money" element of the club's identity.

Now, let's discuss the "time" element. The club's success in raising/donating money is directly dependent upon members that volunteer their time to administer corporate functions. These functions are performed by the club's Board of Directors and its Officers (President, VP of Membership, VP of Conservation, Secretary and Treasurer).

Being an Officer requires between 4 and 16 hours per month. Conversely, being a Director requires about 2 hours per month. These are not huge commitments, but are necessary for club functions to be performed. Can you help? If so, then contact me at gbf-president@gbflycasters.org. An active group of Officers and Directors gives the club an advantage few others enjoy.

That's it, I'm heading out.

Eagle Lake Fishout and The Heritage Trout Challenge

by Kim Lloyd

The club's second multi-day fishout is scheduled for May 31st – June 5th. The objective of the trip is to land some Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout. This trip is part of the club's efforts to encourage members to participate in the Heritage Trout Challenge (HTC). Click on this link: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Inland/HTC> for more HTC information.

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Eagle Lake Fishout - Continued from Page 2

Nine club members have signed up for the trip, and there is room for plenty more. Some guys are camping and some are staying at nearby motels in the small town of Spalding. Most are just staying for a day or two.

Fishing for an Eagle Lake Trout is easy, catching them is more problematic. The good news is that no special equipment is needed for this lake. Most guys use float tubes, prams and boats. The water will be cold, so be sure to wear a floatation device.

A 5-weight rod with a couple reels holding lines of various sink rates will get things done. A floating line can be brought—but it is my understanding that fish are primarily taken below the surface. Most guys start with this standard assortment of still water flies: wiggle tails, wooly buggers and leeches. But don't take my word for it, here's a website where additional information can be found: <https://eaglelakefishing.net>.

There is also detailed information [here](#) on the GBF website about preparing for the fishout.

Eagle Lake is located outside of Susanville, near the town of Spalding. The drive takes about 4 hours from Granite Bay. The directions are straightforward: east on I-80 to Reno, north on 395, turn on to CA State Route 36, and finally a right hand-turn on to Eagle Lake Road. Christie Campground is located on Eagle Lake Road, and I'll be at Site 39 with my trailer. Stop by and we can compare notes.

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

For Sale

We are selling our 2 pontoon boats: FishCat 8' and OutCast 8'. Both are 8 feet long and come with oars and large gear stowage bags. The orange Fishcat model has a motor mount.

Both in excellent condition. \$350 each, or a package deal of \$600. Call: Gary Millhollen 916.257.2714



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.

Sac County Parks - Senior Discount

Sac County parks offer a number of American River access points for those that would like to enjoy this local fishery. There are two types of park passes available:

- Vehicle - \$60.00. For standard motor vehicles.
- Motorized Vessel/RV - \$120.00. For RVs and motorized watercraft 22' and larger.

Annual Passes are valid for one year from date of purchase, just like your fishing license.

Seniors 65 and over receive a 50% discount on the above rates when purchasing a park pass. These must be purchased in-person at the Parkway Foundation office, Sacramento County Regional Parks Department, a park kiosk or any of the park pass vendors (with the exception of the REI locations). Save yourself some grief: call to confirm a location is open before you go.

American River Parkway Foundation
5700 Arden Way
Carmichael, CA
916.486.2773

County Park Main office
10361 Rockingham Way
Sacramento, CA
916.875.7275

Gear Challenge

by Trevor Segelke

Would you use a Tenkara Rod while Steelhead Fishing? Would you Spey Cast from a Drift Boat? More than once, I was asked the first question, which I quickly responded with the second question. Have you been asked questions like: Can you use a Euro Nymph Rig for Dry Flies? What's the biggest fish you've caught on your Tenkara Rod?

The answers may seem obvious. Or, the questions may seem to be a direct contradiction to the purpose of the gear mentioned. The question may have been asked since they did not understand the equipment being inquired about, or the intention was to tease or mock me. To me, these types of questions come to the heart of enjoying fishing. Just as taking a 12-foot troller out in the open ocean can make for a hard day, using the least optimal fishing gear can make your day on the water frustrating.

You can get great enjoyment from knowing your gear and using it to the best of its design. There is little that can compete with being able to use a Spey rod to swing flies through a wide & long run for Steelhead, working a canyon filled with pocket water with your trusted Tenkara rod, ticking a WD40 and Caddis Pupa off the rocks on the bottom of Putah Creek, or casting a Spinner Mayfly to rising trout in an intimate meadow stream with your 2 wt. What makes any of these situations *Heavenly* or *Hellish* can be the choice of equipment you chose to use in them. Choosing the most efficient setup for the task at hand can lead to the enjoyment of our pursuits and success as anglers. Choosing the wrong setup leads to the frustration of fighting our equipment—trying to make it perform tasks it was not designed for. It can be very frustrating trying to Spey Cast in a high mountain box canyon, use a two-weight rod to cast heavily weighted flies and split shot, or turning the head of a Steelhead with a Tenkara Rod when they have hundreds of yards of heavy water to run. These all can and have been done but, usually by a frustrated angler.

We also all know someone that gets great enjoyment from facing the added challenge. More commonly, we can be faced



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Gear Challenge - Continued from Page 4

with not having the ideal gear for the situation. One may intentionally test themselves to do more with less. Or, one may be faced with the choice of fish with what they have or don't fish. How hard is it to land a 5 lb. trout on a 2 wt. or Tenkara Rod using 6X Tippet? Try casting a dry fly with a Euro Setup. It can be done but, should it? When faced with the choice of using what I have with me or not to fish. If it's not to the peril of the fish, the terrain, or myself, I fish.

Bringing us to the issue of caring for the quarry we pursue. Should you try to land large fish with tackle that is too light? In our struggles are we tangling, littering, or disturbing the terrain more than is needed? I believe we should enjoy the challenges of fishing how and when we can. I don't think we should over-play fish, leave unnecessary gear or trash littering the trees and river bottoms, just because.

I have used gear that was not ideal for the conditions I was in—mostly due to not having or knowing about better options. I have great memories of times spent challenging and honing my angling skills, sometimes at the risk of my gear. I get satisfaction at facing the challenges in front of me with the least amount of impact to the beautiful places I have been.

Be Safe, Enjoy, and be a Good Steward.



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(916) 601-7853 C

Let the Good Times Roll

by Kim Lloyd, Annual Dinner Chair

More than \$27,000 was collected at this year's dinner. The dinner was, to say the least, a spectacular success.

Let's identify those who were involved and what they did:

- **Ron Davidson** tirelessly solicited and organized the many volunteers.
- **Wendell Edwards** obtained prizes and donations from Kiene's and Fly Fishing Specialties.
- **David Jones** negotiated and coordinated the dinner with Back Forty Barbeque.
- **Mike Howes** printed name tags and handled raffle tickets, among many other things.
- **Mike Churchill** made sure the flow of libations was never interrupted.
- **Mike Brune** developed the dinner program that was placed on each table.
- **Henry Sandigo**, leaving nothing to chance, sold all 100 squares of the Fish Pool.
- **Art Hawkins** hungrily sold the entire "Deck of Cards" before dinner was served.
- **Michael & Sandy Kaul** showed how much money the "Net of Cash" could actually hold.
- **Dave Fujiyama** procured the fishing raffle prizes.
- **TinaLyn Sell** set-up and organized the 50-plus fishing raffle prizes.
- **Ron Fay** obtained & set-up the non-fishing raffle items, plus he handled the dessert auction.
- **Frank Stolten** did another stellar job procuring items and managing the Silent Auctions.
- **Jim Holmes** kept things moving as the Master of Ceremonies (Jimmy Kimmel look-out!).
- **Rick Radoff**, as the keynote speaker, reminded attendees of what we've done as a club.
- **Don Whitecar** compiled a list of Silent Auction winners and the value of their winnings.
- And, finally, **Chris Kight** who painlessly emptied the wallets of all Silent Auction winners.

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Let the Good Times Roll - Continued from Page 5

There were, of course, many others that were involved. This list includes those that helped set things up and those that helped take things down, those that helped at the bar and those that made coffee. It also includes those that sold raffle tickets and those that delivered raffle prizes to the audience. All these efforts helped make the dinner a huge success.

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

Fly Patterns - Pink Shad Fly



Pink Shad Fly

Materials:

Hook:	Eagle Claw #L1197N size 10-6
Thread:	UTC ultra Thread Fl. Pink size 210
Eyes:	Med. Silver bead chain
Tail:	White Marabou
Body:	Tying thread
Body over wrap:	UTC Med. Flat pearl tinsel

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WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...



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

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 6

Description

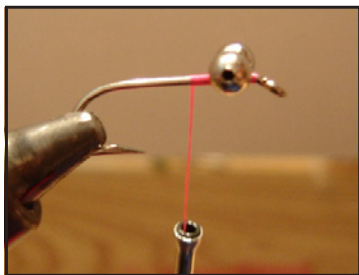
Shad fishing on the American River can be exciting fun and rewarding. Most of all it is in our hometown, even in some of our back yards. The best months for shad fishing in the American are usually May and June. Shad readily hit a fly, and range from 1-5 pounds. They can be caught wading, and you don't need to cast very far. You can use a 6-8 wt. rod with sinking line or a sink tip line, depending on the flows of the river and depth that the fish might be holding at. Shad are caught mostly in lower light conditions (morning and evening) but they can be caught all day long. If you get into the fish, it is not uncommon to catch several in just an hour's time.

This fly is tied with the bead chain eyes on top of the hook shank so the hook turns over. This allows the angler to hook the shad in the upper part of the mouth. This is important because the bottom part of a shad's mouth is paper thin and if hooked in that area, most will be lost.

Pink/white color combinations like the one in this article are most common for shad flies. However shad can be caught on a number of bright colors. Changing the color of this fly is as simple as using a different thread color. Doing this after every few flies will give you a wide assortment to chose from.

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, 4, 5, 6, & 7

1. Smash the barb and place in the vise, File the front half of the hook shank so it is rough.
2. Tie thread in at the eye of the hook with a jam knot and wrap towards the bend 10 wraps then back over the thread towards the eye 5 wraps. Attach the bead chain eyes at this point, on top of the hook shank. (see Pic. #1)
3. Wrap the thread diagonally across the eyes and around the hook shank in one direction about 6-8 times then wrap diagonally in the other direction 6-8 times forming an "X" over the eyes. Next wrap the thread about 5 times horizontally around the "x" thread under the eyes and on top of the hook shank. Glue all thread wraps.
4. Wrap thread back to the bend of the hook. Tie in a small clump of white marabou for a tail.
5. Cut a piece of Tinsel about 8" long. Double it over the thread and tie it in. You will have two strands of aprox. 4" each.
6. Wrap the thread to behind the bead chain eyes filing any low spots in the body.
7. Wrap both of the strands of tinsel at the same time forward to the eyes and tie it off.
8. Form a large head around the eyes, whip finish and glue.



Step 8

Tying Tips

Tie up a bunch and get out to the American River for some red hot shad action.

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: \$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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VP Membership - Mike Bean 208-244-1153 gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org	Education Eric Palmer 916-969-6683
VP Conservation - Bruce Emard 916-601-9566 gbf-conservation@gbflycasters.org	Fishmasters Tony Jelinek - streams 916-751-9249
Secretary - Don Harris 925-785-5091 gbf-secretary@gbflycasters.org	Doug Kytonen - stillwater 916-772-6654
Treasurer - Chris Kight 916-813-8008 gbf-treasurer@gbflycasters.org	Fly Tying Jim Holmes 916-967-6709
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