

Highlights

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Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

May 2015

www.longbeachcastingclub.org

(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line...

Crew Change

MICK WOODBURY, PRESIDENT

The good ship LBCC is back in port for its annual crew change. After sailing for a year in a tight schedule of monthly meetings, fishing trips, tying, casting and rod building classes, seminars, a casting tournament and the 90th anniversary celebration, the vessel and crew encountered no reefs, storms, or outbreaks of scurvy. While underway, a lot of work was done to tighten her up, operationally. She's more seaworthy than ever, thanks especially to Gary Kosaka (membership) and Tommy Kendall (treasurer) who's sectors can be considered as shipshape as they've ever been.

There wasn't a single slacker aboard. All performed admirably. Thank you to an excellent board who brought her back in better condition than when she left. That was the goal and for the most part, it was a successful year, not that there isn't room for the next crew to make her even better. So thank you to Pablo Gabriel, Yash Iseda, Dennis Kong, Gary Kosaka, Tommy Kendall, David Bower, George Seward, Jim Thomason and Jeff Sadler for serving well and ably.

One noteworthy accomplishment, the Endowment program that was wisely started by Howard Uller and Rick Hilles several years ago is now vested with a Vanguard account in excess of \$11,000 dollars. The next crew has the opportunity to double that amount.

There was more emphasis this year on saltwater fishing, thanks to Kevin Green's excellent seminars on fly fishing the surf and bays. With the ongoing drought conditions, that may be turn out to be a decision with implications more strategic than tactical.

You may have noticed that there are targets on the pond 24/7. Always casting to a target, real or imaginary, is a proven way to improve accuracy.

The pond is looking nicer, longer. The new method of cleaning may have helped the relentless algae issues. Time will tell, but so far so good.

SPECIAL THANKS

Three committee heads are taking a break after years of excellent, excellent service. Al Ross, who has headed up rod building has decided to put some of those rods to use more often and is stepping down. He did an outstanding job as will his replacement, Eddie Madrid who is enthusiastic to carry on the good work.

Gary Charles, who has headed up the beginning fly casting for what seems like forever will be taking

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Crew Change... Leader's Line continued from page 1

some time off to work on his Masters Certificate. He's done a thorough job for years, both on the pond and in the classroom. His classroom efforts will be picked up by John Van Derhoof and Bob Middo so that base will be well covered.

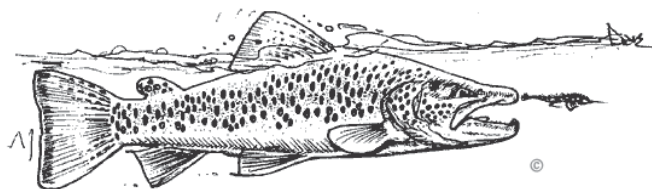
And finally, Doug Smith will be getting a well-deserved break from his efforts with the beginning tying classes. He's done yeoman duty for at some five years, always dependable, always cheerful. His successor will be David Bower so that program also will be in good hands since Dave is more than an accomplished tier.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

The new board has a lot of returnees in a mission where experience counts. Yash Iseda will head the slate as president; Steve Gonzales will be 1st VP; Terry Komisak 2nd VP; Dennis Kong, Secretary; Gary Kosaka, Membership; Tommy Kendall, Treasurer; Mark Flo, Captain; George Seward, facilities; Mick Woodbury, Jr. Director and Jim Thomason, Sr. Director.

The year has gone by quickly and it's been a blast. It was great fun and I recommend the experience. A competent new board is standing by, anxiously awaiting their installation. All but two are returning veterans and they'll do another superb job.

Thank you for entrusting me and the rest of the board with this fine institution.





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Awards & Installation Banquet

PABLO GRABIEL, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Come and celebrate with us the accomplishments of the last year. Come and thank those who have made the club as enjoyable as it is. Come help us welcome the new Board of Directors that will be giving so much of their time helping to keep our club vibrant and vital during the next 12 months. The event will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2015 at 5:00 PM at Long Beach Casting Club.

Here's what's on the menu from our chef, Chris Visconti:

- ❖ Pulled Pork Tacos with Cilantro Jalapeno Slaw
- ❖ Smoked Pepper Jack Mac & Cheese with Brisket Chunks
- ❖ BBQ Beans
- ❖ Mixed Berry Cobbler with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream

The price for this feast is a incredibly low \$10.00 per person and Chris' pulled pork is outstanding so be sure to join us and join in on the fun. Don't forget this is also the great unveiling of the JA Award—LBCC's version of the Darwin Award. Who will be the **"Lucky"** recipient this year?



Our New Members

GARY KOSAKA,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

At April's Annual General Meeting, applications were approved of the following new members:

- ❖ Scott Davidson of Los Angeles
- ❖ Bruce Hampton of Laguna Beach
- ❖ Dana Reimer of Whittier
- ❖ Sasi "San" Sandeep of Los Angeles
- ❖ Craig Wiginton of Anaheim Hills

Please greet and welcome our newest members at the club's next Monthly Meeting. Here's wishing them a lifetime of healthy hatches and tight lines.

AWARDS & INSTALLATION DINNER

❖ Sunday, April 26, 2015 ❖ 5:00 PM at Long Beach Casting Club ❖

\$10 PER PERSON POT LUCK PLUS A CHRIS VISCONTI MAIN COURSE!

Pot Luck Assignments: Last name is A–I - Chips & Dip or Salsa & Dip; J–Q - Crackers & Cheese or Crackers & Salami and R–Z - a Veggie Dish

Name: _____

Number of people including myself: _____ I will be bringing: _____

I am willing to help out with preparation, or serving, or cleanup: _____

Send this form and your payment to Mick Woodbury c/o LBCC, PO Box 90035, Long Beach, CA 90808-0035.

Reservations must be received by Friday, April 20, 2015

History of Long Beach Casting Club—Part 3

CAROLE KATZ, PAST PRESIDENT

The second part of a three-part series about the History of our club and its first ninety years...

OUR CASTING POND

There was no casting pool for the earliest club members, so they cast in a park, on the beach, and on the lawn in front of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce on Sundays and holidays.

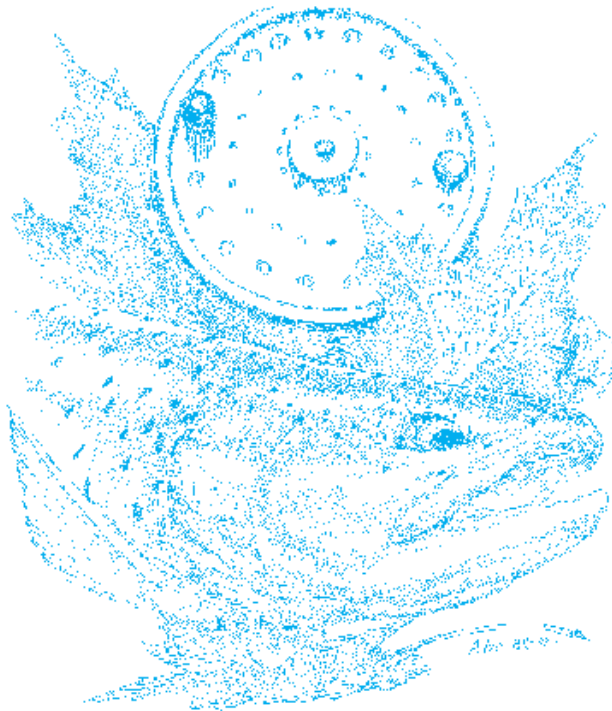
In the early 1930s, Pete Morbocker, Long Beach Park Superintendent, offered the use of some city land to LBCC. At the time, it was overgrown with underbrush and dead or burned trees. Pete wanted to clean up the eyesore and the only way he could justify the work was to prepare it for a user-group. LBCC had a home—sort of.

LBCC members dug a hole in the ground and filled it with water to create the first casting pond, a 130 foot diameter circle. The \$700 total cost was shared equally with the city and work was completed just in time for the 1932 Special Olympics Tournament. Unfortunately, it didn't hold water. Next, someone had the idea to line the pond with asphalt, which worked just fine until the heat of summer. On warm days, the asphalt would let go of globs of crude oil, which would float to the top. It was likened to casting in the La Brea tar pits.

In 1933, the asphalt was removed and the pond was lined with concrete. The casting walk was built around

the pond in 1938, and a year later the first floodlights were installed for night casting. The club paid for all these things.

By 1946, the board realized that the pond would not be adequate for the American Casting Association Tournament to be held in Long Beach the following year. Having just spent \$20,000 on the clubhouse, there were no funds for a new pond. The city manager commented that "Any club with faith enough to build a \$20,000 clubhouse with the city holding the title deserved [his] support." He pulled together enough city funds (\$9,000) to build the 130 by 265 foot oval casting pond we know today. It was completed just days before the 1947 national tournament, with Joan Salvato (Wulff) featured in the dedication ceremonies.



OUR CLUBHOUSE

The first clubhouse was a palm-thatched pergola, in which casters and their families had picnics after casting sessions. It also served as a storeroom for casting supplies. In 1933, President Carl Wiand negotiated exclusive use of a log cabin that stood near the pool for storage of target rings and other equipment. It is said that termites got the best of this structure.

The 1933 Long Beach Earthquake destroyed the headquarters of the city's fire department, so a temporary building was erected as an office for the fire chief. Once permanent quarters were constructed for the chief in 1935, several of our members, many of whom were firemen, set their sights on the temporary building. Other organizations were covetous of the then surplus structure, so our representatives moved the building during the night to Recreation Park. Despite this chicanery, the City of Long Beach dedicated the clubhouse to the "exclusive use" of

LBCC later in 1935. This building still stands; it and its porch face the casting pond.

From 1942 until 1944, the Army took over the park and appropriated our clubhouse as officers' quarters. After the war ended in 1945, arrangements were made with the city to purchase one of the old Army barracks buildings in the park and move it to the club site. The city built the foundation, but members raised \$30,000 to tear down the barracks, move it, and rebuild it—in two days! Today, this building is our classroom.

As with any structure, there has been much remodeling. The fireplace was built in 1939 with rocks brought home by members from hunting and fishing trips all over the country. The large trophy cases were built with the profits from the 1947 ACA Tournament. The cloakroom addition was built by the club in 1950. Seven years later, the paved roadway off 7th Street was installed and the parking area behind the clubhouse was put in. The club replaced the pond lights with mercury vapor floodlights at each end of the pond in 1964. A final addition was begun in 1996 and completed in 1997 that included the library and two bathrooms at a cost in excess of \$30,000 in addition to a lot of donated materials and labor.

And, then, there was the great fire of December 2, 2007, that nearly destroyed our clubhouse. Reconstruction of the clubhouse and the replacement of the building contents totaled about \$300,000. With the support of the casting and fishing community, and donations from all over the country, the fund-raising goals were met and our reconstructed clubhouse is better than ever.



Many club members contributed to the rebuilding effort, including Stan Holden who carved a mantle for the fireplace and Carl Rischer who painted a portrait of founder David Linder to replace the photograph of Linder that was destroyed by the fire. The walls of the clubhouse are decorated with historic photographs in the front room and fly plates in the classroom. There are countless flies by celebrated fly tiers, including numerous Buz Buszek

Award winners and expert club members, including famed Western writer and angler Zane Grey.

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

Our history of working with the disabled goes back several decades when we first taught fly casting to paraplegic patients at Long Beach City College in the 1970s, and to patients at the nearby Veterans Affairs hospital in the 1980s.

In early 2007, LBCC reached out to disabled veterans at the Long Beach VA Medical Center as part of Project Healing Waters, a nationwide program committed to helping the rehabilitation of those who have served our country by teaching fly tying, fly casting, rod building and organizing fishing outings. We were one of the first in the country to work with VA patients and assisted many other programs to get started. Club volunteers have donated many thousands of hours to this program. Our program is known for outstanding rod building achievement; Long Beach veterans have won 27% of all prizes since the inception of the national rod building contest.

Two club members have served on the PHWFF Board of Trustees: Jeff Sadler, treasurer, and Carole Katz. Jesse Garza was named to the national Veterans Advisory Committee.



LBCC TODAY

Long Beach Casting Club has continued to add programs and evolve.

Under the guidance of Craig Haines, the club has worked with several groups of Boy Scouts to attain their Merit Badges. Monthly, Chuck Moore of the Fisheries Resources Volunteer Core, leads a group of club members who do cleanups, minor repairs, stream maintenance, and plant trees along the San Gabriel River—and a little fishing.

Several years ago a few guys started coming to the club during the midday hours, and they became known as the “Nooners.” They would practice casting or hang out or do needed repairs. As the group grew in size, someone prepared a lunch. Nooner lunches escalated into regular monthly events that are open to the club. It’s not uncommon for 60 or 70 members to attend. The group also contributes to the amenities of the clubhouse: a freezer, a dishwasher, and more recently, a leaf blower. The group seems partial to sunlight, as few attend evening meetings...

Jim Garvey is the club’s “mountain man.” He’s a backpacker, hiker, fisherman, nature lover and outdoorsman who likes to share his great depth of knowledge. He leads trips into the Sierra backcountry and to local mountain streams, usually to places far off the road. He leads two or three club trips a year, some of which are backpacking overnights to places like Cottonwood Lakes and golden trout country.

We are celebrating our 90th anniversary in 2015 and look forward to many more years of fly fishing, education and community outreach.

Birth of the Wonder Fly

THE ORIGIN OF THE ADAMS DRY FLY

Knee-deep in a river ripe with promise, the angler waits. He knows the brown trout are there, lurking in the root tangles that edge the bank. His legs have nearly fossilized inside his waders after a half-morning vigil, watching alert but unmoving for a sign of life. Finally, it comes.

Just upstream, three concentric rings ripple outward on the surface and a single bubble emerges—a silent signal to the fisherman that the trout has risen, ready to feed. The angler has just one fly with him today, a mottled grey and brown floater known as the Adams. He offers this, sailing a curve cast to the gleam in the current ahead. The trout rises. It strikes. The angler lands his fish.

Since its debut in the early '20s, the Adams dry fly has become the staple go-getter for anglers the world over—a sort of everyman of dry-flies that emulates no and all water insects at once. It's the Adams that tackle shops never let out of stock. Knowing fishermen tuck this unassuming pattern in their vest pockets for one key reason: it works. To pay homage to this granddaddy of dry flies you need only go as far as Grand Traverse County—head to a quiet spot on the grassy banks of the Mayfield pond where hotel keeper and angler Leonard Halladay hit on something big one summer evening in 1922.

The pond itself is an azure, lima bean—shaped backwater that survives from the Traverse City lumber days. Originally the Gibbs brothers

used it to store logs before they entered the Big Red Saw Mill; in later years Len Halladay and others found it a fine fishing hole. Halladay's daughter Edith Blackhurst lives just down the road from the pond and



remembers her father's love of that quiet water. "My father fished the pond practically every night," she says.

On the night that he created the Adams, however, Halladay was not at the pond, but inside his nearby hotel, the Halladay House. It was his friend Judge Charlie Adams who was out in the shallows, buoying dry flies on the surface to tempt the finicky trout. Charming these selective eaters has never been an easy task—trout prefer whichever insect is most abundant on the water and virtually ignore those that don't possess its particular shape, size and hue.

"The Judge noticed that there was a different hatch on the water and that the trout were jumping more than usual," Edith recalls. "He came over to the hotel and asked my father to tie a fly for him." Halladay sat at his table and laced together a version of the insect his friend had seen on the pond. The body? A tuft of grey wool. The wings and hackle? A few mail-order feathers and the plumage from the neck of her mother's Rhode Island Red rooster. "Later that evening, the Judge returned and said, 'Len, it's a knock-out.'" Edith says her father then tied another for the judge and his son to try out on the Boardman River. The following afternoon Adams ran to the hotel, exhilarated with the fly's tremendous success. "He wanted to know what my father was going to name it," Edith says. Since he had already tied an un-triumphant "Halladay Fly," Halladay named the new fly for Adams, his long-time friend and fishing partner.

News spread of the Adams fly's phenomenal ability to lure trout. Soon Halladay was filling orders, tying each fly with his unmistakable long-wear knot and boxing and shipping them himself. "My father had orders on his desk up until the day he died," Edith says. "Each year the Seagrams whisky people from Canada would place an order for the flies to give as gifts." Despite the fly's remarkable success, Halladay continued his daily duties at Halladay House, a retreat he'd run since 1903 for loggers and downstate hunters and fishermen attracted to Up North waters. Halladay would take his guests by wagon each morning on a quest for brown and brook trout on the Boardman River, stopping shoreside only long enough to eat the lunch prepared by his wife Rilla.

"They came so often, they were like family to us," Edith says. And after a long day, Edith says her father still found quiet repose fishing the pond in front of the hotel.

Today the pond is part of the 35-acre Mayfield Park, the property donated to Paradise Township by the Biedermans of Traverse City and the Halladay family. The park is a tribute to the creation of the Adams, to honor the small-town roots of a dry fly now ubiquitous in the fishing world.

A 10-minute hike past tamaracks and jack-in-the-pulpits brings you to an overlook of the pond. Take a few minutes pondside to cast a line into the same quiet coolness Len Halladay knew. Be sure to bring along an Adams or two...chances are, you just might catch something.



Club Trips for 2015

YASH ISEDA, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Here are the Club Trips for the next couple of months. Join us!

2015 Trips:

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
May 3–8	Green River, Utah by Jeff Sadler; Pre-Trip: April 29 th .
Jun. 6	Saltwater Smorgasbord; Pre-Trip: June 3 rd .
May 3–8	The Brookie Bash! by Mark Flo; Pre-Trip: July 1 st .

Trip locations and dates are subject to change so monitor Target Talk or the Web Calendar for the latest information. Pre-Trip Meetings are held at the clubhouse starting 7:00 PM. Please contact me if you have any suggestions or questions at yiseda@verizon.net.

Fly of the Month: Hairhead Charlie

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

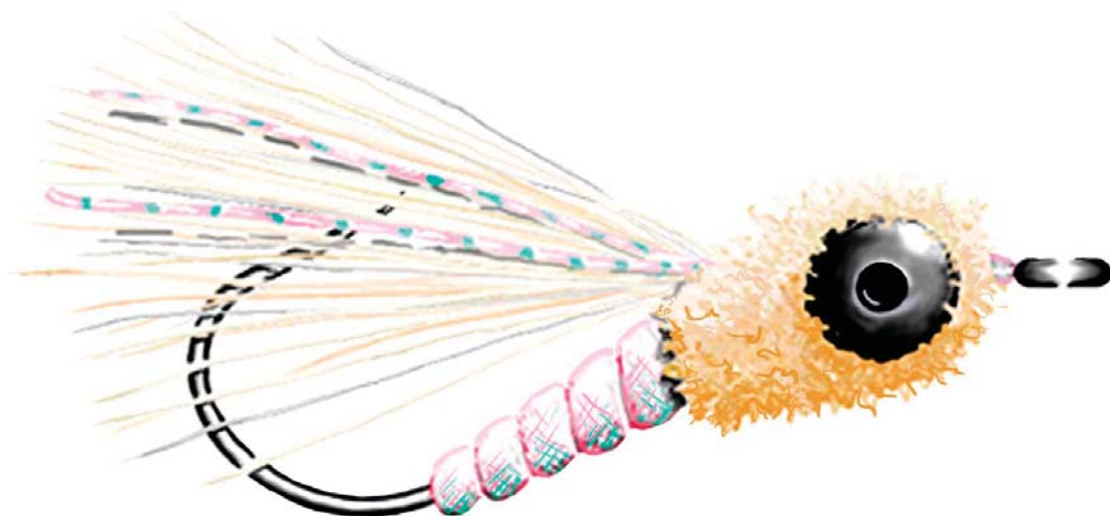
There are few types of fishing experiences that rival bonefishing. First you realize that you have placed yourself in a tropical paradise with coconut palms swaying in the breeze along the shoreline. As you gaze out across the expanse of water you begin to see the incredible color combinations of blue and green. When you peer into the water, searching for the elusive bonefish, you see the quantity and diversity of life that exists beneath its surface. All of this and you haven't even wet a line or caught a fish yet.

To catch a bonefish you must first be able to see it and then, like a trout, fool it. They have huge eyes that seem to see everything and as Lefty Kreh so accurately stated *"they feed and swim in a constant state of alarm and probably die from ulcers"*. The fun begins when you hook one and that first run begins. Tell me, when was the last time a two pound trout took out your entire fly line? Never, *right???*

For the **"GHOST OF THE FLATS"**, the fly that has consistently proved to be one of the best and most consistent producers for me and others is this adaptation of the Crazy Charlie. The Hairhead Charlie is easy to tie and works over a wide range of circumstances. It has taken fish in Belize, the Bahamas, the Yucatan and Christmas Island. For Christmas Island this is my absolute favorite fly for the white marl flats on the island. An additional color suggestion for Christmas Island, especially the tan colored marl flats, would be a yellow Diamond Braid body, brass eyes and a light brown wing and head.

Materials for tying the Hairhead Charlie:

- Hook: Mustad 3407 cadmium plate or 34007 stainless steel in sizes 1/0 to 8; hook to be bent into a bend-back style (see the diagrams on the next page).
- Thread: White 6/0.
- Eyes: Small silver bead chain or small chrome plated lead dumb bells (for deeper flats and higher tidal conditions).
- Body: Pearl Diamond Braid.
- Wing: Natural colored (off-white) calf tail with pearl Krystal Flash.
- Head: Natural cream or off-white colored angora goat hair or seal substitute dubbing.



Instructions for tying the Hairhead Charlie:

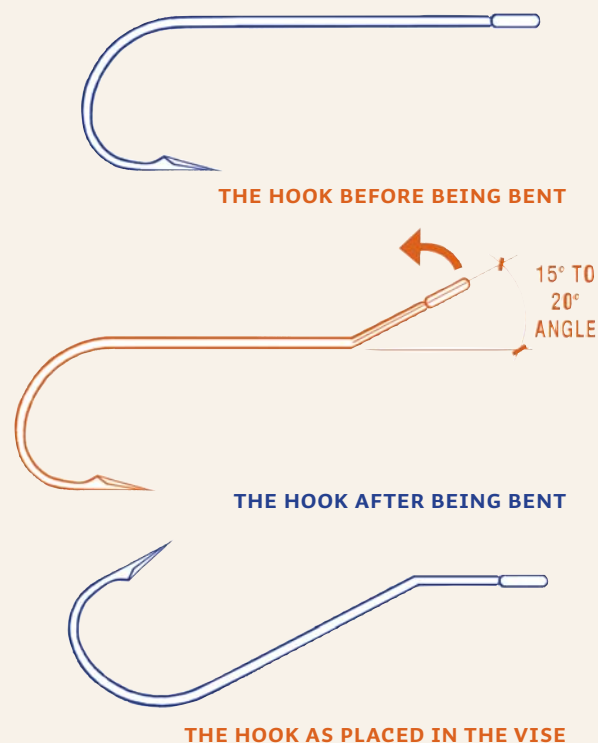
1. Prepare the hook by first bending the eye upwards at a 10 to 15 degree angle from a point about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the shank length behind the eye of the hook. Place the hook into the vise with the point up the eye straight section behind it horizontal and attach your thread at the head space. Wind back to the bend in the shank that you just made in the and tie in a pair of bead chain eyes on the underside of the hook using X-wraps. Add a drop of head cement to the wraps for the eyes to insure their strength. Zap-A-Gap or something similar is perfect—strong, quick drying and water resistant. Wind down to the bend of the hook.
2. Tie in the pearl Diamond Braid, advance the thread to a point just behind the eyes and wind the Diamond Braid to that same spot.
3. Tie in a small clump of calf tail whose length should extend a short distance beyond the hook. Avoid using too much hair in the wing. It should disguise the hook, not hide it. Tie in two strands of Krystal Flash on either side of the wing.
4. Dub the head material onto the thread and wind up to eyes and X-wrap around them continuing forward to the headspace. Form a small, neat head and whip finish. Apply a drop of lacquer to the head.

A Quick Note or Two:

I like to sharpen my saltwater hooks before I tie the fly—I end up filing off less of the fly that way. It does have a huge and painful drawback however. With hook pointing up you can cut your thread often or more importantly yourself. The solution is to place a section of wire insulation or an old cut up fly line over the sharp point. Just be sure to take it off before you start fishing—it plays all kinds of hell when setting the hook.

Calf tail can be too white. A way to give a light tan or dirty white color, soak the calftail over night in your old coffee and a tablespoon of distilled white vinegar.

How to Prepare a Bend-Back Hook:



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Tony Lue and Fishing the Bitterroot

PABLO GRABIEL, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

May's presenter Tony Lue is a Montanan guide. With an academic background in biology, Tony originally went to work with the National Park Service and the BLM. Stationed at Missoula for the last 15 years of his service, Tony patrolled the Blackfoot River Basin. Every day, Tony met and dealt with fishermen and women. During his patrols, Tony observed the streams within his area of responsibility. He had to venture throughout the Bitterroot River watershed and learned intimately its main stem and tributaries.

With his retirement from service with the BLM, Tony began his follow his passion. When he was 24 years old and a graduate from college he was introduced to fly fishing. This started a life long love, and now living



in the Bitterroot Valley he is able to pursue fly fishing full time for his own pleasure and as a guide.

Tony and his wife and two boys are fortunate to live only a mile away from the Bitterroot-Selway Wilderness. There they pursue outdoor activities and exploring. Guess what, Tony and his wife Julie are raising their boys to love the outdoors and fly fishing. All of this ties in nicely with Tony's second career, namely introducing and guiding other fly fishers to the Blackfoot watershed. With his years of working in the area, his intimate knowledge of the Blackfoot and its tributaries helps provide an amazing experience to those that like to walk and wade, Tony's specialty.

Come Thursday, May 26th and learn what you need to know to truly experience the best of fishing the Blackfoot.

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2015-2016 Dates: October 31–November 1, 2015; December 12–13, 2015; February 5–6, 2016; March 5–6, 2016.

ADVANCED ON THE RIVER CLINIC: You will be introduced to the increasingly popular Czech and other European nymphing techniques. You will learn both short and long-line methods and how to tie these rigs. You will be amazed at how effective these methods of subsurface fishing are, and your understanding will help you improve in other areas of fly fishing.

2015-2016 Dates:

November 14–15, 2015; February 5–6, 2016; March 19–20, 2016.

Both clinics are limited to a maximum of 6 students. A **\$300** tuition includes two full days of on-the-stream instructions and stream-side lunch. Not included are lodging, tackle, other meals, licenses and transportation. Dates are subject to change based on local conditions.



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Calendar of Events

May

3-8	Weekend		Club Trip: Green River, Utah
4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
10	Sunday		Mother's Day
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
20	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Monthly Noon Luncheon
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
27	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting

June

1	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
2	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
3	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
			Pre-Trip Meeting: Saltwater Trip
6	Weekend		Club Trip: Saltwater Smorgasbord, Surf & Bay
9	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
10	Wednesday	7:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
16	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
17	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Monthly Noon Luncheon
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
23	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
24	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting.
30	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games

July

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Pre-Trip Meeting: Brookie Bash
6	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
8	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
9-11	Weekend		Club Trip: Brookie Bash
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
15	Wednesday	12:00 PM	Monthly Noon Luncheon
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Casting Games
22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
28-31	Weekend		ACA Nationals
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum



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