

## Highlights

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# Target Talk

Newsletter of the Long Beach Casting Club, Established 1925

May 2011

[www.longbeachcastingclub.org](http://www.longbeachcastingclub.org)

(562) 433-9408

## Leader's Line ...

## Standing on the Shoulders of Giants

**BILL BOEHLERT, PRESIDENT**

**I**saac Newton, when asked about his astounding scientific advances, said *"If I have seen a little further, it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants."*

Our March monthly meeting was the Past Presidents meeting. Seeing them stand and identify themselves was a great reminder of all the talent and work that members have given to the club. Presidents from Jack Turner to Rich Garrett were in attendance, representing 40 years of service from 1971 to 2011! Many of them are still actively involved in club activities, providing a service that money can't buy. The work of past presidents like John Van Derhoof, Joe Libeu, Mark Tsunawaki, Carole Katz, Jeff Sadler, Dan Rivett, Marv Dworzak, Stan Holden, Mick Woodbury, and Rick Hilles helps keep our traditions alive and the club running like a well-oiled machine.

Following the Annual General Meeting in April, we will have new officers in place, including several brand new to the board. Our gurus will be Mick Woodbury as Senior Director and Rich Garrett as Junior Director. Jim Thomason will be conducting the monthly meetings as 1st Vice President, and Ed Madrid will be our new 2nd Vice President in charge of club trips. Howard Uller will be our new Corresponding Secretary, and Joe Austin will be taking over as Recording Secretary. Nani Blyleven has consented to return as Membership Secretary, and Joe Gustaff will continue to run our treasury. Jeff Gross will assume charge of the pond as Captain. I would like to thank all of these people for stepping up and assuming the responsibilities, joys, (and sometimes grief) that these positions entail.

We will sorely miss the talents and help of those who are leaving the board this year: Rick Hilles, Dan Rivett,

Frank Kropacek, and Thea Lincoln. We all thank them for their service.

In addition to the board, the club is kept alive by the labor of several committees. We will be needing chairpersons for several of them. The board would like to invite all club members to take an active role in the club and participate more fully in the running of our great organization.

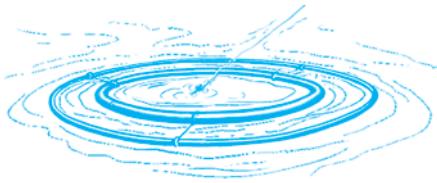
The new board members are relatively inexperienced compared to previous boards that had so many past presidents involved. We will certainly be relying heavily on the advice and recommendations of those who preceded us. We will also be dependent on the suggestions and opinions of the general membership

*Leader's Line continues on page 2*

*Leader's Line continued from page 1*

that we serve. We hope to have your support and participation throughout the New Year.

We hope the club will continue to be a great source of inspiration, instruction, and fun, not only for the membership but for the community. I thank you for your confidence and trust, and I know all of us are honored. We will strive to emulate the accomplishments of the giants upon whose shoulders we stand.



## Notes from the Pond

### JEFF GROSS, CAPTAIN

**H**ello fellow members. My name is Jeff Gross and I will be your club Captain for the next year.

First of all, let me thank Dan Rivett, for his expertise as Captain these past two years. I hope I will be able to match his high standards of performance in the coming year.

Now, let's get right down to the nitty-gritty, the pond needs a cleaning. We all know a clean pond makes for happy casters. Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 15 at 8:00 AM, as the next pond cleaning morning. The more people that show up to help, the easier the project will be. So come on out for coffee and doughnuts and to vanquish the dreaded pond scum.

Tuesday night casts begin in June and continue through August. For those of you not familiar with these games, they are an excellent way to improve your casting and fish catching accuracy.

Our club has the honor to host the ACA National Casting Tournament this August. We will need lots of help to ensure the success of this tournament.

I look forward to seeing you at the pond.

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

BILL BOEHLERT  
(714) 374-6491

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

JIM THOMASON  
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RICH GARRETT  
(562) 422-9696

### TARGET TALK EDITOR

JOHN VAN DERHOOF  
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# Advanced Nymphing with Pete Erickson

JIM THOMASON, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

By now I'm sure most all of you have heard about Czech nymphing, and maybe even Polish, French, and Spanish nymphing. These are techniques utilized at the World Fly-Fishing Championships and they've been growing increasingly popular in the United States.

Under the right circumstances they can be a very effective means of catching fish and it's a skill you'll definitely want to have in our arsenal. Our speaker this month is Pete Erickson who'll be presenting these advanced nymphing techniques on Thursday, May 26 at 7:00 PM.

Pete is an accomplished fly fisherman having fished such places as Alaska, Mexico, Florida, British Columbia, The Bahamas, Sweden, Poland, Spain, Portugal, Slovakia, England, Scotland, the Olympic Peninsula and the entire Rocky Mountain region.

He's been a member of Team USA and the World Fly Fishing Team several times, competed in numerous fly fishing championships, including the US National and World events and is on the pro-staff of several major fly fishing companies.

Pete will be discussing:

- ❖ Where and how these techniques originated (Eastern Europe)
- ❖ What it's like fly-fishing Eastern Europe
- ❖ Descriptions of the various techniques (Czech, Polish, French and Spanish)
- ❖ How to build leaders and indicators for these techniques
- ❖ Flies used for these techniques
- ❖ How to actually fish using these techniques

You can put these skills to immediate use on many of the waters you currently fish, including the Owens,

East Walker, and especially the Kern River. There are times when this may be the only way you can get to certain fish. So come to the meeting to learn more about this effective way to fish.



## Just a Thought or Two

He was our 31<sup>st</sup> President and his 4 years in office were marked by controversy and the start of the Great Depression. He was also an ardent fly fisher and was never shy about waxing philosophic on his love of fishing.

So here are some musings from a President, an angler and a fly fisher—Herbert Hoover

*The joys of fishing are not confined to the hours near the water.*

*Be patient and calm—for no one can catch fish in anger.*

*It is not the fish we catch that counts... It is the joyous rush of the brook, and the contemplation of the eternal rush of the stream.*

*-Herbert Hoover*

## The Library Announces...

**JEFF SADLER,  
PAST PRESIDENT & CLUB LIBRARIAN**

Your Club Librarian proudly announces the addition to our library of two very valuable and rare books:

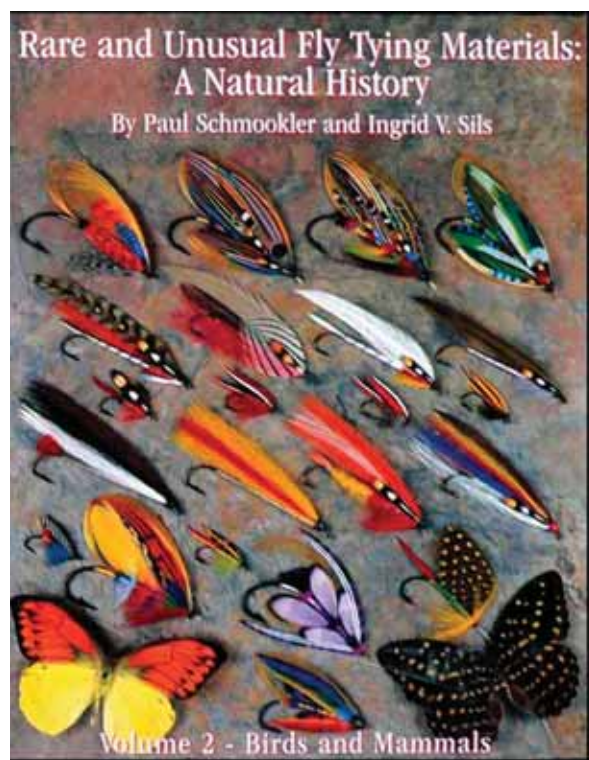
**RARE AND UNUSUAL FLY TYING  
MATERIALS, VOLUMES. I & II**  
by Paul Schmookler and Ingrid V. Sils

These rare and valuable books were donated to the Long Beach Casting Club by Nick Furjanick an old time member who wandered away and returned to be a full time member and volunteer. Thank you Nick!

Because of the value of these volumes they CANNOT be checked out. However, if you contact the Librarian Jeff Sadler he will unlock them and allow you to peruse them within the clubhouse.

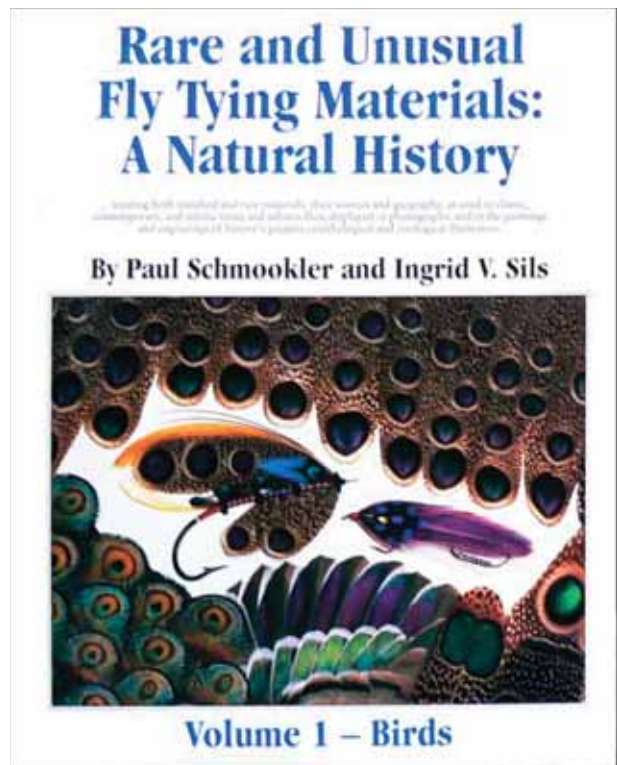
Published in two volumes. The first volume, *Birds*

(1994, 1997), and the second volume *Birds & Mammals* (1997) cover different fly tying materials, and together,



these books comprise the most definitive work on fly tying. Volume 1 contains information on 115 different birds whose feathers have historically been used in fly tying, and includes such species as the Indian crow, blue chatterer, golden pheasant, Lady Amherst pheasant, corncrake, toucan, guinea fowl, ocellated turkey, merlin, coot, Baikal teal, wood duck, and scarlet macaw.

Volume 2 covers topics such as the history of breeding poultry for hackle, modern poultry production, the history of sericulture, and the mammals historically used in fly tying, including various squirrels, the diana monkey, chinchilla, gray fox, brown bear, wolverine, fisher, coyote, seal, elk, white-tailed deer, and goat. Heralded by FLY FISHERMAN MAGAZINE and in the NEW YORK TIMES as two of the best books for the Holidays, and winner of UNITED FLY TYER'S Book-of-the-Year award, this 2-volume set is a must for every angler, fly tier, and angling historian. Also quite popular among aviculturists and artists.





# Tejon Ranch Bass & Bluegill Outing

**JIM THOMASON, 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**T**he club outing this month will be a bass and bluegill adventure to Tejon Ranch which is approximately a 2 hour drive from the clubhouse. We'll be fishing their small, secluded 40 acre private lake located just over the Grapevine (not be confused with their large lake visible from the 5 at Tejon Pass). We will essentially have the lake to ourselves and that should make for a very peaceful day of floating interrupted only by the yells of someone with a fish on or the explosive take of a largemouth bass. It's full of medium sized bass and large bluegills. While it can be fished from shore, it fishes best from the water and they allow float tubes, pontoon boats, prams, kayaks, and canoes. You can also launch your regular boat if desired.

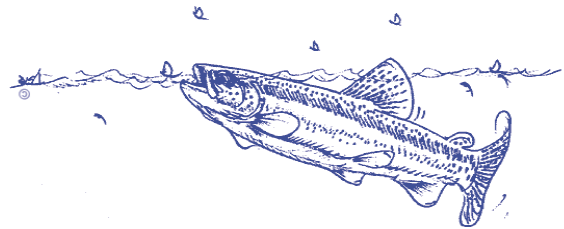
If you've ever wanted to try bass fishing with a fly rod, this is a great place to learn. If you simply want to find out what float tubing is all about you won't find a better place.

The outing will be Saturday, May 21. Our meeting place and time will be discussed at the Pre-Trip meeting which will be held Wednesday May 11 at 7:00 PM. We'll go over the basics of Bass and Bluegill fishing and equipment requirements at this meeting.

Some of us will be camping there Friday night, so attend the Pre-Trip or contact me for details if you're interested in that option. If you have a spare float tube, please let me know in case there are any beginners that want to try stillwater fishing for the first time. Also, if you have a pop-up shade tent we can use, let me know.

The fee is \$35.00. Bring cash or a check made out to "The Tejon Ranch Co.". The lake has no facilities so bring your lunch, water, chair, etc. Carpooling is encouraged and I'll be compiling a list to assist you.

Advance sign-up is required. You don't have to go if you sign up but you can't go if you don't so either come to the Pre-Trip or if you can't make that contact me if you're interested. Call me at (626) 357-6050 (home) or email me at [jathomason@mail.com](mailto:jathomason@mail.com) to confirm or to ask questions.



## Club Trips for 2011

**EDDIE MADRID, 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**T**he May outing is our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tejon Ranch Bass/Bluegill Trip hosted by Jim Thomason. It's a wonderful day floating a peaceful secluded lake filled with hard fighting bass and large bluegill. It's a great place to learn about bass fishing.

If you've got a float tube but haven't used it yet this is the perfect place to learn. We'll also have some spare float tubes so if you've been thinking about trying stillwater fishing come to the Pre-Trip meeting and check it out. See article elsewhere for details.

### 2011 TRIPS:

TRIP DATE	TRIP LEADER
May 21	Tejon Ranch Small Lake with Jim Thomason (pre-trip May 11)
June	To Be Determined
July 9-10	Brookie Bash (Little Lakes Valley & Rock Creek) with Jeff Sadler

All Pre-Trip Meetings start at 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted. Trip locations and dates are subject to change. Please monitor Target Talk for the latest information.

# AGM 2011—Short and Sweet

MICK WOODBURY, SENIOR DIRECTOR

The Annual General Meeting was well attended and best of all, brief. The official business transactions are listed herein.

2010 AGM minutes: Approved.

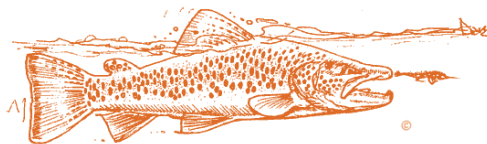
Cooks were praised and re-enlisted for 2011/2012. The following individuals displayed exceptional culinary skills for the casting breakfasts and were duly appointed to repeat performances for the same time slots this coming year. They are:

August 29	Jeff Gross
September 12	Rich Garrett & Mary Lou
September 26	Nani Blyleven
October 10	Tommy Kendall
October 24	Ron Finney & Doug Smith
November 7	Mark Flo
November 21	Al & Judy Ross
December 5	Gary Spencer
December 19	Rick & Lillian Hilles
January 2, 2012	Bill Boehlert
January 16	Jim Thomason
January 30	Dennis McTeer
February 12-13	Sunshine Committee
February 27	Paul Burgner
March 13	Terry Komisak

Election of officers: Unanimously approved and Congratulations! Your new Board of Directors are:

Bill Boehlert	President
Jim Thomason	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Eddie Madrid	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Howard Uller	Corresponding Secretary
Joe Austin	Recording Secretary
Nani Blyleven	Membership Secretary
Joseph Gustaff	Treasurer
Jeff Gross	Captain
Rich Garrett	Junior Director
Mick Woodbury	Senior Director

*"These are all fine, responsible individuals, well proven, enthusiastic and capable. I can pass the torch with complete confidence."* —Rich Garrett



## An Evening with Joan Wulff

Southwest Council Federation of Fly Fishers

The SWC FFF is hosting the legendary Joan Wulff for an evening devoted to all things fly-fishing. Joan will fly to Los Angeles where she will speak, answer questions, mingle with guests and talk fly-casting, fly-fishing, conservation and other aspects of the sport and her life.

When:	Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 6:00 PM
Where:	The Olympic Collection, 11301 W Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064
Dinner:	\$75
Fund Raising:	The dinner will benefit the work of the Southwest Council FFF. Funds will be raised through sponsorships, a raffle, auction and silent auction.
Sponsors:	The Winston Rod Co. is donating a Special Joan Wulff edition rod.

Joan Wulff is one of the world's most famous fly fishers. From 1937 as an 11-year old tournament caster in Patterson, New Jersey to 1960, she won numerous International & National tournament casting titles. She has appeared in many fishing films and has authored several well respected books and DVD's.

Through promotion of catch and release, she has helped sport fishing be accepted as environmentally-sustainable. Both Joan and her late, legendary husband, Lee Wulff, have had a positive impact on fly-fishing.

# Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing at Jess Ranch

CAROLE KATZ, PHW NATIONAL TRUSTEE

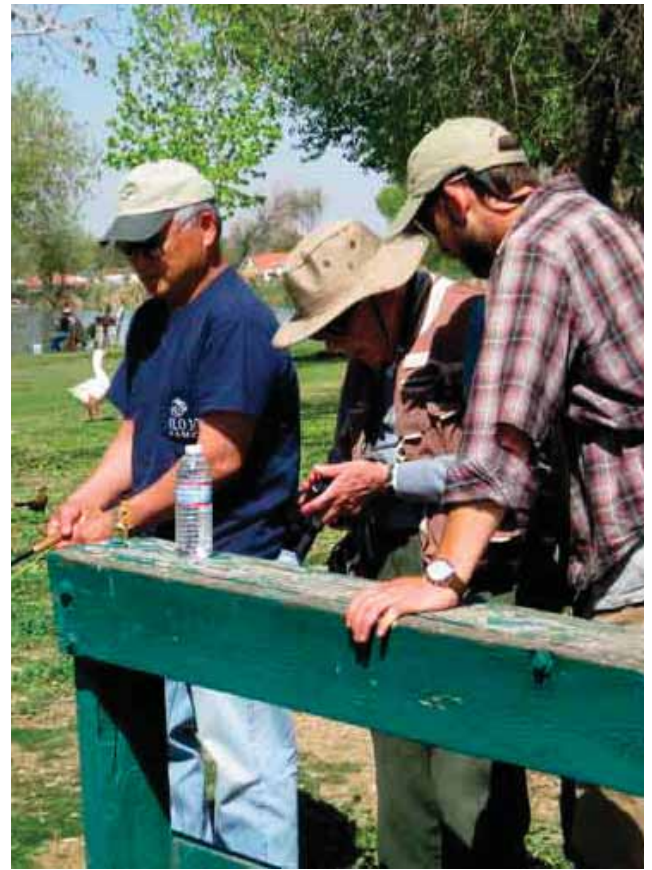
On Friday, April 15, ten disabled veterans from the Long Beach VAMC fished at Jess Ranch Lakes. Volunteers from Long Beach Casting Club accompanied them, and were joined by volunteers from Hi Desert Fly Fishers, who recently started their own Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program. This is the third time we have fished there and enjoy seeing our friends from other clubs.

The fishing was a little more challenging this time as the fish weren't feeding as aggressively. Some of the vets didn't net any fish, but the experience was valuable. It's easy to see these fish and watch their



behavior, and there's ample opportunity to cast, work on the drift, and polish setting the hook. Jess Ranch

is a great place for those who are learning to fly fish and the hospitality is grand.



It was a special treat to have Long Beach Casting Club Past Presidents Trevor and Margaret Walker join us there and share their expertise. Lunch for everyone was provided by Hi Desert Fly Fishers and cooked by Citizens on Patrol of Apple Valley.

We've completed rod building and are anxiously awaiting news of the results of the national judging. Casting classes have begun and will continue through May when fly tying starts. Master CI Alex Siemers is helping with the casting instruction. We have about 15 disabled veterans in our program, veterans who have served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Vietnam and elsewhere.

If you would like to make a donation to support Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, or to help fund our trip to the Big Horn River this September, please contact me at [katzhogan@cox.net](mailto:katzhogan@cox.net).

# Fly of the Month: Beaded Soft Hackle

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

**T**he months of June and July signal the start of the major caddis hatches across the country. These insects are plentiful and often provide fantastic fishing opportunities. I have many wonderful memories of fishing the evening hatch with dry imitations on the Madison River, Hot Creek and other favorite waters. However, I have repressed all the long hours spent working these spots with little or no results prior to the hatch.

At the time my lack of results were caused by my inexperience with nymph fishing but also, as I have discovered over the years, that using the right fly can make a difference. In this case the right fly might well be a soft hackle. Sylvester Nemes reintroduced a large number of people to the effectiveness of the soft hackle fly through his book *THE SOFT HACKLE FLY* and the subsequent *THE SOFT HACKLE FLY ADDICT* and for good reason. These flies really do work!

This month's fly can be used in a large variety of situations but was originally tied to fish the Madison prior to the evening hatch. The bead used at the thorax is helpful in getting the fly to sink quickly in the classic riffle sections of this river, but be sure to tie some without for calmer, slower waters like Hot Creek. Fish the fly just like a dry fly but don't worry if it drags a little. This makes the fly rise up towards the surface just like an emerging caddis and can induce a strike. Also, be sure to use a strike indicator which can be helpful in detecting those soft takes.

## Materials for tying the Beaded Soft Hackle:

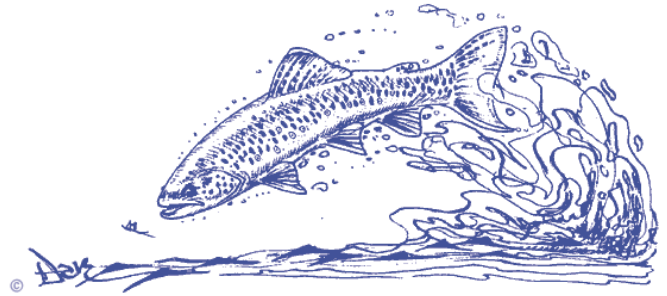
- Hook: Tiemco #2487, sizes 16 to 20
- Thread: Uni-Thread 8/0 black
- Body: Ringneck peasant tail fibers with a pearl KrystalFlash rib or muskrat dubbing with the same rib (for sizes 18 to 20)
- Thorax: Gold or copper bead and peacock herl
- Wingcase: Peacock herl
- Hackle: Brown partridge or starling for the gray patterns.





## Instructions for tying the Beaded Soft Hackle:

1. Slide bead on and attach thread behind it about where the thorax will be. Wind thread down to 1/3 of the bend and tie in 2 strands of Krystal Flash and 2 or 3 strands of pheasant tail. Wind pheasant tail up to the beginning of the thorax and tie off. Twist Krystal Flash into a rope and reverse rib (wind toward you) the Krystal Flash up to beginning of the thorax and tie off.
2. Tie in 2 to 4 strands of peacock herl by the tip. Grab peacock herl and make two or three turns, tie the peacock herl off and whip finish but DO NOT CUT OFF THE BUTT ENDS. It is very important to note that with this pattern the bead is not jammed against the eye of the hook and that one turn of peacock herl and a hackle will need to be tied in and wound in front of it. In other words, be sure to leave a larger than normal headspace between the eye and the bead or you will run out of room.
3. Re-attach thread at head space. Grab the peacock herl and give it a half twist or more to keep the strands together and pull it over bead to create a wing case and tie down. Wind herl one full turn and tie off. Now cut off the excess peacock herl.
4. Tie in your soft hackle by the tip and wind it about 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 turns and tie off. Be sure to keep the hackle sparse. Form a small, neat head, whip finish and the fly is complete for a test run.



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Trip includes 4 Days Guided Drift Boat Fishing with 2 Anglers per Boat. Accommodations, Ground Transportation, Continental Breakfast and Dinner while at the Lodge plus Lunches on Guided Fishing Days Included. Airfare, Fishing License, Gratuities Extra.



**\$1855 per person** (double occupancy)  
with all meals included.

**Reserve Early!**  
**SPACE IS LIMITED!**



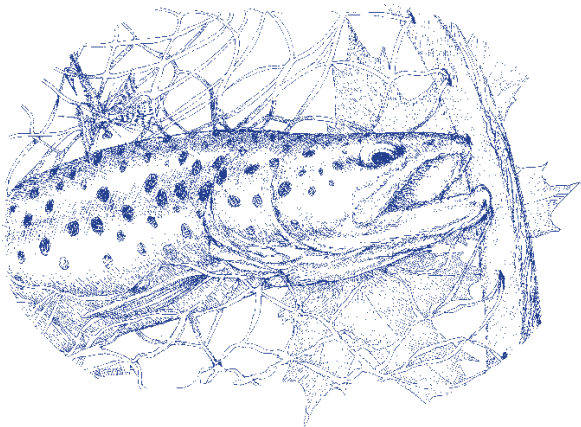
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# The Caddis Couple: My Observations & Techniques

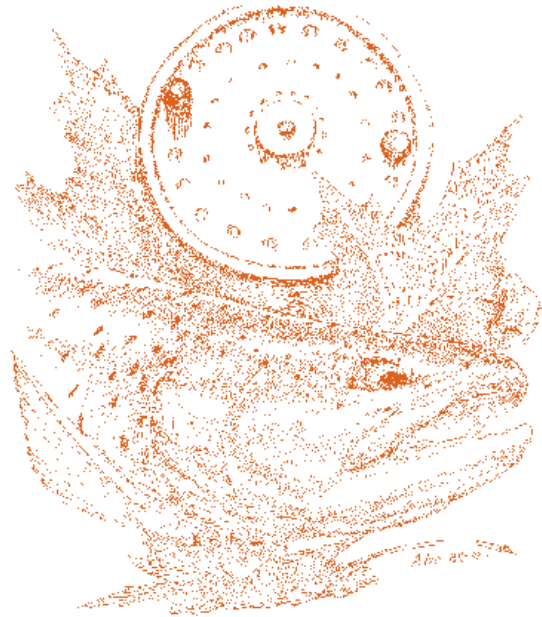
DEAN RICKERD, PAST PRESIDENT

When caddis flies are active (flying, emerging or submerged), I've found that a two-fly presentation is very effective. The terminal tackle configuration, which I call the "Caddis Couple" is the upper fly—a dry fly pattern, usually a #14 Elk Hair Caddis—followed below by at least 30 inches, an un-weighted #14 Peacock Partridge Soft Hackle.

On a floating line these flies can be fished in many ways representing caddis fly activities. Casting quartering upstream with a drag free drift, the upper fly acts as an indicator of strikes on the lower fly. Often times the upper fly is taken as a dry. Also, on the drift and with the soft hackle acting as an anchor, the dry fly can be lifted off the waters surface and laying back down on the surface imitates a female caddis laying or dapping her eggs in the surface film. At the end of the downstream drift, drag starts. Pulsing the flies with the rod tip usually brings more strikes than pure dragging on the swing.



When the Caddis Couple is directly below you, let them hang for a while in the current. Retrieve slowly, sometimes with very small pulses. Often the flies pass over the fish into its window of vision



bringing a vicious reactive strike at the emerging flies. If the fish are rising, a small split shot can be pinched on 18" above the bottom fly allowing it to sink deeper throughout drift and retrieve to fish holding on the bottom. The upper dry fly gets pulled under occasionally but the number of hits on the lower fly makes it all worthwhile.

All in all, under all of the Caddis Couple's hook-ups approximately 50% on each fly occurs and the catch rate is significantly better than when only one fly is used. Sometimes both flies are hit during a swing resulting in the chaos of a double hook-up. This is really true when both fish are larger than 12"! When it becomes really interesting is when they each go in opposite directions often resulting in the loss of one or both fish. Of course, if they both swim towards you there is the chance netting them both and increasing your catch rate!

Happy fishing!

*(Dean is a past President of the club and splits his time between his home on the Rogue River in Oregon and the other one looking out over Henry's Lake, in Idaho. He spends most of his waking moments fishing or working out he is going to fish the next time he goes out and has the photos and fishing logs to prove it. If Dean uses the system described in the article it's because it works and works well—ed.)*

# Calendar of Events

## May

2	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Clinic - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class
4	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
5	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
7	Saturday	TBA	Pasadena Casting Club Pond Christening
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Clinic - 4 <sup>th</sup> Class
11	Wednesday	7:00 PM	PRE-TRIP Meeting: Tejon Ranch Outing
12	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
19	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
21	Saturday		Tejon Ranch Outing
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
26	Thursday		Monthly Meeting: Pete Erickson on Czech Nymphing
31	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host

## June

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: San Gabriel River Trip for New Casters
4	Saturday	8:00 AM	San Gabriel River Trip for New Casters
6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
8	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
9	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity/Spey Night at the Pond
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
16	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
23	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
28	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
29	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Brookie Bash
30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Jeff Sadler and Fishing Local Waters

## July

5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
7	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
9-10	Weekend		Club Trip: Brookie Bash
11	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Director's Meeting
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
14	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
21	Thursday	7:00 PM	Activity Night/Spey Night at the Pond
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Practice - No Host
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: to be announced



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