

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

October 2023

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Kim Lloyd, GBF President

Autumn is my favorite fishing season because it represents a transition from summer to winter. Nighttime temperatures drop, the leaves on the trees turn color and days become noticeably shorter. Each of these changes gives us notice that something is happening.

Transitions are important in fishing, too. This is especially true for those of us that enjoy moving waters. The transitions of a stream's flow are like reading a book. Each one is a chapter that must be studied and then understood. We must analyze what the water is telling us and then decide what actions must be taken to be successful. This is, of course, the whole purpose of fly-fishing.

In previous years our fishing seasons have been hammered by drought and fire. The drought severely restricted stream flows, while forest fires generated unhealthy air to breathe, and then gummed-up the rivers with ash.

This year has been the opposite: lots of water and minimal forest fires. The rivers and streams that have been swollen for so long have finally slowed down. All of this means that now is the time to enjoy our natural resources.

Need an idea as to where to fish? Then the answer is to come to a club meeting, because this is where members share fish stories and photos. And this month will be doubly productive, because the speaker will be discussing local waters that are within a couple hours of the clubhouse.

Hope to see ya on the water.



Monthly Program

Small streams...Small Fish

Our speaker this month is **Chris Kight**, a member since 2018, and known to GBF members as club Treasurer, who also aggregates all those fishing photos members send him that get shown at club meetings and also on the website.



Chris Kight

He fishes a lot—35-40 times each year—mostly small streams, and describes his interest/addiction as follows:

"From the start, my plan was to find and repeatedly fish just a few streams and get to know them really well so that I know what to expect of them seasonally.

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<i>O C T O B E R 2023</i>						
<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Truckee River Fishout
8.	9.	10. Board of Directors Meeting	11.	12. Monthly Meeting	13.	14.
15.	16.	17. Fly Tying Jam	18.	19.	20. Truckee River Fishout	21.
22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.
29.	30.	31.				

Monthly Program - Continued from Page 1

Of course, the list grew and grew because we have so much great water nearby. Over time, many members have asked for information about my experiences, and that formed the genesis for my presentation.

My talk will cover a dozen or so streams and creeks in our zone of the Sierras and their access points. I'll talk about how I find the areas that are productive, and about choosing either Tenkara or 3 wt traditional rod (or both). I'll also talk about reading trout water and how to improve small water skills. These waters vary from a short stroll to a couple hours of hiking, but most are pretty easy to access.

I have a large file of photos of each area and the fish that were caught there. It's surprising how many great little streams and creeks are within a 2-hour drive of our clubhouse, how easy it is to access them, and various simple styles of fly fishing that are appropriate and successful.

I'll talk a bit about how I use [Dreamflows](#), an automated program that provides real-time stream data to know when to get on the water each spring. Lastly, I'll share my most effective Tenkara flies (that I tie)—a couple of which are my inventions.

Join me at the October meeting and I hope, at the very least, "to entertain!"

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.

Upper Sac Tiime is Here!

by Tony Jelinek, Fishmaster

The 30th annual fall Upper Sac Fish-out will be taking place from **November 2nd to November 5th** (Thur-Sun). The Upper Sac boasts 30 miles of river access, with the center being the town of Dunsmuir.

Due to abundant pocket water, short-line nymphing is the method of choice on this stream. If new to the river, or new to fly fishing, you will be partnered with someone who is familiar with the river, and everyone who registers will receive information on short-line nymphing, river access points, and local information. If you are new to short-line nymphing, you will be shown how to tie the leader, and obtain instruction on the technique. Evenings, we all gather for dinner at a local restaurant to appease our hunger and tell tales of the day. We are also planning on having a barbecue tri-tip dinner for \$10 per person on Friday or Saturday evening. Plan on joining us for 4 days, or as many days as you can make it for fun, fishing, great camaraderie, and a chance to get to know this beautiful fishing water.

More details of this event are posted on the GBF website. If you are interested in participating in the fish-out, or have any questions, please contact me at jelinea@me.com, or phone 916-751-9249. You can register directly on the fish-out page on the GBF website.

How to Renew Your 2024 Membership

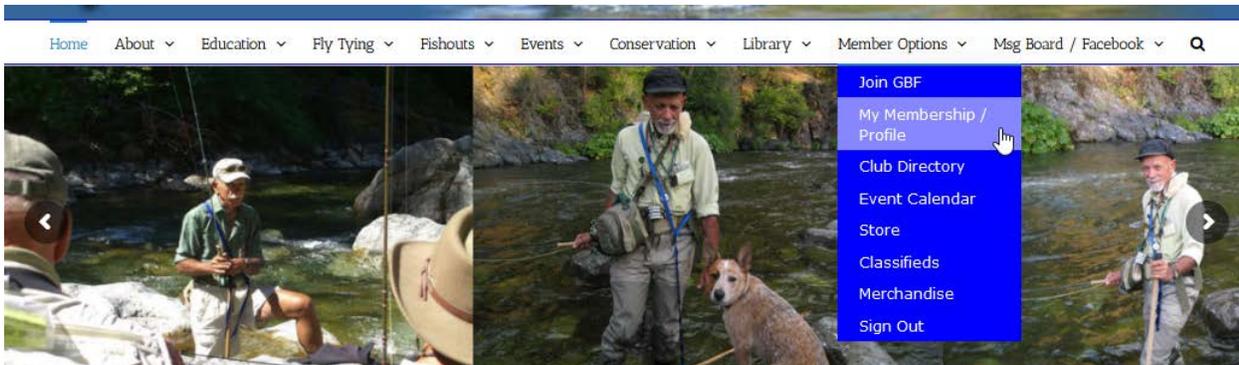
[Renewal Schedule and Notifications](#)

The renewal schedule window runs from November through March. At the end of March, non-renewed members will be purged from the active roster and moved to an inactive status. Inactive members will no longer receive club email bulletins, *The Leader* monthly newsletter, nor be able to participate in fishouts or clinics.

[Renew Online or at the General Meeting](#)

Renewals will be accomplished by two methods:

1. The online renewal process is fully automated, and requires a credit card. As the primary member, sign in the usual way to [‘My Membership / Profile’](#) under ‘Member Options’ on the GBF site. You will receive many notifications until your renewal is processed; so please respond early.



2. The VP Membership will have a laptop available at the General Meetings, and will accept renewals before the meeting and during the break. Credit card, check or cash will be accepted.

[Signing On to Begin the Renewal Process](#)

Your 2024 renewals are due before the end of 2023.

For many of you, this will be the first time you have logged into the new membership software. Be sure to read the Membership App Launch email and familiarize yourself with logging in the first time. Click here for the [Launch Announcement](#).

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How to Renew Your 2024 Membership - Continued from Page 3

Renewing Online, and After Signing In

Once signed in, check that the Liability Waiver radio button has been checked to acknowledge acceptance, if unchecked, please acknowledge acceptance. Before moving on, check the "About" tab and "Profile" tab, and update any areas needing your attention. Remember to identify what areas of the club functions you are willing to help with.

Should you have not yet read the [How to Manage Your Membership Profile](#) email, please click How to Manage your Membership Profile. Please be sure to complete your profile prompts and options before renewing; this will immensely help other members find you in the directory, and also the club leadership in seeking help running the club.

On the "About" tab, scroll to the bottom to search for the area where a Renew, Upgrade or Update Billing button is available. At this point, note whether you have an Individual or Family membership level.

Before Signing Out

Before signing out, please be sure to review your profile settings by checking the "About" and "Profile" tabs (as well the other tabs), and update any areas needing your attention. Remember to identify what areas of the club functions you are willing to help with. If needed, please click [How to Manage your Membership Profile](#).

Support

For step-by-step instructions involved in renewing, please read [Step-by-Step Instructions](#) to Renew Your 2024 Membership

For issues and questions regarding membership, reach out to **Don Whitecar, VP Membership**, using gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org; or for technical issues, reach out to the webmasters at gbf-webmaster@gbflycasters.org.

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

Upper Sacramento River Fishout Report

by Tony Jelinek

The 11th annual Upper Sacramento Spring fishout took place from June 22nd to June 25th. After a snowy and wet season, the river was running well, and dropping from 800 cfs to 600 cfs during the fishout. The flow was much different than previous years when it was running around 200 to 300 cfs.

We were a group of 12 who ventured up to Dunsmuir to enjoy fishing on this beautiful stretch of water, and to enjoy the surrounding countryside. First-timers on the fish-out were **Charlie** and **Rozaida O’Neill**, and **David Harvey**. **Michael** and **Debi Zacharia** were back for a return trip. Upper Sac “veterans” were **Steve Pitts**, **Michael Gervais**, **Dave Fujiyama**, **Chris Warren**, and **Kim & Wendy Lloyd**.

Thursday was kicked off with an evening gathering at the Dunsmuir Brewery. Some had already had a chance to wet a line, but the river hadn’t given up any fish, yet. We all had a chance to get acquainted, enjoy some good food, and discuss the fishing that lay ahead.

On Friday, we broke off in groups and set out to see what the river had in store for us. Temperatures would get to the low 80s, a nice change from low 90s to 100 that can be the norm this time of year. With the higher water, waders were needed, and one had to work to find good pocket water. Good pockets were to be found, and the usual nymphs—Prince Nymph, Dark Lord, Wooly Bugger, Jimmy Legs, Hare’s Ear, and Flashback PT were effective. Davie Harvey broke the ice catching his first fish on a fly at Castella State Park.

Saturday, it was time to get at it again and explore new waters. We had a little dry fly action, some nymphing action, and hard work to find the prime spots for trout. Not big numbers were caught, but many of us were rewarded for our efforts. Many parts of the river looked much different—flat where there once were drops, smoother water where there once were riffles, and white frothy water where there once were fishable riffles.

Sunday, it was time to head home. All had a great time exploring the river, making new friends, enjoying good food, telling tales, and even catching a few fish in the process.

Catch & Release

by Trevor Segelke

Recently, I went fishing with an acquaintance that wanted to see what the “whole fly-fishing thing was about.” It was a challenging day of reflecting on all those habits that I developed striving to be successful while fishing. When we were finally blessed with landing a fish, I had to get very protective of the thing we had spent so much time hunting.

We hadn’t discussed the proper way to handle trout safely to return it to the wild. It was made clear that neither of us had any interest in keeping any trout for a meal. So, I wrongly presumed they knew how to release the fish. I was wrong.

It’s important to remember fish have a protective slime coat. It’s their defense against parasites, disease and bacteria. The more of this slime coat that get rubbed off the fish while handling it, the more susceptible it is to disease and parasites. Try to wipe away as little of this as possible:

<u>Do</u>	<u>Do Not</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smooth rubberized net • Wet your hands before handling. • Handle the fish as little as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton net or one using knots to form the Bag. • Handle using gloves or dry hands. • Put the fish on grass, rub it down, etc.

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Catch & Release - Continued from Page 5

Try not to harm the fish. They were so excited to have caught a fish on a fly, they clearly forgot they were dealing with a living fish. It almost reminded me of a wrestling match with elbows, pliers and fists being exchanged. Please remember, being able to experience and preserve the fish for the future is more important than possibly missing a photo or two. To lessen the impact on the fish:

<u>Do</u>	<u>Do Not</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cradle the fish (water will suspend the weight) • Use barbless hooks • Back out the hook with hand or • Keep the fish in the water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Squeeze the fish to hold it • Use barbed or treble hooks • Twist, pry or gouge the hook out • Bank the fish or carry it around • Touch the gills (very sensitive) • Pick it up by its lip (trout jaws are strong enough)

Let's face it. We get tired playing with our fishy friends. The fish get exhausted. They can even be played to mortal exhaustion. Here are a few things to think on to return a revived fish:

<u>Do</u>	<u>Do Not</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of water temp – Warmer Water requires more time to revive the fish, as it has less oxygen. • Cradle the fish with nose pointed into mild current. • Let the fish swim away from you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish when water temp is too high. • Hold the fish in muddy stagnant water. • Pump the fish back and forth. • Throw them into fast moving water.

With catch-and-release angling done properly, mortality can be as low as 1%. Done poorly, it can be as high as 20% or more, with water temps or other factors compounding matters.

Please do what you can to be sure the next angler will also have the opportunity to release fish too.

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

Fly Patterns - Ken Hanley's October Blimp



Ken Hanley's October Blimp

Materials:

- Hook:** Daiichi 1260, 1270 or similar, such as Tiemco 200R, #6-10
- Thread:** 6/0 or 8/0 orange or tan
- Eyes (optional):** Black plastic, small or extra small
- Abdomen:** Furled fluorescent orange and burnt orange Antron
- Thorax:** Orange leech yarn
- Wing:** Natural deer hair
- Head:** October Caddis orange dubbing
- Head/Float:** 3mm orange foam, or white foam colored with orange Prismacolor pen
- Legs/Antennae:** Pumpkin/pepper flake Sili-Legs

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Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 6

Description

Last month I featured Bill's Stick Caddis, Fall Phase version. Normally in this issue I would have featured my October Caddis emerger, which I call Bill's Emerging Thing. My plans changed when I read Ken Hanley's brand new book, **Tying Furled Flies—Patterns for Trout, Bass, and Steelhead**. This book will introduce you to some interesting, valuable, practical techniques for creating very life-like patterns. Ken's vast experience and knowledge are brought to bear on every page; the photography is excellent, including the instructional sequences; and it is all woven together with Ken's personal touches, humor, and insights on everything from color and hue, outdoor ambiance, and fishing strategies, to the ruminations of a most introspective flyfisher. You'll learn the history of the ancient technique of "furling" various materials, how it can be applied to the world of fly fishing, and how to tie some very effective, fish-enticing patterns. A few examples include Ken's Hex Magic, October Blimp, Pygmy Hopper, Damsel Teneral, and Furled Alevin. I have personally used many of these patterns, and have found them to be simple to tie, and very effective. I highly recommend Ken's book not just for the techniques so beautifully demonstrated, or the many and varied patterns he has created; mostly, as an artist of sorts myself, I am fascinated by the perspective of a respected artist on this broad and ever-expanding sport/addiction that we call fly fishing

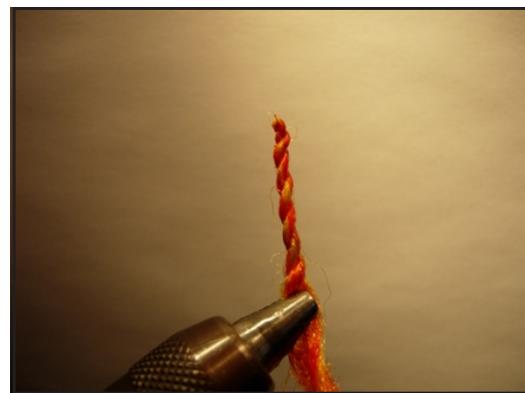
Ken's October Caddis adult, called the "October Blimp," is featured on pages 44-49 of his book. As soon as I read those pages, I knew this would be a great fly to share with members, especially those who plan to attend our annual fishout on the Upper Sacramento in October. So, let's go a-furlin' and build some blimps.

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. The instructions for furling the body can be found in GBF's fly tying archive by clicking this link or copying & pasting it into your browser's address field: http://www.gbflycasters.org/fly%20tying/patterns/Ken_Hanleys_Furled_Damsel_files/Ken_Hanleys_Furled_Damsel.htm

For this fly, you will need to use a bunch of the fluorescent orange that is about two matchsticks in width, and a bunch of the burnt orange that is about half that size. Lay them side by side and then begin the furling process. You will achieve a "barber pole" effect if you do it correctly. This will be the abdomen of the fly. Prepare at least 6 of these, and dip them in a bottle of Softex which helps prevent fouling of the abdomen on the hook point by stiffening the yarn. Set the bodies aside to dry completely.



Step 1



Step 2

2. Attach the tying thread behind the eye; wrap a thread base back to the middle of the shank. Measure the now-dry abdomen to equal the distance between the eye to the hook point, and tie it in at mid-shank. Don't trim the butts, but comb them out. Place a drop of superglue at the tie-in point.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7



Step 3

3. Tie in a small strand of orange leech yarn at the same point and wrap it forward over the Antron butts. Stop about 3/8" behind the hook eye and tie it off.

4. Pull back the unfurled Antron and trap it with thread wraps. Place a drop of superglue at the point where you secured it in place.
5. Add legs/antennae on each side of the hook by tying in a piece of the rubber leg material just ahead of where you tied back the unfurled Antron. Tie the leg material down in the middle of the piece, so that there is an equal amount pointing forward and backward.



Steps 4 & 5



Step 6

6. Cut a strip of foam about 1 1/2" long and 1/4" wide. Trim one end to a fine point and with the tip pointing to the rear, lay the foam flat along the front 3/8" of the hook. Tie it in there.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 8

7. Trim the Antron butts so that they are long enough to reach the point where you tied in the abdomen. This is the underwing.
8. For the overwing, cut and clean a small portion of deer hair. Tie it in at the point of the foam that you tied in. Advance the thread to the eye, and add a drop of superglue to hold all of the material in place.



Steps 7 & 8



Step 9

9. Using the orange dubbing, dub a large head. Dub rearward so that your thread ends up where you tied in the overwing.

10. Pull the foam strip rearward over the dubbed head. Tie it down with a few loose wraps and check its position to make sure it is directly on top. Make a few more wraps, increasing the tension with each wrap. Whip finish and apply head cement to the wraps.
11. To trim the foam, Ken recommends laying your scissors on top of the foam; don't raise the foam, and make a straight cut. This will leave a slight "dishlike" appearance to the foam, which acts as a float.
12. Trim the legs at the end of the hook; the antennae should be about the same length. If you have used white foam, color the foam orange.



Steps 10, 11 & 12

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 9

Tying Tips

1. Prepare at least 6 bodies and tie 6 of this pattern. You will find that if you do this (indeed, with any pattern you tie) your consistency will increase immensely.
2. Be sure to use 3mm foam in order to achieve the balance and flotation needed. Fish the fly on the surface or just below for best results. If you aren't hooking fish, try suspending an October Caddis emerger beneath your Blimp.
3. Ken says that this fly is also a good imitation for the giant Salmon Fly, technically known as *Pteronarcys californica*.
4. As mentioned above, I highly recommend Ken's book for a complete explanation of furling, and the techniques Ken uses.

Fish this beast in the evenings during the October Caddis hatch, which usually commences near the end of September, and lasts through the end of the year. Yes, it's cold, and yes, it rains and snows at this time. If you don't like to fish in those conditions, there are always "bluebird" days during the fall, and even during the early winter. So, give it a try—you won't regret it. See ya on the creek.

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

Fly Fishers Are Pack Rats

by Jack Parker

(Reprinted from the March 1987 issue of The Leader)

Basically, I think all fly fishers are pack rats. By that I mean we not only collect, but hoard as well. How many of us have more equipment than we will ever use—flies for example? I, personally, have enough to last a lifetime. I could probably get along with about 6 dry fly, four or five nymph and a couple of streamer patterns for most of my trout fishing. As it is, I must have at least a zillion dries, a million or two nymphs and half a million streamers. A little exaggerated in my figures, but not by much.

The love of my life though (aside from my wife, of course) is bamboo fly rods. I love to handle them. I love everything about them. During the bleak winter days, I love to take them out of their cases and fondle them. I'm not going to admit how many I really own because my wife will be reading this and doesn't know.

Unlike glass or graphite, each bamboo rod has a personality all its own. I am not condemning glass or graphite, as I own and fish several of them. My bamboo rods, unlike those I own of other materials, become close friends and companions. I do not fish a single bamboo rod that I don't consider a friend. Many have helped me through considerably on the stream trials and tribulations. On blank days, I still had the pleasure of casting one of them. If I caught a fish or two, so much the better. To the uninitiated, this may seem a trifle weird, but not to those who love bamboo rods.



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Fly Fishers Are Pack Rats - Continued from Page 10

The first good rod I owned was made of bamboo. It was a birthday gift from my parents, and I used that rod for many years. A couple of years later, they gave me another rod for my birthday. This one was made from the then relatively new material called fiberglass. Unfortunately, the rod met a quick end. We were on our annual summer trip to the Mammoth Lakes region of the Sierra. It was my first evening fishing, and the wind was blowing hard down the meadow on Mammoth Creek. I hadn't made many false casts into the wind, when there was a loud snap. The rod broke just above the handle. That incident probably unjustly prejudiced me against glass for many years. Luckily, I had my trusty bamboo rod as a backup. This rod, in all the years I owned it, never once let me down.

While writing this piece, I received a call from my old friend, Tony Maslan, up in Marysville. Tony is the son-in-law of that late great bamboo rod maker, E. C. Powell. Tony still carries on in the footsteps of E.C. building those wonderful rods, and in the same old shop Powell built way back in 1937. Tony told me the 8-footer I had asked him to build for me was ready. He had, in fact, built two. I could have my pick. Again, I won't go into just how many of Tony's rods I already own.

I picked up a fellow club member and close friend, Jim Peters, at his home that next Saturday morning at exactly 9:00 AM. We arrived at the shop shortly before 10:00, and Tony was waiting. It was cold outside, but warm and snug inside the building. Of all the numerous times I have stepped through that door, I always have the feeling I am stepping back in time. Even though it was Jim's first visit, I think he had the same feeling. After introductions, Tony gave Jim a tour of the premises, and I could tell he was deeply impressed.

Tony must have sensed my feeling of eagerness, because he said smiling, "Ok pard (a term he uses a lot), I guess you want to have a look at the rods." I walked over to a table where the two were lying encased in their cloth bags. Putting one together, he handed it to me saying, "This is the heavier of the two, and should handle a 6 weight line nicely." Reverently, I took the rod from his hand and flexed it several times. "Magnificent," I managed to reply. Next, he handed me the other, stating it was lighter and would, without a doubt, be more suited for a 5 weight line, even though its action was stiffer. It was equally as magnificent.

We drove to a nearby park for the ultimate test. I would cast the rods. I cast the 6-weight rod first, sheer poetry in motion. The 5-weight rod was magical, but in a different way. Each had an action and feel all its own. I was perplexed to say the least. Which rod to choose. While pondering the dilemma, Jim cast one, then the other. All he could do was shake his head and mutter words under his breath, but I was only able to catch a "wow" and "unbelievable." It was Tony who relieved my quandary, asking why didn't I take both. I could pay for the other later.

On the road home, both rods safely in the car's trunk, Jim told me that maybe it was about time he gave some serious thought about having Tony build him a rod.

If you have never fished or cast a fine bamboo rod, you are missing a memorable experience. It is true, in recent years bamboo has gotten a reputation for snob appeal. I am sure there are many who fish it for just that reason, which is a shame. I fish bamboo strictly because I enjoy it.

GBF's Annual Dinner – Save the Date

This is an advance notice to circle March 30th on your 2024 calendar for the "event of the year," GBF's Annual Dinner. The Dinner Committee is already working to make this another stellar event you won't want to miss. Look for more details in future issues of *The Leader*.



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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

President - Kim Lloyd 916-425-7680 gbf-president@gbflycasters.org	Classroom Egg Prog. Frank Stolten 916-725-6894
VP Membership - Don Whitecar 916-804-5384 gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org	Education Eric Palmer 916-969-6683
VP Conservation - Bruce Emard 916-601-9566 gbf-conservation@gbflycasters.org	Facility Henry Sandigo 916-434-7792
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Treasurer - Chris Kight 916-813-8008 gbf-treasurer@gbflycasters.org	Open - stillwater
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