

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

January 2025

<https://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

by Mike McKinley, GBF President

We have had a great off-season run; Chili Cook off and Swap Meet (thanks **Drake**) and Pot Luck Dinner (thanks **TinaLyn**). We have raised funds through early subscription to the Membership Drive and for early Annual Dinner ticket and raffle sales.

The off season continues. The Annual Dinner raffles will have a second drawing extension. We inadvertently published 2 dates, Nov 30<sup>th</sup> and Dec 30<sup>th</sup>. To be fair to those who got it done early, we will have a drawing for everyone entered prior to Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, and a separate drawing for those entered Dec 1 - Dec 30. Planning and recruitment for the Annual Dinner continues; **Dave Stolecki** needs volunteers. Many easy-to-do jobs exist; call him for a list.

Our early in the year programs focus on springtime bass/bluegill opportunities. Let's pray for enough wet weather to fill our venues.

Our leadership for the Conservation group has had bad luck. At this point, we need to start determining how much and to whom we donate. **Jeff Goodwin** was our VP; he has had serious medical issues. We need another volunteer to take the reins.

And last but not least, call **Henry Sandigo** to volunteer for snacks at the general meeting. There will be e-blasts with further details, but talk with Henry to get all the dope.



## Monthly Program

Our speaker this month is well-known author, **Skip Morris**, the author of twenty-one books on fly fishing and fly tying, and over 300 magazine articles. Additionally, he has his own YouTube channel [HERE](#) with 33 videos to expand on various topics.



The spring 2014 issue of *Fly Tyer* magazine announced Skip as a winner of the magazine's lifetime achievement award. Skip's wife, Carol, provides much of the photography in Skip's work and all the illustrations. They live on Washington's lush Olympic Peninsula amid its myriad opportunities for both fresh and saltwater fly fishing.

His program will focus on "Fly Fishing for Largemouth Bass and Bluegills."

This is largely an instructional presentation—the flies and rods and lines

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JANUARY 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7. Board of Directors Meeting	8.	9. Monthly Meeting	10.	11.
12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17. ISE Show January 16 - 19	18.
19. ISE Show January 16 - 19	20.	21. Fly Tying Jam	22.	23.	24.	25.
29.	30.	31.				

Monthly Program - Continued from Page 1

and leaders and techniques and principles that will get you out and catching these much misunderstood and absolutely worthy fishes. But as with all Skip’s presentations, he promises it will be entertaining. Surprisingly, Skip has twice taken this presentation to the Deep South—the best bass water in the world—by request, to inform the local fly fishers on what they are missing and how to take advantage of what they have. Interest is clearly growing among fly fishers in this marvelous still-under-appreciated sport and opportunity.

Wow, Wow! What a Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off

by Drake Johnson, Event Leader



This year’s annual Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 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. **Mike McKinley, Eric Kellinberger, Mark Bellici, Jack Peuler,** and **Marvin Pescador** arrived several hours early to set up and make sure everything was ready for the 8:30 start. Mark, Eric 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. Eric and Jack kept the chili cook off competition organized and running smoothly.

The 2024 Chili Contest, once again, was a great success, even though it wasn’t till late in the game that we had more than a couple

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Wow, Wow! What a Swap Meet and Chili Cook Off - Continued from Page 2

entries. The competitors kept the level of flavor and spice up to the same high standards set in previous years. **Allie Jones**, a previous winner and home from college, had time to join the competition. We had seven fine pots of chili, and the competition was close. **Russell Kolstad's #49** took the top prize winning by only one vote. Then the tight competition continued with each winner separated by only one vote. Allie Jones took second place with her **Bourbon Bacon Blowout**; third was a tie between **Tim Bosse's Snake River** and, **Chuck Swearer's Taxes Blow it**; and Honorable Mention to **Steve Rohrer with Moo Cow**, **Milio Houtryve with Cantina** and **Ed Kennedy with Smoky Harvest Bliss**. In addition to the First Prize Ribbon, Russell got a fly box filled with 2 dozen flies.



Between the sellers and the buyers, it was estimated that around 75 people showed up to the event. We had at least 26-plus people selling their extra goods. This year again, we had a free table set up that was overflowing with a combination of items that members brought in and wanted to go to a good home for free. In addition, **Frank Stolten** ran a table made up of items that the club accumulated over the years. We also introduced the GBF Donations Table. The thought was that members who had better quality or gently used items could donate to the club, knowing that the item

would go to a responsible fisher person, and the proceeds would go directly to the club treasurer to provide seed money for the annual dinner. In addition, 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: **Mark Belleci**, **Eric Kellinberger**, and **Jack** for managing the continental breakfast and chili during the event; and **Mike McKinley** for keeping the event on track and making important announcements. I am looking forward to seeing you all at next year's event.



## Snack Volunteers Needed

by Henry Sandigo, The Snack Guy

The club needs volunteers to bring snacks to 2025's General Meetings, January through November. My plea at the last meeting got me 3 members. Thank You: **David Harvey**, **Michael Malatesta**, and **Gary and Barbara Millhollen**. You will be reimbursed for UP to \$100!!!

Your choice—you're the "Decider"—Homemade grub, assorted deli stuff, cheese, strawberries, blueberries, cheese, water & ice, your choice, etc.! In the storage room we do have a supply of water for a few meetings for January through March.

It's not a difficult job—drop in at your local grocery store, or dig through your pantry—choose the items, come to the meeting with your contribution, lay it out on the table (club supplies plates and utensils), clean up afterwards, and you're done!

See the Treasurer any time before or during the meeting, he or she will write you a check that night!

To sign up, call or text me at 415-716-0666.



**Granite Bay Flycasters  
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER!**



WHEN: 4PM on Saturday March 29<sup>th</sup>  
WHERE: The Rocklin Event Center  
2650 Sunset Boulevard Rocklin, CA

I can sit here and tell you all the great things that are going to happen at the Annual Dinner: Raffle prizes galore; a silent auction with fishing and non-fishing items; games like 100 squares, Deck of Cards and Net of Cash; tasty desserts you can bid on; barbeque with friends; wild fishing tales and more.

*Or I could tell you this is the biggest fundraiser of the year for our club, bringing in money we give to worthy causes in conservation and help to support our monthly events.*

No, I am not going to do that. I am simply asking you to buy some dinner tickets, a few (or a lot) of raffle tickets and enjoy the festivities!

You can purchase tickets on-line by going [HERE](#) the Granite Bay Flycasters website, 'Events' at the top of the page, then 'Annual Dinner'. You can also access the Annual Dinner link on the website at 'Member Options' then 'Event Calendar'.

**This event is too important to wait until the last minute to purchase tickets as we will sell out! Get there before the crowd.**

Looking forward to seeing you on the 29<sup>th</sup>!

*Dave Stolecki*

(425) 269-2038

2025 Dinner Chair and

The GBF Annual Dinner Committee

Old Dogs Can Learn New Tricks

by Jim Degnan

Thanks to Robert Kelley for the idea, and to Ed Kenny and Eric Palmer for edits.

As most of you know, GBF has been providing Knot Workshops to help beginners get a start on tying up gear and the adept flycasters to tie better knots. The program has evolved from the complex to the simple; now we teach very traditional knots; improved clinch, surgeon's, non-slip mono. Just the basics. The Old Dogs know the knots. The workshops have been well received

As we were developing the course materials, **Eric Palmer** came across a knot in Pinterest of all places. It looked easy, too easy and too simple. But, after all, what good can come out of Pinterest, isn't that where they sell crocheted doilies? "Interesting knot, I'll stay with the tried and true." Kreh loop, gold standard, what would the club members think if I started teaching some off-brand knot?\*

Robert Ketley, writer for the California Fly Fisher, recommended the Kryston Knot. I researched it. It is used by competition European carp fishermen. I know those people and the competition is fierce. If it's good enough for them, good enough for me at least to try.

At some point in time, we can discuss the merits of tying the Kreh/Rapala/Non-slip Mono Loops with their ten turn wraps in 5X and 6X and difficulty in getting the fly in a small loop, especially when you are under

\*Example: I have a new-fangled contraption called an Apple Watch. I resisted it, but it's for my own safety (fall detector). I like it for the most part, but beginning to wonder when a reminder becomes a nag. At my age, I probably need nagging.

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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  
Pacific Fly Group

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

*Old Dogs Can Learn New Tricks - Continued from Page 5*

pressure to replace a fly when the fish are hitting like crazy and it's cold. In the meantime, we will recommend trying the Kryston Knot. Another piece of your repertoire, another notch in your gun. If it doesn't work, we are sure we will hear about it.

*"It is a simple knot. Two steps, three overhand knots." (Robert K.)*

1. Tie an overhand loop about six inches from the end of the tag. Thread the tag through the eye of the hook and bring the hook up tight to the knot in the loop. Best to use some old fishing line or something with a large diameter to start. Graduate to 5 and 6X later.



2. Pinch the fly and the knot, leave the loop open. Pass the tag under and into the loop just like you do with the non-slip mono loop, then make a simple overhand knot over the lower side of the loop.



3. Pull the standing line with your right hand to form the knot, pull the tag to get the fly close to the knot. Give it a good pull and form the knot. The loop that contains the fly will open and it will be small. You can seesaw the standing line and the tag to set the size of loop you want. Wet then haul on it to set it.



The loop will be a little larger when you set the knot.

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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](mailto:editor@gbflycasters.org). All ads must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.*

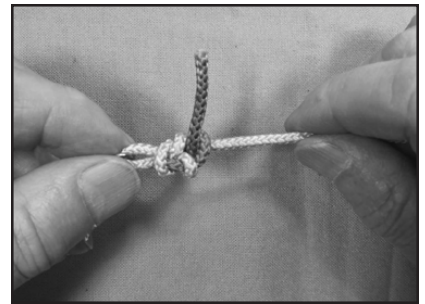


Old Dogs Can Learn New Tricks - Continued from Page 6

4. There you have it. Notice how the tag is bound inside the knot. The two white coils work in opposition to each other, trapping the tag. When the knot is tight, they bind the tag both ways. This is where the knot gets it's strength.



5. **Insurance:** Tie a half hitch to lock the knot. Some use it, some don't. We recommend it, especially in slick fluorocarbon materials.



You can follow the above steps to form a simple loop by leaving the fly out of the loop. Replaces the weak "Perfection Loop." If you take the Knot Workshops, we will show you a shortcut.

An old medieval philosopher named William Ockham (1287 -1347 AD) formulated the "Razor" principle. It shaves down the complex to the simple and basically says: "*The simplest explanation is usually the best one.*" It still applies even after 700 years. The Kryston Knot fits the bill.

Old dogs can learn new tricks. Try it, you'll like it. Apologies to Pinterest.

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner  
(Taken from the Article Written in January 2010)

## Fly Patterns - Hogan's S & M Nymph



Hogan's S & M Nymph

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Standard nymph hook, #18-20
<b>Bead:</b>	2mm shiny copper bead
<b>Thread:</b>	8/0 olive brown
<b>Tail:</b>	5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Pheasant tail
<b>Ribbing:</b>	Chartreuse wire, extra small
<b>Thorax:</b>	Olive brown dubbing
<b>Wing Case:</b>	Brown goose biot
<b>Legs:</b>	2 strands of pearl crystal flash

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7

## Description

Hogan's S & M Nymph was the star performer at the recent Upper Sac outing....even out-fishing Bill's Stick Caddis, which is generally the number one fish-getter at this time of year. This year's weather, being warm with crisp blue skies and very low, crystal clear water conditions, seems to have affected the normally heavy October Caddis hatch which, in turn, reduced the effectiveness of October Caddis patterns (larva, pupa, emerger, and adult). Many fish were still caught on the Stick Caddis, but the small nymphs clearly out-performed all others—with the S & M leading the charge.

That's the "bad news;" the "good news" is that there were prolific hatches of *baetis*, or blue winged olive mayflies. BWOs are tiny grayish olive bugs, normally imitated well by tiny Pheasant Tail nymphs. The nymphs were active most of the day, but particularly in low light conditions (early morning, especially) and on days when there was some cloud cover.

The S & M in various sizes probably imitates a host of mayfly nymphs (and probably some species of midges), but in the smaller sizes (16-20) it is especially effective as a *baetis* nymph imitation. My guide clients, on Thursday, Friday, and Monday were able to land many trout using this pattern—with a few fish in the 18" range. Outing participants also found it to be particularly effective.

Since *baetis* hatch virtually all year long, including Winter, let's put a few of these in our fly boxes.

## 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. De-barb the hook, add a 2 mm copper bead to the hook, and cover the shank with thread.
2. Using 5 or 6 pheasant tail barbules, tie in a tail just above the back of the barb. At the same spot tie in a piece of chartreuse wire.



Steps 1 & 2



Step 3

3. Tie in a few pheasant tail barbules by their tips at the same spot. Wrap them forward to the 1/3 point on the shank and tie them off. This forms the abdomen of the fly. Wrap the wire rib forward in close turns and tie it off at the front end of the body.

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Steps 4 & 5

4. At the same spot, tie in a brown goose biot with the butt end pointing rearward. This will be used for the wing case.
5. Dub a small thorax in front of the abdomen.

6. Tie in two short strands of pearl crystal flash just behind the hook eye so that there are two "legs" on each side of the fly. The strands should be pointing rearward. Clip the crystal flash legs so that they end at the point of the hook.
7. Apply a tiny drop of Dave's Flexament or similar glue to the top of the thorax and quickly pull the biot over the top. Pull the crystal flash legs rearward so that they lie alongside the body of the fly. Tie off the biot behind the eye of the hook and whip finish.



Steps 6 & 7

## Tying & Fishing Tips

1. I like to fish this fly on a 6" or 7" 4X dropper protruding from the main tippet. I use a loop knot to tie on the fly, as it gives the fly more action in the drift.
2. If you begin catching lots of fish on this fly, try putting two of them on—one on the dropper and the other on the point fly—perhaps using different sizes.
3. Fish this fly whenever you see BWOs flying around the stream, or see their nymphs swimming about in the shallows.

Fish this delicate little bug all year long—you won't regret it. See ya on the creek.



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*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 <https://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 <https://gbflycasters.org>. Single membership: \$45; Family memberships: \$50; There is also a \$15 name badge charge for each new member. For membership information, contact VP Membership at [gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org](mailto: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](mailto: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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