



Promoting the Art, Recreation & Conservation of Fly Fishing Since 1975

## GCFF Newsletter – May 2019

### President's Message



Last month I shared with you that Club leadership is embarking on a probable strategic planning effort or something similar to assess whether we are adequately meeting our mission statement and provide some guidance for the future direction of the club.

Recently the steering committee held its first meeting at which we reviewed our current mission statement (you can read the Purposes and Objectives, AKA Mission Statement on the last page of this newsletter) and discussed the process to move forward. We discussed whether these Purposes and Objectives fully capture our desired mission and what we might want the GCFF to look like 5 years from now. What might be missing and needs to be added or needs to be changed.

At our next meeting we will examine each item of the Purpose and Objectives and determine specifically what we are doing to support that element. Along with this we also assess EVERYTHING the club does and determine where it fits into our Purposes and Objectives.

That's about where we are so far. I encourage any of you to let me know what you think and share your ideas, thoughts or concerns about this effort. Please email them to me [jimmieam@gmail.com](mailto:jimmieam@gmail.com).

As I sit writing this, it is a beautiful spring day out there. Temperature is bumping 70, and the air finally smells like spring instead of winter. I suspect you, like me, are thinking about fishing. And yes, it's close to time. Granted the rivers and creeks are still blown out (although some of our more accomplished members are getting out there and managing to pound up a few fish).

Prophetically, our next scheduled speaker, Jon Baiocchi, will enlighten us about High Water Tactics on May 7th. For the rest of us, the pond and lakes are available. I admit my personal preference is to be hip deep in the N. Yuba, but that's not possible right now. So I encourage you to get out there to that pond or lake and do what we all joined this club to do, fly fish! I believe any fishing is better than no fishing, so, until next month, **LETS GO FISHING!**

*Jimmie*

Jimmie Marchio

530-272-6746



**It may not be fishing, but it is Sheila sharing some fly-tying expertise.  
At the GCFE booth, Kienes fly shop, on the 20<sup>th</sup>.**

## Inside This Issue

President's Message	1
Program News	4
Conservation Committee	6
Fish Out Reports	9
Damselflies	13
Flypaper	16
Sam's Fly of the Month	18
Club Directory	20
Financial Supporters	20
Mission Statement	21

### Check Out the GCFF Website:

<http://www.goldcountryff.org>

## Contacts

<u>Jimmie Marchio</u> - President	<a href="mailto:jimmieam@gmail.com">jimmieam@gmail.com</a>
<u>Dave Ackerman</u> - Programs	<a href="mailto:Ackdaddy@gmail.com">Ackdaddy@gmail.com</a>
<u>Larry Strauss</u> Vice-President	<a href="mailto:strauss.larry@gmail.com">strauss.larry@gmail.com</a>
<u>Tom Grant</u> - Fishouts	<a href="mailto:tomkatgrant2@gmail.com">tomkatgrant2@gmail.com</a>
<u>Sheila Ryan Weintraub</u> - Secretary	<a href="mailto:photoabstracts.ryan@gmail.com">photoabstracts.ryan@gmail.com</a>
<u>Drew Irby &amp; Frank Rinella</u> Conservation	<a href="mailto:Irbysan@hotmail.com">Irbysan@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:sierraguide@sbcglobal.net">sierraguide@sbcglobal.net</a>
<u>Diane Berg</u> - Ladies Program	<a href="mailto:berg@nccn.net">berg@nccn.net</a>
<u>Mike Chapel</u> - Membership/ Treasurer	<a href="mailto:mchapel9434@gmail.com">mchapel9434@gmail.com</a>
<u>Bill Burden</u> - Newsletter	<a href="mailto:wllmburden3@gmail.com">wllmburden3@gmail.com</a>



## **Program – Dave Ackerman**

**NOTE: Meetings start at 6:30.**

### **MAY PROGRAM:**

#### **Jon Baiocchi**

You might have read that there is LOTS of snow in them thar hills. Some locations reported over 600 inches of snow this year. That means it's probably going to be a pretty high-flow Spring (and early Summer?). But you don't necessarily need to stay away from your favorite moving waters during runoff. Long-time local guide (and member) Jon Baiocchi will share high-water tactics with us. This year high-water may be the reality for quite a while.

John has an all new program titled "High Water Tactics" that covers different types of high-water situations, safety, trout and turbid conditions, water structure to target, streamer and nymphing presentations, leader formulas, tactics, and fly selection. Beautiful images and new highly detailed animated slides will provide us with clear and concise information for future endeavors on the water while fly fishing in adverse conditions like we experienced during the winter of 2017.

### **JUNE PROGRAM**

In June we'll get ready for Summer with our traditional hamburger night. Our seasoned crew of "charmasters" puts on a great feed for all who attend. Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy an entire evening of fun and fishing fellowship.

### **JULY PROGRAM**

In July we'll be able to take advantage of the immense talent and experience of our membership as we bring in a panel of our members to share with us their take on the best waters and methods for our local waters this Summer. Don't miss this one - it's always packed with great info!



## KNOW YOUR WATERSHED: BEAR RIVER HOSTS KICK-OFF EVENT



GCOFF was invited through Frank Rinella, Co-Chair of the Conservation Education Committee of GCOFF, to be part of the Kick Off Event for Know Your Watershed on the bank of the Bear River on Sunday, March 31st.

In addition to GCOFF, there were about a dozen groups represented, including SYRCL, SSI, Wolf Creek Community Alliance, Bear Yuba Land Trust, some local kayakers and representatives of our local tribes.

*Water colorist and (painting teacher Juan Pena was there with his wife Kay inquiring about our club. He has brought watercolor classes to this site to paint the rock in the picture above.*



Because we all treasure our rivers, Josie Crawford of the Wolf Creek Community Alliance had brought together more than 30 representatives from fly fishing clubs, conservation-minded groups, schools, agencies and concerned individuals to form the Know Your Watershed (KYW) organization in order “to help people connect with their local watersheds and watershed groups through enjoyable experiences, learning and stewardship.” Know Your Watershed is a collaborative effort “to build a stronger community united in the protection of our watersheds.” (Quotes are from the KYW Mission Statement.)



*GCOFF members Trent Pridmore, Tim and Janie Ackerman manned the Bear Yuba Land Trust booth set up next to GCOFF's booth.*

GCFF provided exhibits and presentations that educated event goers about the aquatic bugs that reside in the Bear River, become fish food and are imitated in the flies we tie.

Frank and Peter Burnes kicked rocks and collected bugs from the river to show the natural food for trout and other river inhabitants, while Rocco Fasone provided a display case of flies he had tied to imitate those same insects.



GCFF also put up its visual display of club activities, hosted an aquatic bugs-from-the-Bear-River identification station alongside a wide selection of flies to match the bugs, all tied by Rocco Fasone. Mariano Domingo provided fly casting instruction. Pam Kline, Wilton Fryer and Ed Fritz manned the booth.



*Nathan Doherty getting to know some aquatic nymphs up close and personal*

“Our volunteers had great times interacting with the people who came by to ask questions about our display and our club. We handed out a lot of club business cards to potential new members who wanted to know more about fly fishing and our club,” Frank reported at end of day.

“We all had a nice time in the sun getting to know one another and enjoying what to many of us was a new section of the Bear River. “As fly fishers we all need to get back to this section of the Bear River when the season opens. It looks great.”

Location: Bear River Park and Campground southwest of Colfax. There is a large parking area and easy access to the river.

**The KYW event on March 31 was the kick-off for a month-long celebration of the Yuba, Bear and American River watersheds. Many types of events are scheduled throughout April and beyond. Check out the KYW website [www.knowyourwatershed.org](http://www.knowyourwatershed.org) for information.**

## ***Fish-out Report***



## ***Fish-out Report***

**2019 Fish-out Committee: Tom Grant, Mike Connor, and Sam Higginbotham**

Unfortunately, our Clear Lake fish-out in early April had to be cancelled due to rain and dangerous wind conditions. It looks like the bad weather is over, so we should be able to look forward to more favorable bass fishing conditions this spring.

Last month's Pyramid Fish-out revealed that the Lahonton Cut-throat bite had started to turn on our last two days of our trip. The Pilot Peak strain are bigger than ever this year. It's definitely not too late to get in some great fishing up at Pyramid this year. The trout season closes June 30<sup>th</sup>. Bring a big net!

A Fish-out Campout at Frenchman's Lake has recently been added to our schedule for the weekend of May 11-12<sup>th</sup>, to be led by Rocco Fasone and Dave Ackerman. See details and sign-up on our website or at the May 7th meeting.

In mid- May we will have two Yuba Shad fish-outs, but those are already fully booked-up.

See the attached fish-out schedule to see what other fish-outs are planned for 2019. Use our website to sign-up.

## 2019 GCFF Fish-out Schedule

- Months and Dates subject to change by Fish-out Leader.
- Fish-outs are single day outings unless otherwise specified.
- After Leaders decide on dates you can Sign-Up on GCFF website:  
<https://www.goldcountryff.org/fish-out-events-registration>

<u>Month And Dates</u>	<u>Locations</u> T=Trout, SH=SteelHead B=Bass SD=Shad (\$\$ - If deposit is required)	<u>Limit</u> Y/N -#	<u>Leaders</u>
April	North Yuba – T	N	Lee Coffee
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Jackie’s Lakewood Pond – B “New Members”	10	Ralph Wood Tim Ackerman
May 11 - 12	Frenchman Reservoir – T	N	Rocco Fasone Lee Coffee
May 18	Yuba Shad (#1 of 2)	FULL	Dave Slack Jim Lynch
May 22	Yuba Shad (#2 of 2)	FULL	Dave Slack Jim Lynch
May/June	Feather River – SD	YES	Bob Alvares
May/June (weekend)	Scotts Flat Lake & BBQ – B	N	TBD
June	Sawmill Lake – T – \$\$	8	Dave Earl
June	North Yuba – T	8	TBD
June 18 - 20	Davis Lake – T Fish-out & Camp-out	N	Jon Biaocchi Dave Duddleston
June 22 - 29	Lake Almanor – T & B	N	Jeanne Romero Larry Uno
July 17 - 22	Webber Lake Fish- & Camp-out – T	N	Robin DeNegri
July	Fuller Lake BBQ – T	N	Tom Grant Larry Lefmann

<u>Month And Dates</u>	<u>Locations</u> T=Trout, SH=SteelHead B=Bass SD=Shad (\$\$ - If deposit is required)	<u>Limit Y/N -#</u>	<u>Leaders</u>
Last week Aug to 1 <sup>st</sup> week Sept	10-day trip, Jackson Hole, WY – Snake River -- T  (\$\$ - Deposit required – see Clay)	Y-5	Clay Hash
Sep. 14 <sup>th</sup>	SYCRL Yuba Clean-Up	--	Frank Rinella
Sept. 27	Heenan Lake – Cutt	N	Tom Grant
Late Sept	Lonesome Duck, Williamson River, O – T (\$\$- Hosted Trip)	Y-6	Cicely Brookover
Sept/Oct	Gold Lakes Basin – T	N	Mike Connor
Oct 3-6 <sup>th</sup>	Wounded Veterans American River	--	Frank Rinella
Early Oct.	Jackie's Lakewood Pond – B	Y-10	Ralph Wood
Oct. 12	Rogue River Lodge, OR – T	<u>FULL</u>	Robin DeNegri
November	Sacramento Delta – B	N	Dave Ackerman

All Fish-out locations and dates are subject to change due to weather and other conditions. Sign up to attend fish-outs at <https://www.goldcountryff.org>

Leaders: To sign-up to lead fish-outs, call or email:

Tom Grant (530-263-2492 / [tomkatgrant2@gmail.com](mailto:tomkatgrant2@gmail.com)), or

Mike Connor (530-277-1507/ [jmconnor@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jmconnor@ucdavis.edu))



Roger Stover, freelancing at Henderson Springs, early April.

## ***The Damselflies*** **With Diane Berg**



Hi Damsels,

I have been on vacation a lot lately so have not been fishing. Because of all the rain and now snow melt, the waters are a little challenging but still fishable. You will have to be looking for edge waters where the current is not so swift. That is where the fish are hiding out.

Hopefully, by June 7, 8, when we have our Herrington's Sierra Pines Resort Fish Out, the waters of the upper Yuba will be great for fishing. We will be going up the evening of June 6 and leaving June 9. Still time to get your reservations for that weekend. We should have a great time.

Also remember we will be going to Webber Lake in July.

Keep your lines wet!

Diane

## ***GCOFF Loaner Program***

The GCOFF club has accumulated loaner fly fishing gear for the use of its members. The club has 5 weight and 6 weight rods, reels and lines to match, as well as related gear.

These items are available for use in our instructional programs as well as when our members need to borrow it on a temporary basis.

To reserve a piece of equipment:

- Go to our web page at [www.goldcountryff.org](http://www.goldcountryff.org)
- Click on the 'Fish Out' tab.
- On the drop down you will find our 'Loaner Program'.
- Click on the name and a list of our loaner equipment will appear (see the Equipment Inventory, below).
- Below the list there is a button 'Need to Borrow Some Equipment'.
- Click on the button and it will take you to an email form to request equipment.
- The request will go to Ed Tulley who will contact you to make arrangements to get you the equipment you want to borrow.

### **GCOFF Equipment Inventory**

- 5 ea. - TFO #5 2 pc 8' 6" length, rod and reel combinations with WF Floating #5 lines
- 1 ea. - Redington Crosswater #5 9' rod with either Redington or Cabelas reel, WF #5 floating or intermediate line
- 2 ea. - Redington Crosswater #6 9' rods with either Redington or Cabelas reel, WF #6 floating or intermediate line
- 2 ea. - Echo Solo #5 9' 4 pc. with floating lines, may substitute w/ other intermediate line.
- 1 ea. - #5 WF Rio Indicator Nymph line available
- 1 ea. - #7 9' 2 pc Fenwick Eagle rod and #7 WF Floating line 9 (reels can be used from above listed equipment)
- 1 ea. - Fiberglass Composite rod 9' 2 pc #6 make unknown (reels can be used from above listed equipment)

1 pr. - Orvis wading shoes w/felt soles (about size #9)

1 pr. - Cabelas wading shoes w/felt soles size #9

1 pr. - Fly Tech size #9 Canvas wading shoes

1 pr. - Glacier Glove size medium light weight waders

1 pr. - Cabelas medium regular waders about size #10

If you have equipment that is in good working order that you would like to donate to the Loaner Program, please contact Ed Tulley or any member of the Board of Directors.

# **FLYPAPER**

**By Ralph Wood**

## **Casual Dress**

E. H. Rosborough devised the Casual Dress in 1960 as something new to try out on one of his fishing expeditions to the Upper Deschutes. After that successful trip, the Casual Dress became one of his staple flies.

Rosborough lived most of his life near the Oregon streams where he devised a series of nymphs and dry flies. His first published book ([Tying and Fishing the Fuzzy Nymph published in 1965](#)) was a paperback consisting of 85 pages and 15 patterns. His fourth and last revision was published in 1988 and contained 25 patterns. Polly's conviction was that a broken outline was critical to fish perception and thus to the acceptance of a fly. This became a major theory of imitation and led to a new way of looking at fly tying. The only edition of the book available on Amazon, at the time I checked, appears to be the 1978 revision.



Hook: #2-12 2X to 3X long heavy hook

Thread: Black 6/0

Tail: Muskrat fur with guard hairs (taken from the darkest piece of hide you have.)

Body: A generous amount of muskrat fur with guard hairs mixed well.

Collar: Muskrat fur with guard hairs as dark as possible.

Head: 3-4 strands of black ostrich herl, lightly twisted.

1. Start the thread behind the eye and wrap smoothly to the bend of the hook.
2. Tie in the muskrat fur tail extending about one body length. I prefer that the guard hairs be a little longer. (Follow the directions in step #4 to cut the fur from the hide.)

3. Use dubbing wax on the thread and twist-dub a thick body. When you are finished, use a brush to rough the body up (old tooth brush works great). Leave enough room for collar and head (1/4 of shank).
4. Cut a hunk of muskrat as dark as you can find on the hide, keeping the fur and tips all facing the bend in the hook. Holding the guard hairs and tips of the hair tightly, remove most of the underfur. Holding the fur so that the guard hairs extend to the bend of the hook or slightly past make a couple of loose wraps. Using your thumb and forefinger ease the clump of fur around the hook. Once you are satisfied that it is fairly evenly distributed around the hook, tighten the thread and cut off the waste ends.
5. Tie in the ostrich herl, and twist lightly. Wrap the head and whip finish.

The larger sizes produce well for bass and the smaller sizes appeal to panfish. Any size will work in streams.

The Casual Dress is not representative of any species of aquatic life. It is more of a general food source although I suppose you could argue that it represents a dragon fly nymph. The way the fly is tied, with all the guard hairs in the dubbing, allows the body to pick up air bubbles giving it a silvery football shape as it drifts along in the current or is hand twisted in a lake.

Polly had some unique ways of tying. You will note, if you read the book, I have diverted from some of his dubbing techniques because they are more suited to commercial tying where you need to prepare more dubbing than you do tying just for yourself. However, if you can get one of his books, you will find a wealth of other material in it. Tying and Fishing the Fuzzy Nymph belongs in every fly tier's library.

## ***Sam's Fly Of The Month***

By Sam Higginbotham

### **Blowtorch**



(Not Sam's fly, exactly, but should look something like this. Built to get down.)

- Hook: 14/10 jig hook
- Thread: Orange
- Underbody Lead tape
- Body Peacock herl, Add crystal flash
- Tail: Orange floss
- Head Extra-large brass bead

#### **Fly Tying with Sam:**

Wednesday May 15

6:00 to 8:00 PM

Please call ahead if coming: 530-477-7537

## ***GCOFF Yahoo E-Mail Group***

The GCOFF Email Group is an easy way for GCOFF members to communicate with other members who want to go fishing, get information on local conditions and fishing spots, set up shuttles to drift our rivers, or find a fishing buddy, whatever.

Each member who is signed up can send an email which goes to everyone who has signed up for the group. It's also open to members to sell or find fly-fishing gear, or to announce issues of Fly Fishing interest or other Club happenings.

Only "on-topic" (Fly-Fishing Related) postings are allowed. Please – no political messages or off-topic postings.

You can adjust your settings to receive few or no emails but still have access to postings.

All GCOFF members are welcome and no one is required to join, but the more members, the more we can share important information.

To subscribe, follow the link at the GCOFF website: <https://www.goldcountryff.org/links> .



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.goldcountryff.org/links>. The page features a blue header with the Gold Country Fly Fishers logo, which includes the text "CATCH & RELEASE" and "Promoting the Art, Recreation & Conservation of Fly Fishing Since 1975". Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for Home, Meetings, Education, Fly Tying, Fish Outs, Photos, Conservation, Calendar, Links, and Let's talk!. A central call to action box contains the text "Join the GCOFF Email Group to stay in touch with other members: For more information, click the button below." and a prominent "GCOFF Email Group" button. Below this box, it says "Other helpful internet links:".

*It's easy to connect.*

**Gold Country Fly Fishers**

P.O. Box 2988  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

**Officers and Board Members for 2019**

President: *Jimmie Marchio*

Vice President: *Larry Strauss*

Past President: *Clay Hash*

Secretary: *Sheila Ryan Weintraub*

Treasurer: *Mike Chapel*

Director: *Diane Berg*

Director: *Larry Uno*

Director: *Frank Rinella*

Director: *Tom Page*

**Committees & Chairs**

Boy & Girl Scout programs: *TBD*

Clinics & Workshops: *Clay Hash, Frank Rinella*

Conservation: *Drew Irby*

FFF: *Frank Rinella*

**Fish-outs:** *Tom Grant w/Mike Conner*

Fly Fishing 101 Classes: *Clay Hash*

Fly Tying: *Sam Higginbotham*

Holiday Party: *Peter Burnes*

Ladies Program: *Diane Berg*

Library: *Mark Hermes*

Malakoff Kids Day: *Frank Rinella*

Meeting Dinners: *Ed Tulley*

Meeting Drinks & Snacks: *Larry Uno*

Membership: *Mike Chapel*

New Members: *Tim Ackerman & Robin DeNegri*

Monthly Raffle: *Tom Page; Jerry Austin*

Newsletter: *Bill Burden*

Programs: *Dave Ackerman*

Trout in the Classroom Coordinator: *Robin DeNegri, Larry Uno*

Webmaster: *Peter Burnes*

**Thanks to  
Our Financial Supporters:**

**Fly Fishing Specialties,**  
6360 Tupelo Dr, Citrus Heights, CA 95621

(916) 722-1055

[www.flyfishingspecialties.com](http://www.flyfishingspecialties.com)

**Acclaim Signs, Inc.**

Gene McCallister

(530) 346-2782

[acclaimsigns@hughes.net](mailto:acclaimsigns@hughes.net)

**Reel Anglers Fly Shop**

760 S. Auburn, Grass Valley, CA

Tom Page, Proprietor & Guide

(530) 477-5397

[www.reelanglersflyshop.com](http://www.reelanglersflyshop.com)

## *Purpose and Objectives*

Support the “catch and release” ethic

Promote fly fishing for the recreation of members

Promote and support the conservation of our water and fisheries

Provide assistance to members in the skill and techniques of fly fishing

Publicize and promote fly fishing, fly casting, fly tying, and other related topics

Represent fly fishers through liaison with sports and conservation organizations

---

***We're on the Web!***

***Visit us at:***

**<http://www.goldcountryff.org/>**