

# The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

September 2025

<https://gbflycasters.org>

## Leader's Line

*by Robert Farley, GBF President*

Greetings! Looks like everyone is having so much fun fishing these days. But, the days are rolling by quickly, and getting two minutes shorter each day of daylight.

I hope everyone has signed up for one of our fishouts. This is a great way to meet members of our great club. The people that lead these fishouts put in a lot of time in finding good spots for everyone to be able to catch some fish. Support them please. Make sure to check out the remainder of fishouts for the year and sign up.

Don't forget to check the classes and workshop schedule on the Website. We always have various educational classes going during each month.



## Monthly Program



Our speaker this month is **Miles Zimmerman**. He is a fly-fishing guide, signature fly-tyer for Umpqua Feather Merchants and co-owner of [Trout Creek Outfitters \(TCO\)](#) in Truckee, a fly-shop that first opened in 2020. Prior to joining TCO, Miles worked the fly-fishing department at a local "mountain" hardware store. The point being—Miles has spent a number of years in the Truckee area; time that has been well-spent fishing, tying flies, guiding and generally helping fly-fishers.

TCO is a full-service fly shop that has been in Truckee for more than 5 years. It carries rods, reels, lines, waders, boots, accessories and apparel. It also has a rental department, which is kind of cool when you remember your waders are still hanging in the garage. Another cool thing is that TCO has an on-line store with free shipping for orders over \$100.

With its local expertise, TCO can offer a variety of half-day and full-day fly-fishing experiences. These include walk & wade trips along local moving waters and float trips on the Truckee, not to mention several stillwater options. For reference, that big trout that Miles is holding in the picture is from Pyramid Lake.

TCO is located on Truckee's main street. OK, OK. It is located on Truckee's only main street at 10115 Donner Pass Road to be exact. They are easy to find because they are near the train station. Check'em out the next time you're in the area. There are no excuses for not stopping because they are open 7 days a week.

Miles' presentation will provide keen insights into some of our most beautiful local waters, as well as the services that Trout Creek Outfitters can provide. Avoid the rush, get to the clubhouse early!

### IN THIS ISSUE

Ah Di Na Restoration Project	5
Classified Ads	10
Fly Tyer's Corner	7 - 10
Heenan Lake Fishout	2 - 3
Knot Tune-Up: Skills Builder Session	4
Leader's Line	1
Monthly Program	1
Monthly Schedule	2
Officers	11
Tenkara East Carson Fishout	3 - 4
The Truckee 5	7
YubaFest Flyer	6

# SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1.	2.	3. Annual Dinner Planning Meeting	4.	5. Heenan Lake Fishout	6. YubaFest
7.	8. Tenkara East Carson Fishout Knots Tune-up	9. Board of Directors Meeting	10.	11. General Meeting	12.	13.
14.	15. Conservation Meeting	16. Fly Tying Jam	17.	18.	19.	20. Truckee River Fishout
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
28.	29.	30.				

## Heenan Lake Fishout - September 5<sup>th</sup>

*by Chris Kight, Fishout Leader*



This is always a challenging lake to fish, and persistence seems to be the key to success. There are certainly some big ones, as this is the broodstock lake for this breed of trout.

We'll meet at 8:30 AM or so—I'll be there on time to ensure that everyone gets onto the water in a timely fashion.

You can drive down to the bottom of the launch, unload your float tube, and drive back up to the parking lot before launching if you like. Try and move your car back up quickly, as there is not much room down there!

There are no activities planned (such as lunch or meetings), and the usual gear and methods for trout fishing in a lake with a float tube can be successful. It's all "barbless" and "catch-and-release," of course.

There are definitely some larger fish in the lake in the 20"+ range (all are Lahontan Cutthroats, and this is their broodstock lake—the hatchery here raises the young for stocking Lahontans throughout their original habitat—mostly high Sierra and Eastern Sierra).

Some suggestions:

Intermediate sinking line and small nymphs, such as Prince nymphs, Hare's ears, or Bird's nests.

*Continued on Page 3*

*Heenan Lake Fishout - Continued from Page 2*

- Fishing with chironomid patterns, especially as droppers below nymphs.
- Woolly Buggers, leeches, and Matukas in dark colors (black, purple, olive) can be effective, particularly when fished from a float tube.

Midges, callibaetis, and scuds are also recommended, especially during cooler morning and evening hours.

Small nymphs (sizes 12-14) with a slow retrieve are generally favored.

I'll also confess that, although I led the fishout last year, I have yet to catch any trout in this lake. Many of the attendees last year caught fish, but after only about 3 hours of fishing, the wind came up and blew most of us off of the water! I'm hoping for better weather this year. If there IS any thunderstorm activity, it's **usually** much later in the day—around 4:00—and everyone is pretty much tired and done by then anyway. There was a tour of the hatchery last year but nothing like that is planned this year—just an opportunity to catch some big danged Lahontans.

Hope to see many of you there.

If you haven't managed to sign up to attend, you can still do so [here](#). If you decide to attend at the last minute, just show up, that's okay too.

See you on the water.



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## Tenkara East Carson Fishout - September 8<sup>th</sup>

*by John Pellegrin, Fishout Leader*



The East Fork Carson fishout is available to anybody that has a tenkara rod. There will be 3 loaner rods, and lines/flyes owned by GBF. The meeting location will be in front of the grocery in Markleeville, at 9:00 AM. The best route is to take Hwy 50 over Echo summit. Follow Hwy 89 S to Markleeville. The fishing location is about 10-15 minutes up the road. The part of the East Carson that we will fish is beyond the 89 turn to the east—the road becomes Hwy 4.

There are a number of places to easily access the river. It does get a fair amount of pressure, but I think we can find good locations. By September, it should be ideal for tenkara fishing; there are some good-sized rainbows there, as well as browns. The town of Markleeville plants many rainbows early to late summer, in both the 16" and 22" range. We

can also fish Silver Creek, a tributary of the East Carson. When we meet in Markleeville, I will discuss and demonstrate catching large fish with a tenkara rod. Some large ones (4 lbs.) have been caught at previous fishouts.

I will hold an informal clinic for those that are interested; and in any case, will answer any questions you have on tenkara. I will be talking about the traditional approach to tenkara fishing, although you should fish with tenkara equipment any way that you wish. I will cover how to deal with the larger trout that are planted there (4 lb).

*Continued on Page 4*

Tenkara East Carson Fishout - Continued from Page 3

Bring a lunch. We will meet for lunch, at a time we all decide, at Centerville Flat campground, which is at the intersection of Hwy 4 and Wolf Creek Road. The "what3words" for the lunch location is **unreliable.coasters.accused** I really recommend the "what3words" app if you don't have it: it's free (the way we use it), and works off the grid.

For those who wish to stay overnight Sunday night, there is the Creekside Inn in Markleeville. The Cutthroat Brewery restaurant in town has closed permanently. There is Stonefly, an upscale restaurant. There are alternatives in Woodfords (10 mins.) and Gardnerville in NV (30 mins.).

Go [here](#) for more information.

## Knot Tune-Up: Skills Builder Session Monday, September 8, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

*Already know your clinch from your loop but want to sharpen your technique? This follow-up session is for anglers looking to troubleshoot problem knots, refine their tie-in times, and learn a few advanced applications. We'll revisit the essentials, and introduce variations and tips to help you tie with confidence under pressure (and with cold fingers!). Perfect for returning attendees or experienced anglers looking for a refresher.*



### What will we work on in this session?

Quick review of the knots from "Essential Knots" session. Take some time to work on "Problem Knots," those knots you usually tie but they take too long to tie and aren't robust. Introduce the "Orvis/Becker Knot," one of the most powerful knots for general use.

### Golden Trout Award

If you want to be certified for the Golden Trout Award, come to the "Skills Builder Session" and we will certify you. We have a revised set of requirements for the Golden Trout Awards. See the GBF Message Board for more details, or contact Jim Degnan at [jd293@comcast.net](mailto:jd293@comcast.net).

### We will meet at the GBF Clubhouse instead of our usual location at Raley's.

Check the GBF Message Board [here](#) for more details. To sign up, go to the GBF calendar in this issue, click on the date you wish, and it will direct you to the reservation site—easy from there on in.

Workshops are limited to 15 participants. We will open another workshop if we get more than 15.

We now have four leaders and a coach. If you want to join us as a team and lead or coach knot clinics with us, please let Jim Degnan know. [jd293@comcast.net](mailto:jd293@comcast.net). It's a lot of fun and very rewarding to see someone "catch on" to a specific knot.

*Above all: We know it's hard to do and take the time, but practice your knots at home, before you go fishing, rather than practice them on the water and not fishing, or worse, not catching. Fishing (catching) time is valuable.*



# 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**  
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**...COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF - IF YOU NEED IT, WE HAVE IT!**

**6360 TUPELO DRIVE, CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA 95621 (916) 722-1055 HOURS: MON-FRI 10-6, SAT 9-5, SUN 10-4**

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

## Ah Di Na Restoration Project 2025

Hi Folks,



We need more volunteers for the Ah Di Na Restoration Project! Your sweat equity is needed any day from September 8-13 (Monday through Saturday), and September 25-27. Come up and work for one full day or more, fish before or after, but we need more hands on deck to make this project successful. Whatever skills you have, we will safely put you to work to renew the facilities and equipment at the campground. From prepping and cooking food for the crew, to sanding and painting picnic tables, to cutting back blackberries, there's something for everyone to do!

For more information and to sign up as a volunteer, visit [https://nccffi.org/content.aspx?page\\_id=22&club\\_id=195494&module\\_id=717567](https://nccffi.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=195494&module_id=717567).



In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Scott Harrison, the NCCFFI Project Lead, at [mccloudcamp@gmail.com](mailto:mccloudcamp@gmail.com), or 510-704-0402.



A CELEBRATION  
OF THE

## YUBA RIVER

Saturday September 6, 2025

9am - 5:00pm

Sycamore Ranch County Park

\$20 Entrance Under 18 Free

### Activities

Fly Casting Clinics

Conservation Groups and Rally

Fly Fishing Vendors

Auction

Fly Tying Demonstrations

Breakfast and Barbeque Lunch

Live Music



[Tickets and Info](https://nccffi.org/yubafest)

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## The Truckee 5

### Me: Slightly Damp, Wildly Educated, and Emotionally Unstable

*by Fish-robber Jason Wing*



*A Truckee Trophy*

Set a new personal best on the Truckee today!!!! Laid hands on three absolute slabs over 18", and two more rowdy units in the 14-16" range, all before the clock struck noon. That's not fishing...that's daylight robbery with a fly rod.

Today was a masterclass in tactical nymphing, handed down by the river herself, equal parts brutal, brilliant, and just straight-up rude. Lost flies, lost dignity, but found religion in the form of a trout with shoulders and a bad attitude.

This river doesn't give you fish. It makes you earn them.

Then it makes you question your entire rig, your knot choices, your childhood trauma, and whether you really know what you're doing with your life. But when it all comes together, when the line tightens, the rod loads, and a Truckee pig explodes upstream like it just did a rail of powdered tungsten...you remember why you love this game.

Also learned: if you ain't tight-lining with intention on the Truckee, you're just out there practicing your casting and pretending. Deep, fast and intentional is the name of the game.

All love to these war-painted, thick-bodied, river-bred mutants. Every one of them fought like they had rent due and court in the morning. I'll be dreaming of these fish until my next therapy session or fly tying binge...whichever comes first.

Tight lines and twisted leaders,

The Dirtbag Lives

## Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner

### (Taken from the Article Written in September 2010)

## Fly Patterns - Bill's Little Yellow Stonefly Nymph



*Bill's Little Yellow Stonefly Nymph*

### Materials:

<b>Hook:</b>	Daiichi 1260 or similar curved shank hook, #12-16
<b>Thread:</b>	Pale yellow 8/0
<b>Weight:</b>	.010 lead or substitute, 4 or 5 wraps at thorax
<b>Tail:</b>	Biots dyed pale olive/yellow
<b>Abdomen Case:</b>	Thin strip of turkey tail
<b>Abdomen:</b>	Fine pale olive/yellow dubbing
<b>Ribbing:</b>	Fine gold wire
<b>Wing Case:</b>	Slightly wider strip of turkey tail
<b>Thorax:</b>	Dark brown or black hen (Optional)
<b>Legs:</b>	15-20 wraps of .020 lead or substitute

*Continued on Page 8*

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7

## Description

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During spring and early summer, on your favorite stream you may have noticed small, yellowish bugs flitting about—sometimes in large numbers. If you are fortunate enough to have done so, you may even have seen one of them crawling around on an exposed rock in or near the stream. During evening's prolific activity, I've seen many a flyfisher reach into the fly box and drag out a Light Cahill Parachute to try and match the insects—most always with frustrating results, having mistaken these little critters for mayflies. There are many adult imitations for Little Yellow Stoneflies (aka Yellow Sallies), most of which, to be blunt, are plainly ineffective. They are either too bulky, built on too big a hook, or overdressed with flashy materials that look good to tyers but perform poorly.



Because I'm constantly fishing and guiding on the small streams of the upper Middle Fork American drainage where Little Yellow Stoneflies are prolific, I see them in huge numbers. While I have my own patterns for imitating the adult, I tend to fish the nymph even during a hatch or during the evening egg-laying flights. Sometimes I'll use an appropriately colored soft-hackle as an emerger imitation, on a tandem rig with the nymph. During this last season, I found some hatching nymphs on exposed rocks. Turning over rocks in the same vicinity, I located some migrating specimens and studied them carefully, comparing them to some imitations in my nymph box. What I found was that my dubbing was the wrong color—not even close—and that my flies were too bulky. The natural was slim-bodied and delicate, with a body color somewhere between light olive and yellow. The wing and abdomen case was dark brown and segmented. Here is an image of a Little Yellow Stonefly nymph:

Entomologists classify Little Yellow Stoneflies as within the genus *Isoperla*; there are many species within this classification. The nymphs of this group most often occur in areas with a gravel or rocky bottom and moderate to fast currents. They are commonly found in stream drift, making them available and important food items for trout. As they reach maturity, they begin migrating to shoreline areas in preparation for emergence. This further increases the number of drifting nymphs, and it is an excellent time to fish nymphal imitations. Emergence usually occurs in typical stonefly fashion: the nymphs crawl out of the water onto shoreline rocks or vegetation where the adult then escapes the nymphal shuck. However, a few species actually emerge in open water in the surface film, just like many mayflies. This is unusual behavior for a stonefly, and drifting emerger patterns become just as important during this activity as during similar mayfly hatches. This point is important to remember when using Little Yellow Stonefly nymphs. After emergence, adults hide on streamside foliage. A quick way to check if adults are present is to simply look on the undersides of leaves of streamside shrubs and trees.

The most obvious and important part of the little yellow stone's life cycle is egg laying. This is when swarms of adults congregate over shallow riffles and runs. After a short flight to gain altitude (10 to 20 feet), egg-laden females set their wings in a shallow "V" and glide gently to the water. As their abdomen breaks the surface tension, a cluster of eggs is released. The females then quickly lift off the water, only to repeat another gliding descent to the surface. Those lucky enough to escape surface-feeding trout will drop five or six times until all eggs have been laid. They then lie spent on the surface where they die. Most egg laying activity occurs in the late afternoon and evening.

My Little Yellow Stonefly Nymph pattern is simple to tie, and made from inexpensive, commonly available materials.

## Tying Instructions

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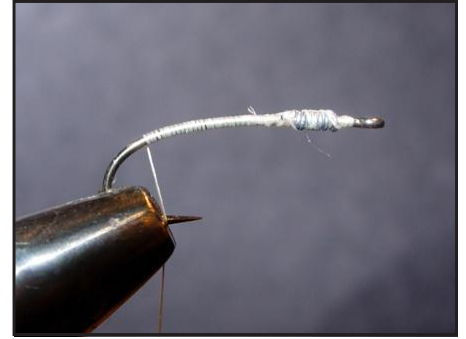
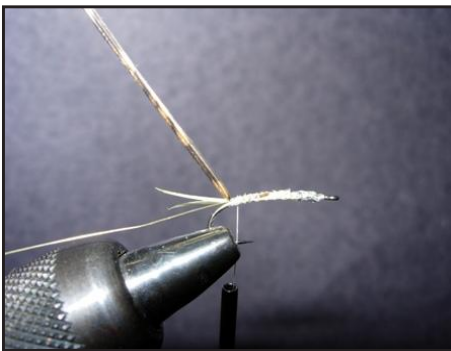
For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.

Continued on Page 9



*Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 8*

1. Smash the hook barb and place the hook in your vise. Wrap 4 or 5 turns of weight at the thorax area of the hook

*Step 1**Steps 2, 3 & 4*

5. Dub the abdomen with a taper, larger to the front. End the dubbing at the point where the thorax will begin, which is about one third shank length behind the hook eye. Do not use excessive amounts of dubbing—the body needs to be slender.

*Step 5**Steps 6 & 7*

6. Bring the case over the top of the abdomen and tie it off at the front of the abdomen.
7. Rib the abdomen and case with 4 or 5 turns of the wire.

*Continued on Page 10*

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 9



Steps 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13

8. Tie in a somewhat wider strip of turkey tail for the wing case, at the front of the abdomen. The shiny side of the feather should be down. Be sure that there is no gap between the abdomen and the tied-in wing case.
9. Prepare and tie in a partridge feather at the same point that the wing case was tied in. See below for tips on preparing the feather and tying it in.
10. Dub the thorax. It should be somewhat more robust than the abdomen, but still slender in appearance.
11. Pull the partridge feather over the top of the thorax and sweep the barbules rearward, creating a set of legs. Trim the stem of the feather.
12. Pull the wing case over the top of the thorax and tie it down just behind the hook eye. This will cause the legs to assume a downward/rearward appearance.
13. Form a nice small thread head and whip finish the fly. Place a drop of super glue on the head.

## Tying & Fishing Tips

1. To prepare the partridge feather, strip the fuzzy material from the stem near the bottom of the feather. Leave the stem intact, with about 1/2" of barbules remaining on the stem. Moisten the feather, and using your tweezers grab its tip and sweep most of the barbules downward. This leaves a small "tab" at the top of the feather. The feather is now prepared for tying in.
2. Tie the feather in by the tab, with the shiny side down, directly in front of the base of the wing case.
3. When tying in the biots, don't try to tie them both in at one time. Tie one in on the far side of the hook, and then tie a second one in on the close side.

When fishing this fly, remember that some (but not all) Little Yellow Stoneflies emerge in the stream flow, and not by crawling to the edge and emerging on rocks or streamside vegetation. Tie up a few of these, and...

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

### 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.*

## 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

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