

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

January 2024

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Kim Lloyd, GBF President

The club recently had two absolutely killer events: 1) The Annual Swap Meet; and 2) the Holiday Potluck Dinner. The Swap Meet was successful, not only because **Drake Johnson** and his crew did a great job of organization and outreach, but also because members were willing to offer items for sale. This sounds simplistic but it is a true statement.

The same thing happened at the Holiday Potluck. In this case, **TinaLyn & Ben Sell** did an outstanding job of setting things up, and then members multiplied this effort by providing an array of choices. The result was an exquisite gastronomical medley that ranged from Swedish Meatballs to smoked salmon to pizza. Too much good stuff.



All of this demonstrates that an event's success is not so much based on attendance, but rather on member participation. This is because club events are not passive, they are interactive. Put differently, events are not entertainment, they are—to use some 1970's parlance—a “happening.” We may not put flowers in our hair, but we do wrap feathers around our hooks.

The club's calendar for 2024 will, once again, be stuffed with a wide range of events, i.e. the annual dinner, fly tying jams, casting clinics, conservation meetings and fish-outs. Club members are urged to fully participate in order to get the most out of these events. This is your club; you make it happen.

See ya on the water.

Monthly Program



Our speaker this month is **Dan Johnson**, who works as Trout Unlimited's Engagement Coordinator, connecting communities to TU's mission through volunteer and outreach events, youth education, and communications. Dan grew up in Georgetown fishing the Middle Fork of the American River, and now lives in Reno spending most of his fishing time on the Truckee and Walker Rivers.

His program will focus on stream restoration using Caples Creek as an example. This creek, a headwater tributary to the American River, has had an eventful few years. Between two wildfires, historic droughts and snowpacks, the system has been in a constant state of change. In the

summer of 2023, TU staff backpacked into Caples Creek and assessed the watershed for factors that would inhibit the reproduction of fish species. Dan will explain the history of fish in Caples Creek, detail the summer's survey, and introduce members to the new Caples Creek.

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JANUARY 2024

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. ISE Show Jan 18 - 21	20. Casting in the Park
21. ISE Show Jan 18 - 21	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
28.	29.	30. Rod and Line Clinic	31.			

Granite Bay Flycasters 35th Annual Dinner

Now that Christmas and good cheer is behind us, and bleak, grim winter is in full swing, need something to cheer you up? Buy some tickets to the Granite Bay Flycasters Annual Dinner. That should warm your heart. And, while you are at it, maybe some raffle tickets to give you a chance at winning some fantastic prizes.

Raffle tickets this year are \$2.00 a ticket, sold in \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 bundles. The \$50 bundle will include 5 extra tickets (\$60 value), and the \$100 bundle will have 15 extra tickets (\$130 value).

The dinner will include a delicious catered meal, raffle prizes, a silent auction, a dessert auction, games such as 100 Squares and Deck of Cards, a net of cash, and lively talk with good friends.

Purchase Dinner and Raffle tickets on-line at gbflycasters.org. In the right column, click on "Annual Dinner registration" to purchase.

Annual Dinner

March 30, 2024 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Rocklin Event Center

2650 Sunset Boulevard

Rocklin, CA



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Meet local fly fishers and enter to win fabulous prizes!

Everyone's invited to the
GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS
35th Annual Dinner and HUGE



Fly Fishing Raffle & Auction!

With thousands of dollars in raffle prizes and silent auction items including high-end rods, reels, and other fine tackle, plus guided fishing trips and many non-fishing items.

Saturday, March 30th, 2024 • No-host bar opens @ 4:00pm

Granite Bay Flycasters is one of the most active fly-fishing clubs in the West. This event supports our ongoing conservation and education programs - and is a fantastic way to meet new fly-fishermen and women in the Sacramento area. Please join us for an evening of great food, friendship, fishing gear, and FUN!

Scan for tickets & details



DINNER LOCATION

Rocklin Event Center
2650 Sunset Blvd.
Rocklin, California
Ph: 916-625-5200
Free Parking!

WOW! What a Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off

by Drake Johnson, Event Organizer

This year's annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook-Off held on Saturday, December 9th, was an overwhelming success. In spite of the brisk morning temperature, we 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 Scott Myers** arrived several hours earlier to set up and make sure everything was ready for the 8:30 start. Mark, Scott 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. Jim and Jack kept the chili cook off competition organized and running smoothly.



The 2023 Chili Contest, once again, was a great success, and the competitors kept the level of heat and flavor up to the same high standards set in previous years. We had six fine pots of chili, and the competition was close. **Fluffy Cow Chili**, a bison-based chili by **Steve** and **Stephanie Rorhrer**, took the top prize by a fair number of votes. Then, it was tight competition. **Gavin Nelson** took Second place with **Gavin's Famous Chili**; Third went to **Dead Fred Chili** by **Corley Philips**; and Honorable Mention to **Kim Lloyd**! In tight contention were **Rozaida O'Neil's Where's The Beef**, and **Ed Kennedy** with **Smoky Harvest Bliss**. Close to a tie in all cases. In addition to the First Prize Ribbon, the first-place winner got a fly box filled with two dozen flies.

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WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...



OUR FLY TYING STAFF

BRETT DRURY
Fly Tying Instructor
Renowned Fly Tyer, Sacramento Area

RICK ANDERSON
Contract Fly Tyer
Montana Fly Company

RON SPERONI
Contract Fly Tyer
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"They have the largest selection of fly tying materials in California!" - Andy Burk

Wow! What a Swap Meet - Continued from Page 4



Between the sellers and the buyers, it was estimated that around 70 people showed up. We had at least 25-plus people selling their extra goods. This year, again, we had three free tables set up with a combination of items that had been donated to GBF. We also introduced a GBF purchase table for items which hadn't been used for the annual dinner. There were float tubes and pontoon boats galore featured outside.

My thanks to all who volunteered to give me a hand to make this year's event happen—**Chris Kight**, for being floor manager during the event; **Jim Degnan**, for keeping the chili contest on track; **Mark, Jack, and Scott** for overseeing the continental breakfast. I am looking forward to seeing you all at next year's event.

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:

Hook:	Daiichi 1260 #6, 8
Thread:	Orange 8/0
Hackle post:	Tippet material, at least 3X
Hackle:	Furnace or brown dry fly quality saddle hackle
Abdomen:	Orange closed cell foam, 2mm thickness
Thorax:	Creamy orange Buggy Nymph dubbing
Underwing:	Orange crystal flash
Wing:	Burnt orange deer hair
Legs:	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 support a couple of flies and one 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.

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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.

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. Debarb the hook, place it in your vise, and cover the shank with thread.
2. Just above the back of the barb tie in a 12 piece of 2x or 3x monofilament. This will become the hackle post; we will wind the hackle around the monofilament. If you have a gallows tool with your vise, use it to hold the monofilament tightly in a vertical position. If you don't have a gallows tool, attach the mono to your light or figure out some other makeshift way.



Steps 1 & 2



Steps 3 & 4

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.

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.



Step 5



Step 6

6. Wrap the foam strip forward in close, interlocked turns. Don't stretch the foam as it destroys its flotation 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.

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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.



Step 7



Steps 8 & 9

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.

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.



Step 10



Step 11

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.

Fly Tyers Corner - Continued from Page 7

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 head 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.

*Steps 12 & 13**Step 14*

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.

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.

*Step 15***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...!!!

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; There is also a \$15 name badge charge for each new member. For membership information, contact VP Membership at gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org, or visit the website at <https://gbflycasters.org/join-us/>.

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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