

The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS

May 2026

<https://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by Robert Farley, GBF President

Well, our fishouts have started up. I had a great time at the Finnon Lake fishout. Everyone caught some bluegill and bass. I think one trout was caught. **Gary Gale** did a good job as our leader. We all had the right flies to catch some fish.

We all should be excited about the fishouts in the coming months. I recommend that everyone come out and join us on one. They are a lot of fun, and you can get some advice and help from someone who has experience of that particular stream, river or lake you want to fish.

Nominations for next year's slate of officers will be presented at our next General Meeting. Many of you have already stepped up for a position. If there are any members who still want to get their name on a ballot, please let me know.

The Annual Picnic is June 27th. I am still looking for volunteers to help make this event fun for everyone.

The weather is good, so get out and have some fun fishing. See you at the next General Meeting.



Monthly Program

Our speaker this month will be **Jay Clark**. Jay primarily guides the Middle Fork Feather River, the Truckee River and Northern Sierra still water locations.

In 2006, Jay attended Clearwater Lodge on the Pit River Guide School and gained valuable experience. Soon after, he started his guide service, *Jay Clark Fly Fishing*. Jay has built a reputation as a laid-back, hard-working guide who is a consummate professional on and off the water. His knowledge, experience and preparation provide a uniquely fun setting to enjoy the art of fly fishing.



In his free time, Jay can be found exploring his backyard, the Northern Sierra. Fishing, hiking, camping and backcountry skiing are a few of the outdoor pursuits he enjoys. A lifelong musician, Jay plays guitar and writes music when the muse strikes. Last but not least, Clark is a rabid college football fan and a lifelong fan of the USC Trojans. But don't fret, he will still fish with you even if you are a Bruin. 😊

Check out Jay's website by clicking [here](#).

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M A Y 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1.	2. Ladies Only Casting Event
3.	4.	5.	6.	7. Pyramid Lake Fishout May 6 - 9	8.	9. Cub Scout Fishing Event
10.	11.	12. Board of Directors Meeting	13.	14. General Meeting	15.	16.
17.	18.	19. Fly Tying Jam	20.	21.	22.	23. Four Club Casting Event
24.	31. 25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30. Tenkara Fundamentals Class

Finnon Fishout Report - April 6th

by Gary Gale

Seven GBF members hit the Finnion Reservoir graveled launch area bright and early on a sunny, calm day. For two members, it was their first time going to Finnion, and that, in and of itself, is why I do the fishout every year. Although the last ten miles to Finnion are tough to drive, it's one hour away for most of us, and offers a chance to stillwater fish early (and late) in the year. A couple of others were excited to do their first stillwater fishing of 2026. New float boats (**Ed Kenney** had a nice one!), new gear, and new flies hit the water.

Angling prowess awards go out to **Mark Pinski** who hit the trifecta by netting a trout, some bass, and bluegill. The leader of the pack of two species anglers was **Bruce Butler**, who not only managed to achieve the mark, but was further rewarded by noting that the several bass he netted were all "really nice fish." Another angler also mentioned he was pleasantly surprised at the size of the bass he took. I am unofficially naming their hot spot as "**Mike McKinley** Cove."

When folks moved on from pursuing trout or bass and decided to see steady action, it was on hand—pursuing the "dinner plate size" bluegill that often can be found at Finnion. **Jim Holmes** was delighted to see that a new pattern he came across, the BMW nymph that he showed us how to tie at the fly tying jam two months ago, worked extremely well on a subsurface line. It turned out that the tried-and-true Skip Morris bluegill flies (both surface



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Finnon Fishout Report - Continued from Page 2

and subsurface) did a great job, although they came in second to those newfangled BMW's (for over an hour, a fish on almost every cast).

It was gratifying to have club president, **Robert Farley**, have a great day fishing, and I can imagine that he experienced the satisfaction of seeing his efforts managing the club manifest with a successful gathering of members all having a nice day out on the water.

So, to follow up...I only "found out about Finnnon" by guest lecturers at GBF meetings. Leading this fishout is a chance to expose more members to a day trip destination that is often overlooked. If I decide to go back in late October or early November, I'll post a completely unofficial "let's go fishing" invitation on the bulletin board.

Thanks to all who shared their fly fishing enthusiasm and camaraderie!

Cameron Park Fishout Report - April 10th

by Chris Kight, Fishout Leader

Heavy rain along with thunderstorms kept many registrants from attending this fishout. As it turned out, the 7 that arrived got onto the water in short order during a lull in the rain. No thunder/lightening, but constant (sometimes heavy) rain followed. 5 of our fishout toughed it out for 2 hours or so, and then packed it in. I stuck with it, along with **Pete Koistinen**. By noon, we were the only two lefts on the lake. I stayed mostly dry with a poncho....and at about 12:30 we began to find 'em.



The fly that did all the heavy lifting. I tied it from Scott Vaughn's description at the March meeting.

There were plenty of bass about 90 yards out from the Peninsula—(an area where I had caught them before). I hooked about 11 and landed 7 of them between 12:30 and 2:00. Three of them FLEW out of the water repeatedly after taking the fly—pretty exciting for a bass. Half of the bass were in the 11-to-12-inch range, and the other half were darned decent in size, and gave me a good tussle to get them in the net.



Plenty of healthy bass to the net once they began taking our offerings

What I first thought was a big bass, was a rather large twenty-inch crappie, which brings up a couple of thoughts.

- #1. I didn't know there were any crappie in this lake, and I never caught one on earlier trips there.
- #2. I didn't know they could possibly get this big. You'll see in the photo—it measured 20 inches on my stripping table!

There are always surprises, and fly fishing is always an adventure. So, we had fun. It never did stop raining, but we both left at about 2:30—damp, chilled and happy with our success.

Sometimes it takes me a while to figure this lake out, but I usually end up with some measure of success—thanks to all for the last 6 1/2 years of tutelage. (I joined GBF and began fly fishing in 2019.) All were caught on the 5 weight Larry Lee Rod that I built in 2019, and netted with the GBF net-clinic net that I built, and of course, I tied the fly.



Measured this crappie at 20 inches.

Conservation Corner

by Trevor Fagerskog, VP Conservation

There is always a plethora of conservation issues and activities taking place in our area. Many of us are deeply involved in efforts to clean up and restore habitat in and around our local rivers and creeks. We advocate for legislation at the federal, state, and local levels to protect our natural resources.

This begs the question: who will carry on this work when we are gone or no longer physically able?

The answer is the next generation of conservationists.

The best time to create a conservationist is when they are young. How young? In my experience, 10–14-year-olds make ideal candidates. They are inquisitive, energetic, and capable of focusing when we introduce them to something both fun and engaging.

Enter fly fishing.

Our great sport is the perfect puzzle—both cerebral and physical. We first solve it with our minds by reading the water and selecting the right fly. Then comes the physical challenge: positioning ourselves in the river, making the perfect cast, enticing a fish to eat, setting the hook properly, playing the fish to the net, and gently releasing it. Kids gravitate toward this problem-solving challenge with fearlessness and enthusiasm.

When we teach young people to fly fish, we create an opportunity to make stewardship of the resource integral to the sport—part of their fly-fishing journey from the very beginning. It is incumbent upon us to pass along our expertise, experience, and passion so future generations can protect the waters and fisheries we cherish. With this in mind, we must engage our youth early through compelling programs that introduce them to our sport and keep them involved until they become the conservation leaders of tomorrow.

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WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...



OUR FLY TYING STAFF

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Fly Tying Instructor
Renowned Fly Tyer, Sacramento Area

RICK ANDERSON
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Montana Fly Company

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

Conservation Corner - Continued from Page 4

I am proud to participate in two youth fly-fishing programs annually, and have done so since 2014. Over the past twelve years, our camps have introduced more than 420 kids to fly fishing and conservation. One of these is the legendary Sierra Trout Camp, hosted by Trout Unlimited in Truckee, CA. The camp welcomes twenty 10–14-year-olds each June. The Truckee River TU office recruits volunteer guides from local fly clubs, and in recent years, several members of Granite Bay Flycasters have participated. Volunteers should be proficient fly fishers and be able to help with rod set up, knots, casting and netting fish. Fly tying experience is also helpful.

I encourage our club to support this outstanding program again this year.

The camp will be held June 27–28 in Truckee at Michel’s Pond and at the Everline Resort in Olympic Valley. To learn more or to volunteer, please contact **Dan Johnson**, California and Nevada Public Lands Manager, at Trout Unlimited, 530-333-5125, or via email at Dan.Johnson@TU.org.



Sierra Trout Camp

2026

June 27th Michel’s Pond June 28th Olympic Valley

9:00am-5:00pm

Campers will learn all aspects of fly fishing, from setting up their gear, casting, matching the hatch and much more. Both days are held on stocked lakes with great opportunities to catch giant trout!

Lessons will emphasize responsible angling and conservation principles.



TO REGISTER



Visit Tahoetroutburn.org/events

Open to 9-13 year olds
Limit 20 campers
\$175 per participant, scholarships available

Support Provided by:



Welcome to Our Newest Members

by Rozaida O'Neill, VP Membership

Please join me in welcoming new members who have joined us recently. Make sure you keep an eye out for them at our meetings and events so that we can make them feel that they are an important part of our club.

Reno Penders
Ronald Dandrea
Dong Wagenet

Matt Kim
Jordan Haskell
Eric Grubbs

Glenn Graber
Christopher Fischer

Stephen Payer
Doug Smoot

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner (Taken from the Article Written in May 2011)

Fly Patterns - Burk's Aggravator Prince Nymph



Burk's Aggravator Prince Nymph

Materials:

Hook:	TMC 2312, Daiichi 1260, or similar hook, #6-14
Thread:	Black Danville 6/0
Head:	Gold bead, sized to match hook
Weight:	Lead free wire wraps
Tag:	Pearl Crystal Flash
Tail:	Brown/Olive marabou
Rib:	Gold Wire
Abdomen:	Peacock Herl
Thorax:	Peacock Herl
Collar:	Peacock herl
Wing Case:	White goose biots
Legs:	Olive Silli-Legs

Description

Andy Burk needs no introduction to the world of fly tying; he's practically a legend. But he's also a darned nice guy. Andy has produced many U-Tube videos on fly tying—and, of course, these are all free. He has also made or been featured in commercially marketed DVDs on fly tying. Andy has, over the years, developed many original patterns, some of which have (at least in my case) accounted for many "nice" fish. Andy formerly wrote the "At the Vise" column in the *California Fly Fisher Magazine*; I was honored to take over that column once Andy moved along to other ventures.

I've used Andy's Aggravator Prince Nymph for bass and trout in still water angling. The fly, with its sexy motion, attracts fish and induces strikes and takes. Tie up a few of these and toss them to still water trout and bass.

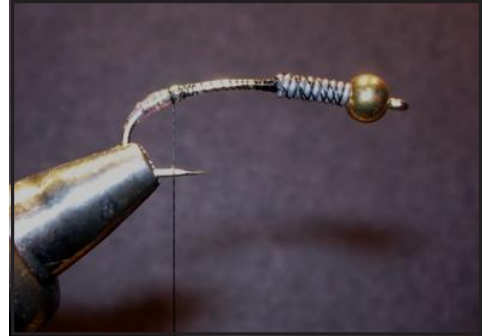
Tying Instructions

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.

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Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 6

1. Smash the hook barb, apply the bead to the hook, and wrap weighting wire in the thorax area.
2. Cover the shank with thread, leaving it at the rear of the hook, just above the back of the barb. Tie in two pieces of pearl Crystal Flash and wrap them down the bend to the half way point, and then back to the tie-in point. Tie it off and trim the excess.



Steps 1 & 2



Steps 3 & 4

3. Cut or strip a small bunch of olive-brown marabou from the quill, and tie it in at the front end of the Crystal Flash tag, to form the tail. The tail should be approximately the length of the hook shank.
4. Tie in a piece of gold wire at the same spot; this will be the ribbing material.

5. At the same spot, tie in 3 or 4 long strands of peacock herl and form a loop of the thread; leave the loop with the herl, but cut one leg of the loop at the shank. Move the thread forward to the hook eye. Using your hackle pliers, grab all of the peacock herl strands and the single strand of thread. Twist the thread and herl counterclockwise until you form a herl "chenille."



Step 5

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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.

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from Page 7*Step 6*

6. Wind the peacock "chenille" forward to form the abdomen; stop winding when you have reached the 2/3 point on the shank, and tie off the herl. Don't trim it yet, as we will use the rest of it to finish the thorax.

7. At that same front 2/3 point, tie in the first set of legs by laying a section of leg material perpendicular across the hook shank and tying it down. Figure-8 wrap the leg material; don't trim it yet.

*Step 7**Step 8*

8. Pick up the herl chenille once again and take a few wraps in front of the first set of legs, sweeping them rearward. Tie off the herl again and move it out of the way. Apply a second set of legs in the same manner as the first set.

9. Rib the abdomen and thorax areas with the fine gold wire and tie off the wire in front of the thorax.
10. Cut two long white biots from the stem. Tie them in at the front of the thorax and place a drop of glue at the tie-in point.
11. Using the remainder of the herl chenille, wrap a collar of peacock herl behind the bead and tie it off. Whip finish behind the bead.

*Steps 9, 10, & 11***Tying & Fishing Tips**

Now go throw one of these beasts to some still water bass or trout with an intermediate sink line.

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, 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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