

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

September 2023

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Kim Lloyd, GBF President

It has been said that, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." And someone else said, "A fool and his money soon go separate ways." These sayings make me wonder about access to our home waters. That is, which of these quotes apply to those of us that fly fish? Are we vigilant in maintaining our access, or do we passively observe as our access is restricted?

This question has been asked because there have been three relatively recent events that have, or will restrict access to our home waters. First, a landowner near Hirschdale has restricted access to several miles of the Truckee River. Second, the Nevada Irrigation District wants to build the Centennial Dam on the Bear River that will, in turn, eliminate miles of trout friendly habitat. And third, the road from the Highway 20 bridge to the Lower Yuba has been gated (you calculate the miles of river lost). What is going on?

This is not a complaint about property rights, nor is it a request to change the legal system; I don't want to go there. I'm more concerned about what we can do as a club, and immediately remember that someone said, "United we stand, divided we fall."

Let me explain. As individuals we have little control over "access" issues. As a fly fishing club, we can apply a little bit of pressure, but not much. However, a group of fly fishing clubs—working in harmony—can develop some clout.

Later in this edition of *The Leader* you will read about the Yuba Fest. This is an annual event sponsored by the Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International (NCCFFI). A couple other fly fishing clubs will be in attendance, and there's a good chance the restricted access to the Lower Yuba will be on their minds. This event might be a good time for club members to "...be there or be square."



Monthly Program

Our speaker this month is **Luke Gerarty**, whose presentation will focus on fly fishing the Trinity River, especially focused on the sections between Lewiston and Pigeon Point, including a variety of methods (indicator, swing, dry fly, & tight line).



Luke Gerarty with a Trinity rainbow

Born and raised in Alaska, Luke has been fly fishing for over 35 years, and chased fish in eastern Africa, New Zealand, and all over the "lower 48." Luke regularly guides on the Lower Sac, Trinity, Upper Sac, and a host of other creeks and rivers in

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S E P T E M B E R 2023						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1.	2.
3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
10.	11. Tenkara #4 Fishout	12. Board of Directors Meeting	13.	14. Monthly Meeting	15.	16. Truckee River Fishout Heenan Lake Fishout
17.	18. Conservation Committee Meeting	19. Fly Tying Jam	20.	21.	22.	23.
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30. Yuba Fest

Monthly Program - Continued from Page 1

northern California. In addition to indicator trips, Luke also specializes in Euro nymphing and loves throwing dry flies to rising trout.

He's a "Jack-of-all-trades" wannabe "renaissance man" with 2 master's degrees in theology and philosophy, a passion for photography and videography, and a love for great food and good people! A resident of Red Bluff, Luke and his wife have 5 kids, 3 dogs, 2 cats and 1 tortoise. If he isn't spending time on the river, he's reading a book and drinking coffee.

Yuba Fest 2023

Dubbed **"The Gathering of the Clan"**, this event will occur on Saturday, September 30th, from 9:30 to 6:30. It will be held at the Sycamore Ranch County Park on the Lower Yuba River, which is just over an hour away from the club house. This one-day event includes fly casting clinics, fly tying clinics, demonstrations and conservation discussions. There will be multiple raffles and auctions—including a guided striper trip in the Delta!

Yuba Fest is organized and run by NCCFFI (Northern California Council of Fly Fishers International). NCCFFI represents Fly Fishers International (FFI), which is an organization that advocates for all Fly Fishers in Northern California and supports fly fishing clubs.

Yuba Fest is NCCFFI's major annual fund-raising event. This is important for several reasons. First, GBF is a member of NCCFFI and we should, therefore, do what we can do to support them. Second, GBF relies upon FFI to provide cost-effective insurance policies that cover the club's general operations and our annual dinner.

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Yuba Fest - Continued from Page 2



because volunteers will get free admission.

Yuba Fest is an event that matches our club's style, and it would be great to see a large number of GBF members in attendance. This will be an opportunity to: 1) hang out with other Fly Fishers and Fly Fishing Clubs; 2) promote GBF; and 3) learn about local conservation efforts. More information about the Yuba Fest—and volunteering—can be found [HERE](#) on the club's website.

Purchasing these policies through FFI saves the club hundreds of dollars each year. This means more money is available for the club's conservation and scholarship efforts.

GBF will be hosting a table where club volunteers can chat with Yuba Fest attendees about GBF and what we do. The club will have a shade canopy, so it'll be comfortable. Could it get any better? Oh, yes it can,



Prosser Creek Reservoir Fishout Report, and Fuller Too, Sort of

by Eric Palmer

We had our annual Prosser fishout on Friday, August 11th. Attendance was light with **Joe Cammarano**, **Bill Avery**, new member, **Jerry Hoyt**, **Wendell Edwards** and myself in attendance. In better days, this would have been Doug Kytonen's fishout to run, but alas, it was not to be, and Joe agreed to stand in for his good friend as fishout leader.

I'm sure we all arrived with the highest of expectations. Weather was great with nice temps, water not too cold on the legs, but unfortunately the fish were MIA. We saw a few on our fish finders but no takers, not even a bump. Most of us left early, and Bill Avery was headed back out on his kayak as we were leaving around 2:00 PM.

As we were kicking back in grumbling on radios about the lack of any grabs, Wendell proposed we give Fuller a try. It's on the way home anyway, the day was young, and so we did. Fuller Lake is a place we do know well, but of course, Fuller also excels at humbling even the most experienced still water anglers, but then there can be some very good days. You just never know with Fuller.



Prosser Lake View from a Kayak

As we were beaching our pontoons, new member, Jerry Hoyt, walked over from his vehicle, and we had a chance to get acquainted. Jerry shared our same level of non-success, so we had much in common that day. One of the fringe benefits of fishouts, fish or no fish, is meeting new people and comparing notes, even if the notes are lousy.

Wendell and I left Prosser in his truck for Fuller around 2:00 PM, and were back on our pontoons in familiar water by 3:00. Joe left when we did too, but for home I assume, leaving Bill Avery heading back out as we left, and armed with a pair of spinning rods, unless my eyes deceived me—so perhaps he was more

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Prosser Creek Reservoir Fishout Report... - Continued from Page 3

successful on his second pass. We don't judge; it's only fishin'. As we departed, Wendell and I took some comfort knowing that at least we were in good company with our "empty creels."

We had Fuller Lake all to ourselves most of the afternoon, and in fact saw no other anglers at all! Gee, wonder why??? We went fishless at Fuller too, though I finally had one on for a few seconds on my way in, but lost him.

The usual productive haunts reported a very small smattering of fish on the fish finders, but no grabs in those areas for either of us. The one I did hook (and lose) took a large J. Fair burnt orange/black wiggle tail just off the bank near the picnickers (story to follow). Everything from standard trout nymphs to buggers to Kaul style wiggle tails to Rickards nymphs elicited no interest at all, until I tie on the J. Fair wiggle tail as my "Hail Mary," and that was likely a fluke rather than finally finding the "magic fly."

The high point of Fuller, however, was some entertainment from a gaggle (5) of mid-aged ladies on, I'm going to guess, maybe a college or high school reunion of good-friends picnic, and what a thoroughly great time enjoying each other's company they had. First off, as we arrived, one in a swimsuit jumped in the lake (56deg) much to the glee of the others, with lots of squealing and cheering-on. Later on they settled down around their picnic table as one took up a ukulele and all sang tunes for a couple hours that ranged from The Who's, "mama has a squeeze box..." to show tunes and maybe old camp songs.

This musical interlude created an interesting backdrop as Wendell and I worked our way through the usual repertoire of flies with varied retrieves, but to no avail. The whole while we were all alone on the lake, save for a lone female sunning herself with a book on a paddle board at the shallow end by the clubhouse. We were off the water by 4:30.

With apologies to author Bob Lawless, one of my favorite fly fishing quotes:

"If I'm not going to catch anything, then I'd much rather not catch anything on Fuller Lake."



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Fishing at a Specific Depth from a Float Tube

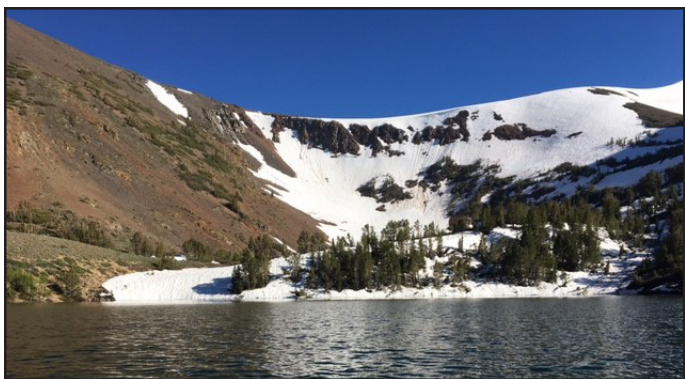
by Bob Macy

If the tug is your drug, and the bobber going down doesn't do it for you, a technique is needed to fish a specific depth, frequently one foot off the bottom. Using a fish finder and marking fish at specific depths, you must decide which uniform sinking line to use, how much line to let out and how long to count down while trolling. My method of deciding which line to use is to divide the depth by "5," so I would use a type 3 line for a depth of between 15 and 19 feet.

To systematize the amount of line I let out, I hold the rod by the cork grip and pull out line past the first guide and consider that one "pull." I make the number of pulls equal to the depth in feet I wish to fish. I cast out, start a slow troll and count. Usually, I get strikes between a count of 60 and 120. A pull is equal to 2 ½ turns of my reel. If while trolling I hit the bottom, I reel in 5 turns, equal to two pulls, and on the next cast subtract 2 from the number of pulls. When I catch a fish and I have not maintained the same amount of line out, I start over counting the pulls out so I can reproduce fishing at the same depth that I caught that fish. In nutrient rich waters with specific hatches at depth, I have caught many fish at such depths as 12', 17' and 20' including damsels, dragon, chironomids, daphnia, and callibaetis pupa.

Virginia Lakes Fishout Report

by Michael Kaul, Fishout Leader



The fishout at Virginia Lakes (Trumbull campground) was a great success. Nineteen members made the trip, and we were treated to beautiful weather (one day of wind) with highs in the low to mid 70s, and lows in the low 50s, while back home it was high 90s. The fishing was very good, with many fish in the 14-20" range with a few even larger. **Drake** and I were lucky enough to land a couple of bigger ones. Of special note was **Debi Zacharia**, catching her first fish on a fly from a kayak. She could not float tube because of a broken toe, but everyone on the lake knew she caught a fish from her excited yelling. There were dinners together, including

a taco dinner on Thursday, with extras brought by everyone. The dishes were handled by multiple members forming an assembly line to get them washed, rinsed, and dried in short order. The hiking was great, with some snow drifts on the trail.



Michael's 23 incher



Drake celebrating after a 2-pounder

Small Water, Small Fish, Big Fun...

by Chris Kight

Of all my flyfishing outings, I find that the ones that I do the most have small fish. I've been out 8 times in the last 3 weeks (now that the water levels have stabilized), and all have been small streams for small fish.

Most of you will recognize these waters: Gerle Creek, South Fork American near Kyburz, Cottonwood Creek, Caples Creek, North Fork of the Middle Fork of the American, Silverfork, East Carson, West Carson, Rubicon River, Upper Truckee, Willow Creek, Perazzo Meadows, North Yuba, Otter Creek and a few others that I don't recall the names of...

In the last 3 years, I caught hundreds of Rainbows, Browns, Brookies, Goldens and, last Friday—Meiss Meadow, fishing the Upper Truckee, a fine looking 8" Lahontan Cutthroat Trout.

The largest one in any of these small streams was 13". Frequently, I'll catch the mac-daddy-stud-big-trout of a pool or stream section, and it'll be 11 or 12 inches, no larger, but they fight with the authority of the "boss of the stream."

It was **John Pellegrin**, our Tenkara Sensei, that put me on to these little waters, so I mostly fish with Tenkara gear, although this season, there were four times when I was fishing every little seam, pool and run and just couldn't get them to eat my Tenkara fly, when I noticed some surface-bug eating going on.

I switched over to my 3 weight, or used a dry fly with floatant on my Tenkara setup, and caught a few on the surface right away!

I try to find waters that John hasn't fished yet but, every time I think I've accomplished that feat and tell him about it, he says, "Yes, I fished that in 2019 and, isn't it a pretty stream?" or some such...

Knock on wood, I've not been skunked while targeting these small streams. The worst I did was one, and that was the Meiss Meadows trip last Friday, and that ONE lovely Lahontan paid-in-full for a 4 ½ mile hike into the stream, and it made the 4 ½ mile hike back over the mountain to the car in a thunderstorm completely worth it.

I'm not saying anything that any of you small stream fishers don't already know, rather I'm trying to communicate the absolute joy, fun and serenity to be found by using small stream fishing as an excuse to get out into wild places only to discover that the thrill of catching one of these little fish after a stealthy stalk, on a fly that I tied, is indeed just about the most fun a boy can have. I no sooner get home from a trip than I'm planning for the next one.

I know I'm "preaching to the choir" here, but it's fun to remember each of these waters as I'm writing this.

Enough words, here are a collection of photos from these trips...

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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.

Small water, small fish, big fun... - Continued from Page 6



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

Fly Patterns - Bill's Fall Phase Stick Caddis



Bill's Fall Phase Stick Caddis

Materials:

Hook:	Daiichi 1260 or similar bent shank 2x Long hook, sizes 6-10
Bead:	Burnt orange glass bead with silver lining
Thread:	Brown 6/0
Tail:	Small tuft of dark brown marabou
Body:	Brown dubbing mix "Paxton's Buggy Nymph highlighted with bronze brown Lite Brite
"Sticks":	Pheasant tail fibers mixed into the body
Collar:	1st collar: burnt orange Buggy Nymph; 2nd collar: black Buggy Nymph
Legs:	Dark brown or black hen (Optional)
Weight:	15-20 wraps of .020 lead or substitute

Description

This article is a "rerun" in 2008. I don't usually like to do reruns, but since our Upper Sacramento River outing will be held this October, and because this fly has been phenomenally successful (even on a year-round basis), and also because I've had many requests to feature this fly again, here it is.

Bill's Stick Caddis - Fall Phase. The Stick Caddis pattern has been very successful over the years. It was born many years ago in its original form on the North Yuba, one of my favorite streams. The current versions of the fly (there are several), now marketed by Spirit River, reflect a long metamorphic history of tweaks and improvements. One of my favorite versions is the one I call the "Fall Phase." Although I use the Stick Caddis in one form or another all year long (even for Winter steelies on certain rivers), the Fall Phase is reserved for the magic months of late September, October, and November when the October Caddis hatch is in full swing. Those who have fished the fly can attest to the fact that it is deadly when fished properly, meaning fished as a "rock roller" as Andy Burk would say, right on the bottom. I combine this fly with an emerger on the rigging, but that's another article. For now, let's kick out a few Fall Phase Stick Caddis.

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.



Step 1

1. Smash the hook barb unless you are using a barbless hook. Place the bead on the hook and cover the shank with 15-20 wraps of lead or substitute. Push the wire up against the bead and cover the shank and wire with thread. Apply a coat of Flexament to hold it all together.

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2. For the tail, cut a small bunch of dark brown marabou and tie it in just above the back end of the barb. With your thumb and forefinger shorten the marabou by pulling on it sharply, don't use scissors to cut it as it results in a blunt, non-lifelike appearance.
3. Form a dubbing loop and insert your dubbing loop tool into the loop. Fill the loop with the dark brown dubbing mix by pulling small bunches of it from a wad held in your hand. This technique is very important to the overall silhouette of the fly.
4. Twist the loop into a "chenille" by spinning the dubbing loop tool. It helps to hold the loop closed at the point where the dubbing inserted into the loop ends and then spin the tool.

*Steps 2, 3 & 4**Steps 5 & 6*

5. Using hackle pliers, grab the "chenille" at its bottom end, cut the thread below the pliers, and wrap the rear 1/3 of the body. Don't cut the "chenille;" rather, keep the hackle pliers attached and move them out of the way.
6. Tie in six pheasant tail fibers, two at a time, spread around the hook. Sweep them back and take a few wraps in front of them. These are the "sticks;" they should be of random lengths when you are done.

*Steps 7 & 8**Step 9*

9. Form a second dubbing loop; place three small bunches of burnt orange dubbing and two small bunches of black dubbing into the loop. Twist the loop as in step 4 and wrap the "chenille" forward to behind the bead. This creates the two collars, first the burnt orange, and then the black. Tie off and trim the loop.

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Step 10

10. Tie in a black or dark brown hen hackle wet fly style and take three wraps behind the bead. Tie off and trim the hackle. Whip finish.

11. Finished Bill's Fall Phase Stick Caddis Fly



Step 11

Tying Tips

1. Don't blunt-cut marabou after it's been tied in as a tail. Instead, use your fingernails to "pop" it off at the proper length. This creates a more lifelike, uneven appearance that looks much better in the water.
2. When forming a dubbing loop, always close the top of the loop by dropping the bobbin over the loop and then wrapping forward on the shank. This makes it much easier to keep the material inside the loop as you work with it.
3. You can also tie the fly in a grayish-brown color, mixing the dubbing with some gold Lite-Brite. In this case, however, you will want to clip the "sticks" close to the body so that they resemble brown/black pebbles instead of sticks. The reason for this color is that some October Caddis larvae live in areas where there is little or no streamside vegetation. In that situation they build their cases out of tiny pebbles most of which are a grayish-brown color.

Fish this beast in pocket water. The reason I call it the "Fall Phase" is because during the emergence the larva changes color from pale yellow to a burnt orange tone. See ya on the creek.

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



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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

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