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Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

JULY 2017

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(562) 433-9408

Leader's Line...

From Alamitos Bay to Bristol Bay

MARK FLO, PRESIDENT

The On the Bay Clinic led by Kevin Green was a HUGE success. We caught fish. Kevin has written a great pamphlet on fly fishing salt water bays, and at the pre-trip he shared with us the knowledge which he has acquired over many years of saltwater fly fishing. Nine people showed up at Los Alamitos Bay on Saturday morning: Kevin Green, John Stine, Betty Swart, Maria Rivas, Terry Komisak, Pat Kudo, Bob Shepard, Dennis Hacker and Mark Flo.

To my surprise, Betty Swart and Maria Rivas were on the water. The last time I talked to Maria about the joys of float tubing, she told me “*absolutely not!*” So to spy her out on the water, pushing her comfort zone, was amazing. And she was trying out new techniques! She even landed a 15-inch Bay Bass. Mick Woodbury arrived in time for lunch afterward. Most of us ordered and enjoyed fish tacos (what else?).

On the topic of saltwater fishing, our June presentation by the Coastal Conservation Association was about the use and conservation of our saltwater fisheries. We need a voice for both saltwater and freshwater fisheries and conservation, so future generations can use and enjoy our fisheries and outdoor areas.

If you have not seen the documentary “Rivers of a Lost Coast”, it is well worth your time. It's the story of how some of the great rivers in Northern California were impacted by the degradation of the watershed. Rob Peterson did a great article on conservation in January, including how the Western Rivers Conservancy is

working to save the wild river systems that are left.

A major wild fisheries issue is the Pebble Mine in Alaska. It was given a go-ahead by the EPA to start the permit process. If you have ever fished Bristol Bay, you know what is at stake. Every fishing conservation group is opposed to it including Trout Unlimited, Cal Trout, Orvis, Patagonia, North Face and REI.

The combined Bristol Bay fishery is valued at \$1.5 billion and supports over 14,000 jobs, including commercial fishermen. The Bristol Bay watershed has the largest wild salmon run and trophy rainbow trout population in the world. If maintaining it is important to you, you can join Trout Unlimited and give to the No Pebble Mine Fund: <http://www.tu.org/get-involved/joining-trout-unlimited>.

There is also the take action page: <http://www.savebristolbay.org/take-action>.

Leader's Line continues on page 3...

Shooting after High Noon (Line, that is)

COLIN KUMABE, CAPTAIN

Shooting line is the release of the fly line at the stop of the rod on either the back cast or the forward cast. Shooting the line by using single haul or double haul casts is accomplished with a pull of the line when the rod is near the 1:00 position on the back cast, and the 10:00 position on the forward cast.

Single and double hauls add extra load to your already loaded rod. The stronger pull of the line can mean longer casting distances. Very simple, right? Nope! The timing is crucial and less is usually more! Follow this link to see Joan Wulff demonstrate and explain how to do the double haul cast: <https://vimeo.com/70578415>. Please note that Joan uses visual aids to demonstrate the application of the haul near the stop positions.

A great place to learn and practice shooting line, single haul casts and double haul casts is at the Long Beach Casting Club Pond! The best time to practice adding distance with the pull of the line is “after high noon” in your casting stroke, no matter what time of the day it really is.

Remember to stop your rod firmly at the 1:00 and 10:00 positions to transfer stored energy to the line...to place your fly into water previously unreachable without a double haul. You should note that the abrupt stop of the rod is much more important to getting distance than the single or double haul, so keep the basics of fly casting in mind. Better casting results in catching more fish!

Special thank you to everyone that helps to keep the LBCC Pond clean, and casting targets in the correct locations.

Best wishes to casters heading to the American Casting Association National Tournament, hosted by the Fly Casters of San Jose on July 27 thru 30, 2017.



See you at the LBCC Pond!

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Saltwater on the Fly with Captain Bill Matthews

TERRY KOMISAK, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Our speaker for July is Captain Bill Matthews. Bill has a saltwater “on-the-fly” guide service, and will be talking about local fly fishing opportunities. Here’s an excerpt or two from his website:

“Capt. Bill Matthews is your guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing in Los Angeles and Orange County areas. Malibu to Long Beach including Santa Catalina Island are all part of our 'home' waters. Surf fishing, Inshore or the Island, are all possible in Southern California. We offer full & half day service that includes, world class tackle and a great lunch. Our 18 ft. Edgewater has everything you need for the day on the water and is completely rigged for fly fishing and light tackle.

“We also love teaching, so if you are a beginner or just need a little tune up, we can help. I’ll be there to help with casting, tips on how to present the fly or how to fight the fish.”

A little biography on Bill, also from the website: “With over 25 years of guiding Southern California’s local inshore waters and as one of the first saltwater fly fishing-specific guides in Southern California, Capt. Bill is way ahead of the curve. His clients come back time and time again because of his detailed preparation, gracious service and a drive to provide the best fishing opportunities.

“Bill grew up fishing the White Mountains in Northern Arizona chasing wild trout and many years later was introduced to the world of saltwater through fishing Redondo Harbor for Bonito. It was a true fish addiction! He has pursued saltwater species on both coasts of the U.S., Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica, Bahamas, Belize, Venezuela, Brazil, Christmas Island in the South Pacific as well as Canada.

Bill is an International Fly Fishing guide, a member of



the Fly Fishing International and a lifetime member of the IGFA. He’s a pro staff member for Sage Fly Rods, Hatch Reel, Rio Fly Lines, Smith Optics and Simms. Bill has been awarded the “Larry Hampt Saltwater Fly Fisher Award” by the Pasadena Casting Club,, and is a past “Saltwater Bass Association” competitor.

Come join us Thursday, July 27th at the clubhouse.

From Alamitos Bay to Bristol Bay... Leader's Line cont'd from page 1

Below is a link to the letter from Sportsmen Bristol Bay to the White House, with 9½ pages listing all the organizations opposing the Pebble Mine:

https://www.eenews.net/assets/2017/04/28/document_gw-01.pdf.

I am passionate about having wild places to go, to experience them for myself, and having wild fish that can still be fished. If you are also passionate, please contact both your U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative by email or phone and ask them to save Bristol Bay from mining.

Volunteers BBQ: Please RSVP Mark Flo at Markcflo@yahoo.com or call 562-743-7434 So I can purchase the correct amount of ribs...MMMMMMM.

Piru Creek Rainbow Trout to Long Beach Casting Club: We're Baaaaaack!

TERRY KOMISAK, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

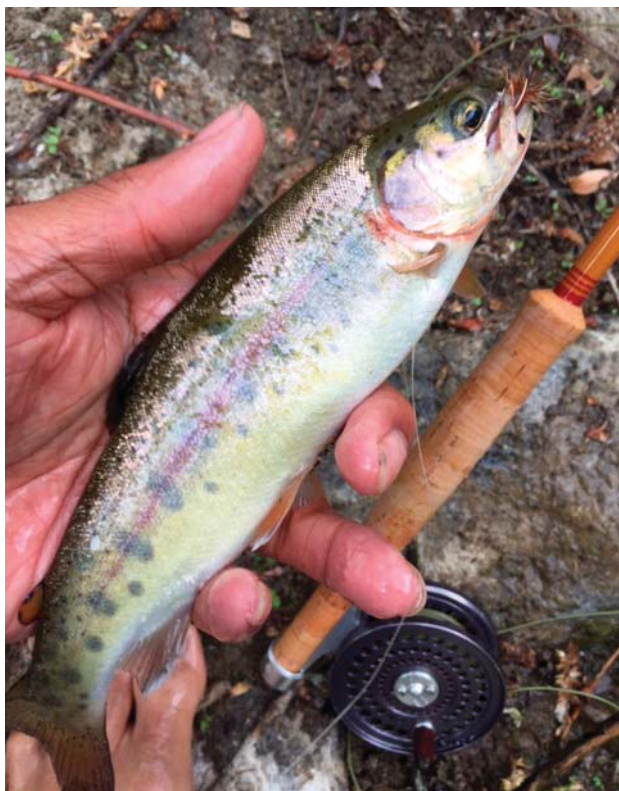
The Piru Creek trip on May 6 turned out to be a pleasant surprise for the 12 club members in attendance. There was a bit of a chill in the air and a threat of rain, somewhat a surprise because Southern California had been warming up.

The location was one that the club had frequented in the past, with Jeff Sadler as leader, but few of the newer members were aware of it. The popularity of the creek had fallen off due to, I think, inconsistent flows and trash littering the canyon.

So the surprise was that the creek was flowing clear, clean and cold and there were fish to be caught. They were apparently holdovers from earlier DFG stockings that had survived the drought. These

trout, although not large, were eager to attack dries and streamers.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: it's nice to hear that Piru is once again flowing well and that the trout are biting. Those of us "longer in the tooth" with the club will remember that Jeff called this trip "Piru-mania". My first case of "Piru-mania" was in 1997. It was the first time I put up significant numbers—over 30 to hand with one or two over 12 inches. It would be great if newbies to the club could once again have that kind of experience... Rob].



Club Trips for 2017

ART DAILY, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

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

2017 TRIPS:

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
July 14–17	Brookie Bash w/ Mark Flo (Pre-Trip: July 5)
August	TO BE DETERMINED
Sept. 9	Yards & Inches with Mick Woodbury (Pre-Trip: August 30)
Sept. 10–16	Missouri River, Montana w/Art Daily: (Pre-Trip: September 6)
Oct. 2	Pyramid Lake w/??? (Pre-Trip: September 20)
Nov./Dec.	to be determined: the club is looking for "streamkeepers" and destinations. If you've got an idea, let us know!

Trip locations and dates are subject to change so monitor Target Talk or the Web Calendar for the latest information. Pre-Trip Meetings are usually held at the clubhouse starting 7:00 PM. Be sure to check here or the club's website calendar to confirm the time.

Please contact me if you have any suggestions or questions at dailya42@yahoo.com.

Youth will be Served! Fly Tying Forum Adds a Kids' Class!

DAVE BOYER, MEMBER

Need a new "go to fly" for that favorite fishing spot? The Wednesday Night Fly Tying Forum has had some great tiers showing small flies using newer materials. John Van Derhoof, Howard Uller and Art Strauss have piqued our interest with small flies that would do well on any water: Hot Creek, The Green River, Owens, Crowley or wherever your "secret spot" is.

Join us to see some of the best tiers in the Club use newer materials to tie old favorites, and possibly something your "fish" has not seen but will be enticed to try!

This fall, we are excited to announce a program targeted toward the youth. For those that are ages about 8 to 14, in September, we will be having four nights of tying classes. Stay tuned for details as we get closer and closer to September, and if you have children or grandchildren, this would be a great opportunity to get them involved with a sport we love: fly fishing.

If you are interested in tying, please contact me at dboyer@glodesigns.com and I can get you more information on any of our programs: the Wednesday



Night Forum, The Beginning Classes and the new Youth Tying.

Coming Soon to the Long Beach Casting Club: Fun With a Tenkara Rod !

ART DAILY, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Attention Club members! Stay tuned for a one day local Tenkara rod trip for blue gill in Yorba Linda. Art Strauss is putting together a local trip so that all you Tenkara rod members can get that rod out and catch some local blue gill.

It's still in the planning stages but we should have more information about it very soon that will come to you in a future email blast!

Don't miss out on this great opportunity!

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Milt Huber—Soldier, Scholar and Fly Fisher Extraordinaire...

ROB PETERSON, EDITOR

It was a shock to all of us, though we knew it was coming, when Jeff Sadler passed away. His singular perspective on life and fly fishing was inspiring as much as it was entertaining. Jeff's death caused an outpouring of emotion that was unprecedented in my little fly fishing world. Unprecedented that is, except for one other person: Milt Huber.

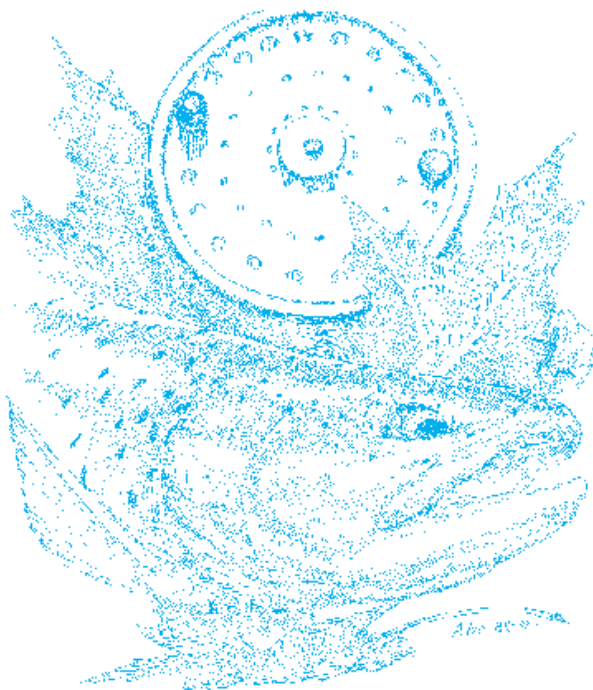
Actually, Milt wasn't a soldier; he was a sailor. I didn't find that out until I went to his funeral, an amazing spectacle which I'll get to a little later, and saw a picture of him in a sailor's uniform with his wife. They were a young and good-looking couple. It was hard to reconcile it with the image I still have of Milt: a fly fishing-obsessed old guy with permanently messy, white Einstein hair, hands that smelled of resin from the rod-building class and a perennially kind and gentle disposition.

Those of us with some mileage on us and a few more years in the club will remember Milt as a fantastic and patient instructor in all phases of our singular art, but especially casting, fly tying and rod building. He's the guy who got me into fly fishing, for whatever that's worth. His favorite comment while reviewing my first attempts at tying the Parachute Adams, which resembled dust bunnies more than mayflies, was "The fish don't

care."

To illustrate just how patient a man Milt was, it might be instructive to focus on one of his most challenging students: me. So let me tell you how I first became interested in fly fishing, met Milt and was introduced to the Long Beach Casting Club.

It was the summer of 1996, and after a year or two of arguing about getting our kids into camping (I was "pro", my wife Julie was "con") Julie surprised me by booking a few days at a campground on Lake Yellowstone, borrowing a huge Coleman family tent from her dad and announcing that we were going camping. There followed a memorable "National Lampoon's Summer Vacation"-style road trip, and we found ourselves at the lake.



Our first day's sight-seeing took us to the Hayden Valley, where I saw my first fly fisherman, gently casting on the Yellowstone River at a day-use area called "Buffalo Ford". There is something about the way fly line loops and straightens out that is intoxicating to watch, and makes the fisherman seem like a part of the landscape, rather than a spectator. I had to try it.

Unfortunately, my experience with fishing was limited to going to the Kern River once with my best friend and his dad, followed

by two or three times in a rented skiff, fishing for bonito in Redondo Beach's King Harbor with my Junior Life Guard buddies. I think I was 11 years old at the time.

There was a tackle shop at the lake and the guy had three Zebco spinning rods for rent. That seemed perfect, as I had three boys. He put barbless artificial

lures on them and handed them to me. I had to ask him to show me how to open and close the bale, to cast them.

The next day found us at another Hayden Valley day use area on the Yellowstone: Otter Creek. I handed a rod to my eight-year old, Chris, and showed him how to cast it. His first effort caught me by the seat of my jeans, so I decided I should do it for him. My own cast resulted in our first major catch: a lodgepole pine. The lure broke off out of reach. Almost at the same time, my oldest son Matt announced that he had broken his own lure off on a rock. We were now down to one lure, which was being fished by Scott, our four-year old. Total elapsed time: approximately three and a half minutes.

After an additional fifteen seconds, Scott yelled to us: "Dad, something's wrong! It won't reel!" My one consoling thought was that, at slightly under four minutes, this disaster had not taken a significant chunk of our day. I looked at my son Matt. He was staring intently at Scott, and then sprinted toward him. Moments later they were working together, reeling in a beautiful 14 inch Yellowstone cutthroat trout, and I was forever, to use the obvious word, "hooked".

Not long after we got home, our local paper ran a feature about a guy who ran a fly shop from a mobile home parked in his front yard, with a big American flag on it. And that's how I met Milt. He sold me three fairly inexpensive fly rods. He gave my two

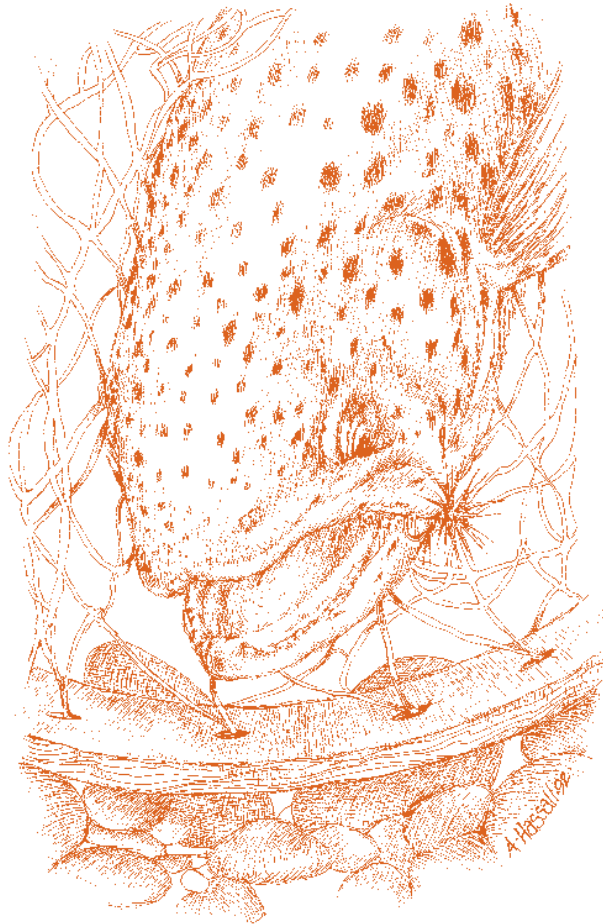
older kids and me a casting lesson or two at a stretch of blue ribbon water known as "Alondra Park". He had a copy of TARGET TALK as well as the South Bay Fly Fishers' FLYLINE; I joined both clubs.

I soon learned that Milt had a penchant for stretching the truth, for fun and profit. At our first fly tying class at South Bay Fly Fishers in Westchester, Milt asked each class member to introduce himself and tell why he had enrolled. When I mentioned that I wanted to save money on flies, I wasn't prepared for the resulting general hilarity. By the time people were finished rolling on the floor and wiping their eyes, I had to face it: Milt had hoodwinked me. As we all know, tying flies to save money on fishing is about as smart as taking up hunting to save money on meat.

I was also surprised and alarmed to find no 14" goldens in the Cottonwood Lakes. When I called Milt on this particular "stretcher", as Huckleberry Finn would call it, he burst out laughing once more.

On the other hand, Milt was always there to bail me out when things went south. I remember taking my son on a club trip to fish Crowley Lake at Hilton Bay. The inflatable raft we brought, which came well recommended, lasted just about the same amount of time as our Yellowstone fishing adventure.

Fortunately we didn't have time to get far from



Milt Huber, continues on page 8

shore before it began to leak. Dad was frantically paddling back to shore while Chris bailed water with his cupped hands. We made it by the skin of our teeth. When he realized that this left us without a watercraft to float the lake, Milt abandoned his own float tube and spent the morning helping Chris to catch some very nice trout.

Milt helped me build my first two fly rods. We put the resin on the wraps in his shop. The first was a five weight, the second a seven-and-a-half foot three weight which had especially intricate wrappings. I was really proud of it. I fished with it once on San Antonio Creek, and caught a few nice little rainbows.

Then, on a subsequent trip to the West Fork, I was backing out of my driveway and heard the unmistakable crunch of a tire rolling over graphite; I'd left the rod resting on the back of my van, and paid the price (just so you know, there's only one guy in the club who gives me serious competition for the Long Beach Casting Club

JACKASS LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD (a good topic
for a future article!)

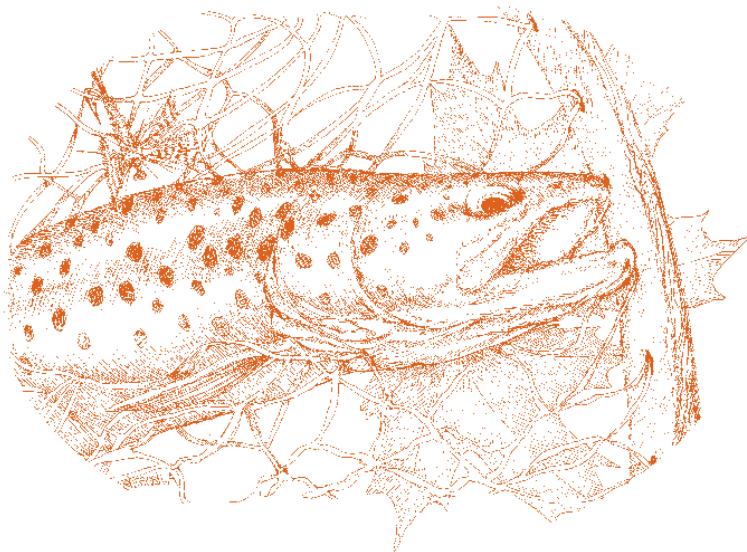
I called Milt to commiserate and he laughed at me! I guess over the course of the years I gave him even more laughs than he gave me.

Somewhere on a shelf in my office is a little three by five card, with Milt's pencil-written recommendations for standard West Fork flies: Parachute Adams, Black Gnat Parachute, Blue-Winged Olive, Prince Nymph and Pheasant Tail Nymph (sorry, Mr. Sadler, the Royal Wulff didn't make the cut). I tied all of these in his class, and the first fish I caught on my own fly was at the West Fork with a Black Gnat Parachute, after a DFG warden had told me no one was having

any luck on dries. I'm still absurdly proud of that fish.

I don't think there was anyone in either the Long Beach Casting Club or the South Bay Flyfishers who worked any harder for the sport of fly fishing than Milt Huber. So when we found out that he had cancer, it was quite a shock. Milt was in his 80s by that time, but that didn't matter, at least to me. It was hard to imagine either the casting club or the world at large without Milt Huber. So we hoped and prayed that he would beat his illness, and went on about our lives.

But time went on, and it became more and more clear that he wasn't getting better. I was busy with work and coaching kids' sports teams, and wasn't doing much fly fishing, but every now and then I'd make a trip to the East or West Fork of the San Gabriel, and I'd make it a point to stop in to the shop and see him. Each time, he looked noticeably and depressingly thinner.



Then a few months went by with no fishing, and bleaker and bleaker reports of Milt's health. I decided to pay him a visit, fishing or no fishing, before he became too weak and a visit would be too much of a burden for him. I'd just buy a handful of flies I didn't need, and talk a little fly fishing. There was no one who loved to talk fly

fishing any more than Milt.

I drove over and rang the little bell by the motor home, Milt's old signal that a customer was there. Instead of Milt emerging from the front door, his wife answered it and told me to come on in.

Milt was sitting on the couch, looking frail and worn.

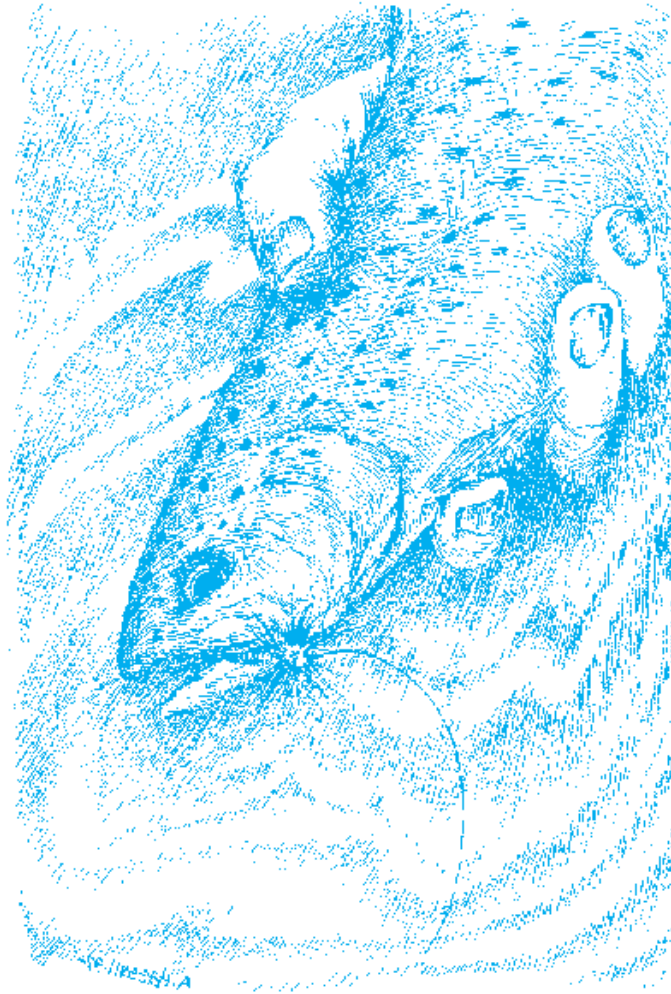
I told him to stay there, that I was just here for a visit, but he wouldn't hear of it. He grabbed a cane and made his slow way along the front walk to the shop. I wished I hadn't come.

But once in the shop, he brightened and grew stronger before my eyes. We talked about old times. He pulled out one of his favorite pictures, one I'd seen a thousand times: he was holding a trout and grinning from ear to ear, with Oregon's Williamson River in the background. He recounted the great day he'd had, with that grin stretching from one ear to the other, just like in the picture. I walked out of the shop feeling cheered and uplifted, a little container of flies in my hand. It was the last time I saw him alive.

But if you're thinking that the rest of the tale is a downer, think again. This was Milt. A month or so later, when I got the news of his passing, I wrote down the details of his funeral service and made sure my calendar was clear. I gave myself plenty of time so I'd be early to the service. That turned out to be a good thing, because there was no place to park! As it turns out, it was the event of the fly fishing season.

I parked a block or two away and got there just as they were opening the doors to the chapel. There was quite a crowd. Not just a large contingent from both the Long Beach Casting Club and the South

Bay Fly Fishers, but hordes of family, friends, fellow fly fishers and well-wishers whose lives Milt had touched in ways large and small. I had a small chance to talk with Jeff Sadler and Mick Woodbury before the proceedings began.



A pleasant looking minister presided over the service, and it was a nice one. But things didn't really start to take off until the minister invited people to share their reminiscences of Milt.

His wife started things off with a harrowing description of some family off-road fishing adventures in the mobile home. Then fly fisher after fly fisher got up to grace, and in many cases roast, Milt with their remembrances. Much of it was touching, but as you might guess, most of it was just plain funny. In my opinion, and you could probably guess this also, Sadler's was the best, but all were memorable.

We were probably halfway through the storytellers when they had to evict us -- another funeral was waiting and we'd run out of time! The minister wrapped things up by saying "This is without a doubt the best funeral I've ever been part of." How often do you hear that?

Milt was one of a kind. If you knew him, the next time you think about stopping yourself before stretching a fishing story, just relax and let it fly. And the next time you mess up a fly and it comes out looking like Quasimodo, remember his best advice: **"The fish don't care."**

Casting Pond Etiquette

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PRESIDENT

As a regular Pond user (okay, truth be told I'm actually a lot more than regular pond user...), I see a lot of interaction between Club members and guests making good use of our facility. It is truly one of this area's most valuable "casting" assets. Sadly, I have also seen a lot of misuse of the Pond as well through inconsiderate actions by members and non-members alike. I can't address this problem to non-members easily but, I can to my fellow members...

Think of using our Pond as fishing at a stream or a lake. Now, think about how close you would get to someone when you're fishing and avoid encroaching on their space.

Let's first address Single-Hand casting where space is never a problem standing around the pond and casting (unless it's the first night of the annual casting clinic!). So having room to cast is a non-issue. When going out to practice, you can usually tell if someone is working on a particular casting problem, so give them room and let 'em work on it. Do not crowd in right next to them and cast when there is almost always plenty of room. Leave at least 12 to 15 feet of space on their casting side so they can practice easily and without fear of whacking you with their 25 foot high density sink tip!

Be aware also that many casters down there are learning how to cast on both sides of their body. Give

them plenty of room on both sides and especially on their non-dominant side where they will have less control.

When walking around the pond and past someone who is casting, be aware of where your rod tip is. Don't walk right up to within 10 feet of them and wait for them to stop with your rod tip straight out in front of you in front of you. Your rod tip is now underneath their back cast and forward cast—it's a great way to shorten your rod. I know this sounds very basic but it happens all the time! Point your rod parallel to their casting; either out over the grass or the water but, never behind you. You don't want to poke someone in the face that you may not know is there. Once they have stopped casting move quickly through so they can get back to work.



Walking on the grass 20 feet behind them isn't a good move either. Now their dropping back cast is going to hit either you or your rod. Take a look first and see how far back their back cast is going and then go at least 15' beyond that. Frankly, the safest place to walk by another caster is right behind them

taking care about where your rod tip is.

If there is someone giving a lesson to a client, please give them plenty of extra room staying well clear of them. Teaching someone to cast often requires the student to cast in different directions either to learn different techniques or to just avoid the wind. Also, remember, the student is under pressure to listen, to think, to perform and having you standing there

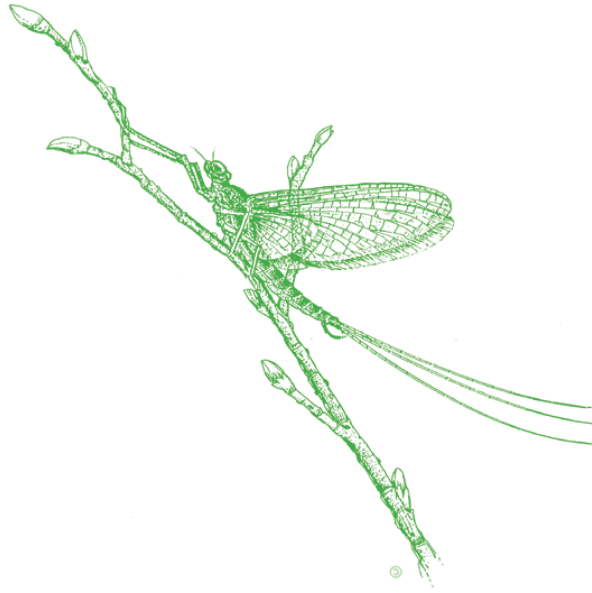
will most likely make them feel self-conscious and inhibit their lesson. We want everyone to become better casters and there is no better place to teach and learn than our Pond.

Do not try to listen in on the lesson. If a student is paying their instructor for the lesson, he or she are certainly not pay them for you to listen in on. It's amazing to me how many people think it's okay to poach a casting lesson by standing close by and listening. As an instructor, I am here to tell you it's not about the money, more importantly, it's about someone who is distracting my client and making it tough for them to learn.

Two-Handed casting has added a whole new Pond use dynamic with its popularity. Casting using two-handed techniques requires that the caster be in the water and use a whole lot more room. When I teach a group class and casting minimal lengths of line (45 to 55 feet) I only work with 5 people in the water. Even with that small number of people, staggered around the Pond, they are casting over each other's lines. Some Wednesdays and especially those when we are having a lunch, I have seen as many as ten to twelve individuals out in the Pond casting at one time. It's a zoo!

There are multiple issues to deal with regarding two-handed casting. First, two-handed casting is about changing direction and dealing with the wind. So give other folks plenty of room—at least a 60 foot radius over 180° arc. Don't know how much 60 feet is? It's easy, our Pond is 130 feet wide by 260 feet long so give them the equivalent of half the width (65 feet) of the Pond. Even the light winds at Pond

cause problems so a 180° arc is needed to adequately practice. Give 'em room! If the targets are in the way move them but, put them back when you are done or you will incur the wrath of the tournament casters—Yikes!.



Second, don't be a Pond Hog! On Wednesdays at noon there are usually more people than most other days so, consequently, there are more people wanting to use the water. Don't go out and cast for 45 minutes or an hour at a time! Keep your casting time in the Pond down to about 15 to 20 minutes and get the hell out so someone else can cast. Want to spend more time in the water then come on less crowded days or time of day.

By the way here is a great casting tip, casting for long durations does not result in better casting. It almost always makes it worse, much worse, because bad techniques and habits creep in as you get tired. Practice a few techniques for 15 or 20 minutes and go rest. Think about what you were doing, MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES and then go back out after a reasonable break. Remember Einstein's definition of insanity: *"doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."*

Finally, don't crowd in on people you don't know. We are in a public park and anyone has the right to use the pond (unless the Club is hosting an event). It sheds a very bad light on you and especially the Long Beach Casting Club.

This is our Pond so use it. But, share it with your fellow casters. Use common sense, courtesy, respect others and enjoy.

Fly of the Month: Hot Creek Micro Caddis

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PRESIDENT

A couple of years ago I was going to go up to Mammoth Veteran's Day weekend with my daughter Nicole and decided to take a look in my fly boxes. I had discussed fly selection with my local expert, Jim Solomon, based on his trip two weeks prior and man, I was woefully low on the style of caddis that had been hatching for him plus the BWOs that were just starting to make their appearance. It was time to hit the vise and crank out some Hot Creek Micro Caddis...

Many of you who have fished Hot Creek are well aware of the Gray Sedge (caddis) that hatch there all year long. As the season progresses the caddis seem to shrink in size; all the while increasing our frustration. The caddis that were working two weeks before my expected trip were size #22 and #24. Now, I really don't want to spend a lot of time trying to tie some fancy or difficult pattern for something this small when there is a pattern that is very simple to tie and effective to fish.

The Hot Creek Micro Caddis is a simple thread body, CDC down wing, peacock herl thorax and one or two turns of dun hackle. Jeez, how simple can you get—okay you can; don't use a hackle and it will still work. The beauty of this pattern is that I wouldn't hesitate to use it during a midge hatch or emerging Blue-Wing Olives. If you're tying this pattern and want to meet all of these three circumstances then take the extra 30 seconds and use the hackle; it really seems to help during the BWO hatches...

Oh, so you want a fly to use someplace other than Hot Creek? Heck, I have used this fly fishing scum suckers and midge hatches on the Green, micro caddis and late season Pale Morning Duns (size #18 & #20) on the Henry's Fork, Callibaetis emergers (size #18) on Lake Hebgen and bank feeding cutthroats on Slough Creek (size #20 & #22), the Lamar (size #18 & #20) and Soda Butte Creek in Yellowstone.

Believe me, this fly works.

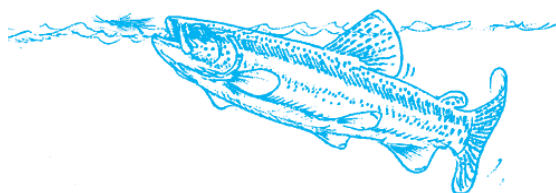
Materials for tying the Hot Creek Micro Caddis:

- Hook: Tiemco #101 (ring eye) in sizes #18–24 (Partridge Vince Marinaro Midge hooks in sizes #20–24 are an excellent choice as well)
- Thread: Uni-Thread 8/0 in bright green or chartreuse
- Body: Your tying thread
- Wing: Natural dark dun CDC or BWO E.P. Triggerpoint fibers tied down wing style
- Thorax: Peacock herl or Peacock Ice Dubbing
- Hackle: Natural or dyed grizzly medium dun trimmed top and bottom
- Optional: 3-6 strands of pale olive, shrimp pink, gold or amber Zelon tail for mayfly emergers



Instructions of tying the Hot Creek Micro Caddis:

- 1 Attach the thread to the hook and wind down to the end of the shank and then back again to the beginning of the thorax. The thorax should be about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the shank length. Since the thread is your body material, then you should take care and wind smoothly minimizing gaps and overlaps to create a smooth body. If you want to tie this specifically as a mayfly emerger like a Blue-Wing Olive, add about 4 to 6 strands of shrimp pink Zelon as a tail. This will imitate the mayflies shuck.
- 2 Select a CDC feather (or Triggerpoint fibers) to use for the wing and using the loose loop technique tie it in so the wing lies flat over the body and extending to or just slightly beyond the end of the body. When fishing this as an emerger you can shorten the wing slightly to make it look more like a wing that has not fully expanded and is therefore an insect not ready to fly away.
- 3 Select a dun colored hackle from the very base of a neck that matches the size of the hook and tie it in with the dull side pointing forward towards the eye. Select a nice, but fairly short fibered strand of peacock herl from the bottom of the "stick" and tie it in with the dull side (the quill side) going forward. Wind the peacock herl forward to the headspace and tie it off. This should be about 4 to 8 turns depending on the size of the fly and the density of the herl.
- 4 Wind the hackle forward about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ turns depending on the size of the fly. The hackle is not really for flotation but simulates legs and just adds to the bugginess of the pattern so keep it simple and don't overdo it. Whip finish a very, very small head and hit it with a coat of head cement. With flies this size, that last thing you want is to leave the eye glogged with cement. So, take a moment and grab something skinny, like the tip of hackle you just wound, and pass it through the eye to clear it out. Now, go have some fun fishin'...



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(Hand deliver to LBCC President or Treasurer or send to LBCC, PO Box 90035 Long Beach, CA 90809)



Christmas Island

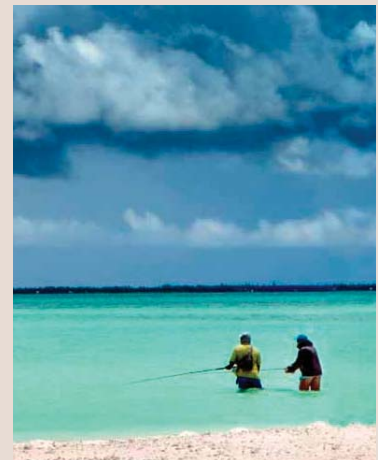
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Calendar of Events

July

5	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Brookie Bash Pre-Trip
10	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
11	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
12	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
14-16	Weekend		Club Trip: Brookie Bash
18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
19	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
26	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
27-30	Week		ACA National Tournament, San Jose, California
27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Bill Matthews on Salt Water Fly Fishing

August

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
8	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
9	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
16	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
19	Saturday	12: 00 PM	Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue!
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
23	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Club Cast
30	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Yards & Inches Pre-Trip
31	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: TO BE ANNOUNCED

September

4	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Kids' Fly Tying Class
6	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
		7:00 PM	Missouri River, Montana Pre-Trip
9	Saturday	9:00 AM	Club Trip: Yards & Inches
10	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
10-15			Club Trip: Missouri River, Montana
12	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Kids' Fly Tying Class
13	Wednesday	9:00 AM	Conservation Team at San Gabriel
		7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
17	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
19	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Kids' Fly Tying Class
20	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
24	Sunday	9:00 AM	Club Cast
26	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Kids' Fly Tying Class
27	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
28	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: TO BE ANNOUNCED



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