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Target Talk

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

AUGUST 2020

WWW.LONGBEACHCASTINGCLUB.ORG

Leader's Line...

Improving the Club? It Starts with a Suggestion...

STEVE JONES, CLUB PRESIDENT

It has been a long time since we met together as club members and it certainly is a strange time to be the Club President, but the desire to stay in touch through phone and Zoom communications is there, which is great to see. It is also great to see many of our club members using this down-time by suggesting ways to improve our club. Like myself many of us are taking advantage of this time away by coming up with suggestions on how we can improve our club.

Some of the suggestions that we have received are: 1) Improve delivery of our Zoom monthly meetings and increase the numbers of participants; 2) Update and improve our website; 3) Create professional fly tying videos; 4) Update our technology at the clubhouse; 5) Prepare ourselves for the opening of the club and; 6) Attempt to offer club trips for those who feel comfortable fishing at this time. We are working on these areas. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional suggestions for club improvement.

As we prepare for the opening of the clubhouse we need to have some rules and some new equipment to keep us safe. With that said we present the following: *"If you come into the clubhouse without a mask we will have to take your temperature!"* P.S. We only have rectal thermometers (I just had to throw that one in there)! On a more serious note I thought you should know that we are going to set up a portable hand sanitizer station on the clubhouse porch, along with two additional wall mounted units inside the clubhouse. These sanitizing stations will be set up as soon as the City of Long Beach approves the use of the clubhouse again. We thought we were getting close to receiving this City approval but then the numbers spiked...so who knows when we will be able to open up.

Let's keep communicating and sharing ideas! Please join us on Zoom for our monthly meetings. They really are getting better. We will be recording most of these Zoom meetings in the future and will soon have a library for club members to access this information.

Stay safe and keep busy. That is the key.

Club Trips for 2020

MARC BONVOULOIR, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
July 23-26	Brookie Bash w/ A. Palomares, Pre-Trip July 11, 9:00 AM, "Brookie Bash Day" is July 25
July 24	Sierra Tenkara Event w/ C. O'Dell, Pre-Trip July 11, 9:00 AM - Cancelled
August 1	Local Tenkara event at Laguna Lakes 8:00 AM w/ Art Strauss
August 9	On The Bay Salt Trip w/ Kevin Green 6:00 AM, Pre-Trip July 22 7:00 PM
Aug. 9-13	Conejos River, Pre-Trip Aug. 1, 9:00 AM - Cancelled
Aug. 25-30	Eastern Sierra Backpack w/ Jim Garvey McGee Trail, Pre-Trip August 18, 7:00 PM
Sept. 12-16	Eastern Sierra Backpack w/ Jim Garvey 20 Lakes Basin, Pre-Trip September 3, 7:00 PM
Sept. 13-17	Southern Utah Fish with the 'Quiet Fisherman', w/ T. Komisak, Pre-Trip August 29, 9:00 AM
Sept. 19	Yards & Inches Trip w/ Mick Woodbury, Pre-Trip Sept. 12, 9:00 AM
Oct. 5-9	Green River w/ C. Kumabe, Pre-Trip Sept. 26, 9:00 AM
Oct. 12-16	Green River w/ Y. Iseda, Pre-Trip Sept. 26, 9:00 AM
Nov. 7-10	Northern California Steelhead Trip w/ M. Bonvouloir, Pre-Trip October 31, 9:00 AM

Trip deposits for 'double occupancy' trips which require deposits in advance are non-refundable. If you cancel, your money will be refunded only if another club member replaces you.

Trip locations and dates are subject to change, so monitor Target Talk or the Web Calendar for updated information. Pre-Trip Meetings are usually at the clubhouse starting at 7:00 PM. Check here or the club's website calendar to confirm the time. Please contact Marc Bonvouloir if you have any questions at: mrmlb21@gmail.com.



Got Photos?

If you have a great photo that would be of interest to your fellow members send it along to our Social Media guy, Tom O'Brien. It just might end up on Facebook or Instagram! Send 'em to Tom at: obrien579@yahoo.com

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John Sherman & the Sacramento Delta!

BOB MAYFIELD, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

John Sherman will be speaking to us on the topic of flyfishing the Sacramento Delta (his local waters). Our meeting will be held via ZOOM and, if allowed by State and City of Long Beach, also in the Clubhouse.

ZOOM LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86934564099?pwd=YXQ4TW9VY1RncVF1UjN4R1g0MkhFQT09>

MEETING ID: 869 3456 4099

PASSWORD: 312513

John is the Simms Fishing Products and Hatch Outdoors Sales Representative for California, Arizona, and Nevada and Hawaii. John was born and raised in Visalia, California. John learned how to fly fish through Buz's Fly Shop at the age of 8.

Flyfishing has been a passion that has evolved into a career. John graduated from California State University, Chico, with a degree in Business Administration/Marketing. After graduation John spent two months fishing British Columbia's famed steelhead rivers.

While attending Chico State, John guided on the Feather and Sacramento Rivers for steelhead and salmon. John has fished the West Coast from Alaska to the Baja Peninsula for steelhead, salmon, stripers, black bass, trout and numerous blue water species. He has also hosted numerous trips all over the globe including Australia, Russia, Iceland, Mexico, Canada, the Bahamas, Belize, Russia, Argentina and Indonesia, to name a few.

John's photographs have been published in FIELD & STREAM, FLY FISHERMAN, FLY ROD AND REEL, THE DRAKE, FLY FISH JOURNAL, CAL FLY FISHER, NORTH WEST and SOUTH WEST FLY FISHING, to name a



few. He has been documenting his expeditions with a camera since the age of 10. John teamed up with Captain Mike Costello to produce the first and only Fly-Fishing book dedicated to the California Delta, FLY FISHING THE CALIFORNIA DELTA, which was one of the top selling flyfishing books of 2010. John lives in Discovery Bay, CA with his wife Natih, daughter Kalum, son Kasix and dog Portis. His favorite species to take on a fly are steelhead, stripers and any saltwater flats fish.

Bacterial Outbreak at SoCal Hatcheries

JUNE 30, 2020

Several California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) fish hatchery facilities in the Eastern Sierra and Southern California are battling a bacterial outbreak that has the potential to cause significant losses to both hatchery and wild fish populations. The outbreak of *Lactococcus garvieae*, which is similar to streptococcus, has sickened fish at the Mojave River Hatchery and has been detected at both the Black Rock and Fish Springs hatcheries. A fourth CDFW hatchery, Hot Creek Hatchery, was originally quarantined out of caution, but after testing that quarantine has been lifted. For more info see:

<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=180567&inline>

LBCC Saltwater Bay Outing!

MARK FLO, CO-CAPTAIN

The LBCC half-day saltwater bay outing will be Sunday August 9th, starting at 6:00 AM. This will be a float outing on the bay, likely Alamitos Bay. You can social distance in your float tube, kayak, paddle board, battleship or submarine. The pre-trip Zoom meeting will be Wednesday evening, July 22, at 7:00 PM (information below). Your hosts will be Kevin Green and Mark Flo.

You are invited to attend a scheduled Zoom meeting:

TOPIC: **Saltwater Bay Pre-Trip**

TIME: **July 22, 2020 19:00 Pacific Time**

JOIN ZOOM MEETING:

<https://zoom.us/j/91262298428?pwd=VlR4enp2TGhNQ1Z2TzJkMoVxVFN1UT09>

MEETING ID: **912 6229 8428**

PASSWORD: **107559**



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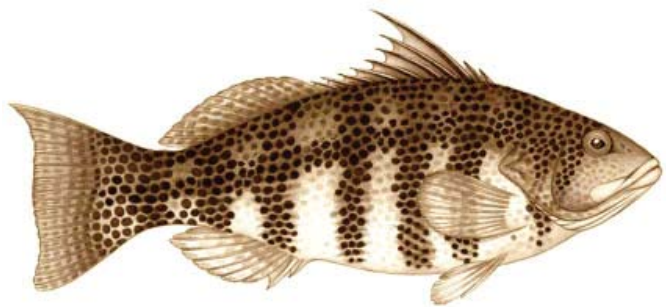
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15% Discount from Chao Hang & Aventik

PAUL BURGNER, MEMBER

Chao Hang of Aventik is offering LBCC members a **15% discount** on the below products. To take advantage of the offer, go to the club page and click on Sponsors. Then click on (Aventik). The Aventik (Amazon) page will come up. Type the ASIN # in the search area (example: ASIN B079NBK9L4). The product will come up.

When checking out use code **THQJVSD5** for the discount. The list and code will change from time to time, and we'll list it in the current Target Talk.

Items for this Month:

- ❖ Line Wallet; red
Asin: B06XXWBTGR
- ❖ Streamer Fly Box; blue
Asin: B01MR4XKPU
- ❖ Sinking Line Black/red, ips 5-6 8fs
Asin: B07Y2YKPRN
- ❖ Crappie/Draft/Ice Fishing Reel
Asin: B0816C5RTX
- ❖ Spinning Rod 6'6" (2.0m) 8-12lb
Asin: B07F73LBXQ
- ❖ Priest; red
Asin: B07F6Z39FP
- ❖ Lead Dumbbell; 4mm w/ 4 colors each 10pc
Asin: B07F65Y19Y
- ❖ Bead Chain
Asin: B07BLTT81Z

Backpacking on McGee Trail with Jim Garvey

COLIN KUMABE, JUNIOR DIRECTOR

This trip is a hike in and out of the McGee Pass Trail to explore and fish the areas around Big McGee Lake/Steelhead Lake, Tully Lake to Grinnell Lake and Fish Creek. Here is the plan:

- ❖ **TUESDAY, AUGUST 25:** we will meet Tuesday evening at the trailhead for a potluck dinner and to acclimatize and organize our backpacks. Please be sure to take only the things you really need! Leaving nonessential items behind makes your backpack light and the whole trip even more enjoyable.
- ❖ **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26:** we'll start hiking very, very early, by 7:00 AM, toward the Big McGee Lake and Pass area, likely camping near Big McGee Lake.
- ❖ **THURSDAY, AUGUST 27 THROUGH SATURDAY, AUGUST 29:** explore and fish the area, possibly finding one or two "base camps" to take day hikes to nearby areas (such as Steelhead Lake, Tully Lake to Grinnell Lake and Fish Creek).
- ❖ **SUNDAY, AUGUST 30:** Hike out along the McGee Trail and drive home.

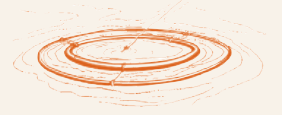
The Pre-Trip meeting is planned for 7:00 PM, Tuesday, August 18, at the LBCC Clubhouse. If the in-person meeting is **not** allowed be held at the clubhouse, then we will hold the meeting using a Zoom video conference.

Jim Garvey will provide in-depth information on the trip, as well as some ultralight backpacking preparation strategies. Feel free to contact him for further assistance with gear selection and preparations.

The **one** option that could be discussed at the Pre-Trip meeting is continuing on the trail and exiting at Rock Creek. This option is very exciting, plus longer distance with interesting challenges.

Captain's Corner

MARK FLO, CO-CAPTAIN



CASTING: due to health restrictions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, the Nationals scheduled for the end of July in Pittsburgh, PA have been cancelled. The ACA Board is considering a postponement till the fall or conducting the 112th National next year.

See the calendar and website for details and status of casting events.

For further reading on the trip, you can check out *SIERRA SOUTH* by Kathy Morey and Mike White, Wilderness Press. This trek is described in trips #49 Steelhead Lake, #51 Big McGee Lake and #52 Rock Creek.

Anyone wishing to join this backpacking trip should email Jim Garvey (jim_garvey@sbcglobal.net) or Colin Kumabe (ctkumabe@gmail.com).

New Club Members

MARK ANGELO,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The Board of Directors approved these new members at the last Board meeting:

- ❖ Jason Averilla, San Diego
- ❖ Travis Broussard, Long Beach
- ❖ Curtis Brundage, Long Beach

Please greet and welcome our new members at the next monthly meeting. Here's wishing them a lifetime of healthy hatches and tight lines. **Members: if you see visitors at our club meetings, let's make them feel welcome and inform them of the activities we have to offer!**

Another of Murphy's Laws

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PREZ

Recently I have been asked by several folks about the rig I use for nymph fishing. It is relatively easy to set up and you can find it in the Club's Lower Owens River Workshop Handbook. However, the funny thing about many of these requests is the complaint of the rig tangling. Even funnier—or maybe not—is the tangling is while putting it together and/or getting from the car to the river before the first cast has been made. I feel your pain and it happens to all of us so here are a few suggestions that can help get you from the car to the river and fishing with minimal aggravation.

Whenever I get to a spot where I will be fishing, the first thing I usually do is check out the river. See what's happening. See if I can actually find fish in the current, holding, feeding, whatever. I also look streamside for any evidence of insects that are hatching or molting, either right then or from the previous day. Once I have gathered what I feel is



enough information to make an educated decision on the type of fishing I will be doing, it's back to the car to grab the appropriate rod. Since I usually have both a nymph rod and dry fly rod mostly ready to go and rarely take two rods to the river at the same time I now have enough info to work with for one of them.

As I said, the rods are “mostly ready to go”. The rods are all strung. If they were fished the day before, I have replaced the tippet on my dry fly rod but usually kept the fly that worked the previous day. On my nymph rod I have replaced all of the tags on my rigs sans flies. Since a bottom weighted, two or three fly nymph

rig is the real culprit in Murphy's Law of Tangling (*“If there is something, anything, tied on, it will tangle”*), let's take a look at how to avoid Murphy.

First, walk down to the river with rod in hand. All of your tags should be tied on and you should have a length of mono or fluoro attached for a bottom weighted rig. No flies and absolutely no weight should be attached at this point. From the tip-top pull out enough line from the reel to work with and place your rod in a location free from plants which love to suck in any unsuspecting fly line, fly or weight. Try not to let the line get in the water, where the current can pull on it and you have to keep pulling it back.

We'll assume you are using a two fly rig, so begin finalizing your setup by tying on the top fly. Once the top fly is tied on place it securely in the fly holder on your vest, tie on the second fly in the rig and anchor it securely in your fly holder.

Now the tough part... Attach the weight(s) to your leader. Always attach them last. They swing with the slightest movement and will wrap around anything. Once the weight is attached, don't let go of it until you are ready to make your first cast. Gently apply some tension on the line from the rod and remove (no jerking) the top fly. While still maintaining light pressure on the line, remove the bottom fly.

Remember, you are still holding onto the weight, right? Good! You have light tension on the line from the rod, so now is the time to let go of the weight. It should barely release from your grip. If you have too much tension on it the rod will unload sharply and Murphy wins again. Lower the line to the water and, with the line pinched under a finger or fingers of your casting hand, pull some line off the reel. Cast and start fishing.

Tangling of a multi-fly rig is almost always caused by inattention and jerky motions. Quick, sharp movements have little place in fly fishing and fly casting and should never, ever be a part of nymph fishing. If this is difficult for you to accomplish, start by having one or two fewer cups of coffee in the morning!



Brookie Bash: 22nd Year!

MARC BONVOULOIR, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

You can't keep a good Brookie Bash down! One of the signature events on the Long Beach Casting Club's trip calendar, the Brookie Bash was slated for removal or at least postponement this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Fortunately we are moving ahead with the Bash on Saturday, July 25, 2020 in Little Lakes Valley.

The Pre-Trip meeting will be Saturday, July 11 at 9:00 AM. The streamkeeper is Armando Palomares. Contact him at 760-644-2755 or a.palomares@sbcglobal.net for details. The Pre-Trip will be via Zoom:

<https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/8099479808?pwd=RoIMogiNmhaVNRdkhoQjdNb1dZZz09>

MEETING ID: **809 947 9808**

PASSWORD: **brooktrout**

Please make lodging arrangements on your own. I for one am camping, starting on Thursday, July 23. There will be a socially distanced pizza party on Saturday and the location is at the McGee Creek parking lot off 395 at 7:00 PM. Bring \$5, a camp chair and drinks of your choice as we rehash(lie) about the fish we caught!

Earn the LBCC special pin "THE SADLER SLAM" by catching all five species of trout that weekend: Brookie, Brown, Rainbow, Cutthroat and Golden.

Remember the immortal words of Jeffrey Sadler:

"Rookies and Brookies are made for each other!"

Saddlebag Lake Backpacking Trip

COLIN KUMABE, PAST PRESIDENT

The Long Beach Casting Club's annual backpacking trip to Saddlebag Lake is scheduled for September 12 thru 15. The group will:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12: We plan to meet Saturday evening, at the Saddlebag Lake Campground for a potluck dinner and acclimatize and organize our backpacks. Be sure to take only what you really need! Leaving nonessential items behind, makes your backpack light and the whole trip even more enjoyable.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13: Start hiking toward 20 Lakes Basin while fishing and enjoying the scenery.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: Day hikes to Lake Coness to catch Golden Trout or fish in some of the smaller streams or lakes.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15: Wake up early, fish, then pack up and hike back to the car.

The Pre-Trip meeting is currently planned for 7:00 PM, Thursday, September 3, at the LBCC Clubhouse. If the in-person meeting is NOT allowed to be held at the clubhouse, then the meeting will be held via Zoom video conference; check the LBCC Calendar for the link. Jim Garvey will provide in-depth information on the trip and ultralight backpacking preparation strategies. Feel free to contact Jim for further assistance with gear selection and preparations.

Anyone wishing to this backpacking trip should email Jim Garvey (jim_garvey@sbcglobal.net) or Colin Kumabe (ctkumabe@gmail.com).



Swinging for Trout

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PREZ

For several years now I have been spending some time on my annual trip to the Green River using a short two-hander (aka: Switch Rod) for trout. Using a rod about 11' long and a 3, 4 or 5 line, I have been swinging soft hackles and small streamers down at Little Hole and have had a lot of fun in the process!

Now it sure seems like there are a lot of Club members who have jumped on board the Trout Spey bandwagon. I am spending a bunch of time helping folks figure out lines for their outfits and am sure there will be a ton of questions arriving about equipment from others who are considering making the same jump. So to help with the process, here are some considerations you will need to make to help with the next step.

CASTING

This is two-handed casting. It is not the same as single hand—it is lot different. Every one of these casts finishes with a Roll Cast. There is not a back cast and a forward cast. You need to learn this before you start fishing or you will have problems and quite likely some pain. Yes, I said **P-A-I-N**. You will, because of the direction of the wind, also need to learn to perform these casts over either shoulder or *“you will have problems and quite likely some pain”* Yup, said it again. Nope, I am not trying to scare you—just inform you of the realities before you make a choice and buy anything.

You will need to work on your Roll Casting skills using two hands on the rod and over both shoulders.

You will, at the very least, need a Double Spey for downstream wind conditions and a Snap C for upstream wind conditions. You can't just do one or we'll have to go back to that *“problem and pain”* thing again. So learn these casts and enjoy them—they truly are a lot of fun and one of the primary reasons people have flocked to this aspect of fly fishing.

RODS

The common name for these two-handed rods is "Switch Rod". Rumor has it that Bob Meiser, a well-known and talented rod builder, coined the name several years ago. They are generally under 12' in length and longer than 10'. The name Switch implies that the user can easily “switch” back and forth between overhead casting and Spey style casting.

That is Bulls!*#!

Yes, a good fly caster can switch back and forth but the average Jane or Joe out there will have major difficulties. The problem

has to do with the lines used. I will get into more detail later but suffice to say that a line that is ideal for overhead casting is terrible for Spey casting and the reverse is equally true. So, my thought here is that, for this article, we will call Switch rods Trout Speys, and you should buy a rod that you will use for two-handed casting and keep your single hand (overhead casting) rods rigged and ready to go for when you need them. Another use for these rods is that some, because of their action, can make reasonable Euro style nymph rods in a pinch.

Rod action for a Trout Spey is much less important than with your single hand rods. So you know, a rod that Roll Casts well will NOT be fast-actioned. You may



still see these descriptions applied to certain models but they are really not that important. There are good Trout Speys rods and there are average ones too. I have personally cast very few bad ones—but they are out there and I would avoid rods made from off-brand blanks—beware blank buyers and rod builders. Most of the major rod makers' products are quite good and that means all the way down to the lower ends of the price scale. Some of the less expensive rods like Echo and Redington are excellent and, with the exception of finish, quality of cork and fittings, they cast as well as rods commanding three or four times as much.

Length of the rod should probably be between 10'-6" and 11'-6", but there are a ton of variations in this so don't disregard a rod just because it is 10'-3" or 11'-9". The line weight for the rod should be 4 or 5 weight, especially if you plan to fish on a river like the Green where the fish can get well into the 20 inch range. A 2 or 3-weight rod is great for smaller fish, but a liability to the survival of a bigger fish which has to be played too long and may not be able to recover. If you want a rod for small summer run steelhead then choose a 6-weight. It will still be fun to fish for trout with it and will better suited to a hard charging steelhead.

LINES

Okay, this is where everything you thought you knew about a Trout Spey rod changes. First, all Trout Spey rods are sized using AFTTA (American Fly Fishing Trade Association) Spey line standards—not single hand line weights. This is where the term "Switch Rod" loses its relevance. Here's an example of what I mean. The AFTTA standard weight for a typical 5-weight fly line is about 135 to 145 grains. This is based on the first 30' of that line. A 5-weight Spey line according to AFTTA standards doesn't even exist, because AFTTA

hasn't updated their specs in the last 10-plus years to reflect the changes in the industry. However, a typical range of 5-weight Spey lines is about 325 to 375 grains. Really? More than twice as much as a single hand line?

If you were to put a 140 grain 5-weight fly line onto a 5-weight Trout Spey, it would probably cast just fine overhead. However it is much too light to perform properly using Spey casts. Since overhead casting means that the entire line is in the air, the full 140 grains± is being used to load the rod. In Spey casting all casts finish with a Roll Cast—don't let anyone tell you different (and there are those that will). When you execute a Roll Cast the entire line isn't in the air, is it? There may be up to 40 % or 50% of your fly line on the water. While that line on the water contributes something to the bend of the rod because of surface tension, only 30% to 50% of the line is in the air, contributing to loading. The 10% to

20% closest to the tip adds very little to the cast. So let's do a little math... a typical 350 grain Spey line and only 40% contributes to the load of the rod so:

$$350 \times 40\% = 140 \text{ grains}$$

Imagine that! The same weight as a single hand 5-weight line.



So what kind of line should you consider? I will suggest that for trout fishing you get an integrated line. That means the head or heavy portion of the line is seamlessly connected to the running portion. Now we could just call it a weight forward line but Spey lingo is different and a store clerk might not understand what you want so we'll stick with integrated. The other choice would be a separate head/shooting head loop to loop attached to a

running line. I would choose the integrated line over the head system for one main reason—more options with regards to fishing. I love to fish two soft hackles on these things and that means my tippet size and strength may be as low as 3 or 4 pounds break strength. An integrated line has no lumpy loop to loop connections to hang in the guides, so less chance of losing a fish that surges at just the wrong moment—been there and done that. If all you're doing is fishing heavy streamers and sinking leaders with 12 pound test tippet, by all means, get the head system. But if you want to go with lighter terminal tackle the integrated line is a better choice.

One last line consideration is the type of line, and by that I am referring to line taper. There are two primary line shapes that are currently in use on today's Spey lines. I am going to use everyday terms here as they better match what you will find shopping for Spey lines: Scandi and Skagit. A Scandi (short for Scandinavian) line has a long, fine taper. The back end of the line is level for a short distance but then it gradually and evenly grows smaller to the tip. The line is ideally suited for casting small or un-weighted flies and leaders that float, or can sink to shallow or even moderate depths. Ideal if you want to toss soft hackles all day long.

Skagit tapers, named after the famed steelhead river in Washington, are quite different. They have very long, almost level back ends and taper more abruptly at the tip than Scandi tapers do at the front. Why? Because this taper is designed to pull a #2/0 bunny-strip fly with lead and a tungsten cone head

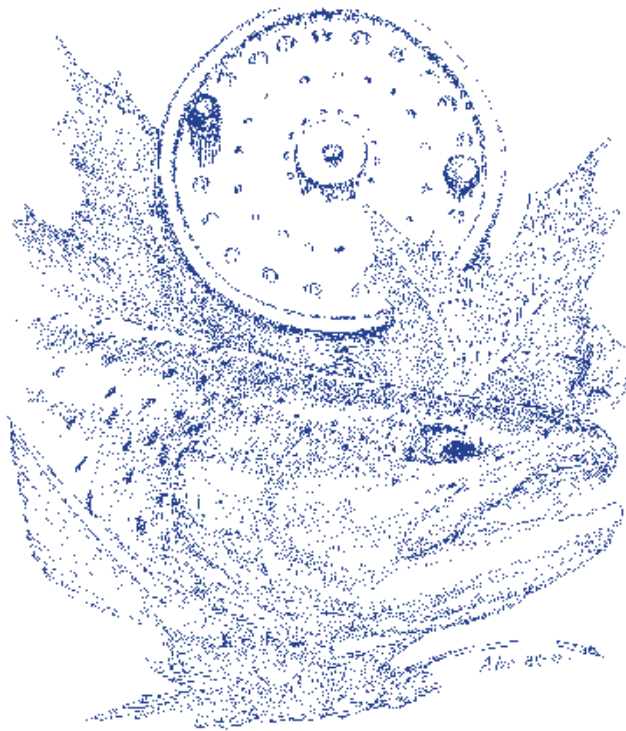
and 12½ feet of T-14 leader. It looks for all the world like something you would tie the Queen Mary up with!

What do I recommend? If you want the most options get a line with a Skagit style taper. Virtually all of the head style lines are Skagit taper though there are one of two that are what we call hybrids—'tweeners—like the AirFlo Rage. However, it's about a 50:50 split on Scandi vs. Skagit taper on integrated lines. I would suggest an integrated line with a Skagit taper. More options with one item...

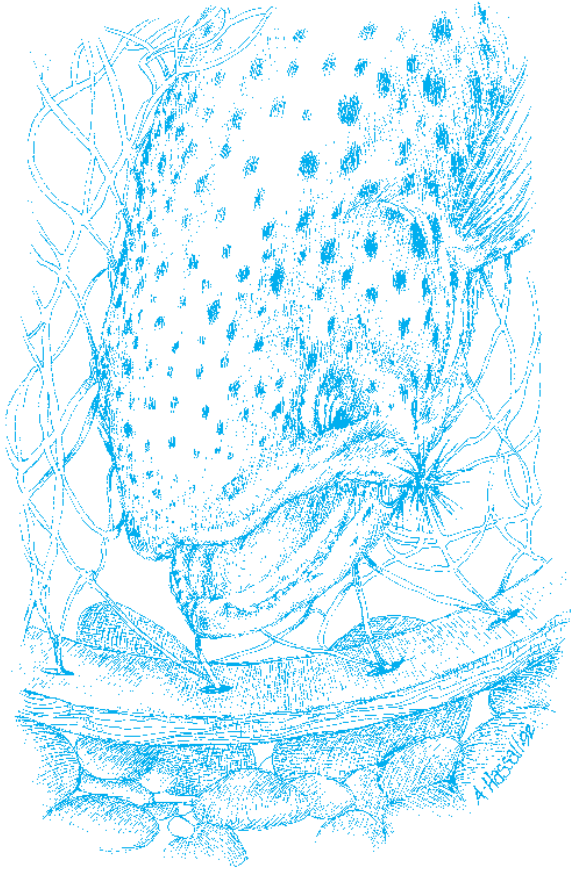
I could spend another 5 days talking about lines, but I am sure you are sufficiently bored so let's move on.

LEADERS & TIPS

Here we go again. In the ever stranger world of Spey vernacular, few people refer to a leader as a leader. They call them tips. Sorry, they are still leaders no matter how you look at it. Keeping the Spey world in mind, I usually think of leaders as those extensions of the fly line that are intended to float or sink very lightly. When I think of a tip, well to me that's something that is usually comprised of tungsten and totally intended to sink. You will likely need both for your fishing.



Leaders/tips come in two different styles for the sinking duties. They are either tapered like AirFlo Polyleaders and Rio Versatips or they're level tungsten line that is noted by the number of grains per foot of line: T-8 (8 grains per foot), T-11, T-14, T-17 and more. In time you will purchase a bunch of both of these. So I will suggest getting a couple of different density



leaders/tips. Get a floating leader and it should be at least as long as your rod. A 14' AirFlo Polyleader is a good choice because they are clear while others are colored and opaque. Get a couple of different density tapered sinking leaders/tips like an Intermediate sink (1½" per second sink rate), Slow sinking (3" per second sink rate) and Fast sinking (5" to 6" per second sink rate). Also consider getting a 10' T-11 level tip like a Rio MOW Tip. Since the Level tungsten lines are a bit heavier, they will go deeper and stay deeper when you're swinging through a run.

Tippet length at the end of these leaders/tips is variable. When using a single fly on a sinking tip, I generally have 12" to 24" of tippet of whatever pound test I feel I will need for the size fly I am casting and the fish I am targeting. When swinging a couple of soft hackles I use 12" to 18" of 2x (10 pound test) knotted to 12" of 4x (6 pound test) and the fly. The second fly is attached to the bend of the first with 15" to 18" of 5x (5 pound test). The connection between my tippet and the leader/tip is usually loop to loop.

FINAL THOUGHTS

I hope this gives those of you considering making the jump into the two-handed world a better idea of what it entails. I have tried to keep it from sounding too complex but it is very different and you all need to be aware of some the various terms and descriptors used by us crazies who are into Trout Spey.

If you should decide to get equipment based on this article, keep it simple. Do not let a clerk in a store sell you everything on the shelf. Get enough to get by and not much else. You can always go back and buy more later. Then go fishing and at that point you will have a much better idea of what you will really need.

Good luck, stay safe and have a lot of fun!

Jeff Sadler's Royal Wulff Corner

JEFF SADLER, PAST PRESIDENT

Q uotes from the Masters on the greatest fly of them all.



"I once fished the Trico spinner fall on Silver Creek, tried pattern after pattern and was predictably humiliated until I tied on a No. 16 Royal Wulff—a reliable fly under many circumstances, but drifting among thousands of tiny delicate mayflies, a pattern about as subtle as a drive-by shooting.

But it worked."

GRAY'S SPORTING JOURNAL, Spring, 2002

Ted Leeson

The Kindness Of Strangers

MARC BONVOULOIR, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

First in Series of Personal Fishing Trip Stories Portraying the Generosity of Those in Our Sport.

About a month ago, I had the pleasure of hearing an interview of author John Gierach by Tom Rosenbauer of Orvis fame. They talked about everything fly fishing and of course John's latest book [DUMB LUCK AND THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS](#). It really was fun listening to these stalwarts recount their fishing exploits with each other and with some talented guides. Their stories got me to reminisce on my own good fortune with dumb luck and strangers.

Over 20 years ago my wife and I started traveling to possible retirement destinations around the country. One such location was Redding, California. Our personal interests—fly fishing for me and quilting for her—were prerequisites for any location under consideration. One half day was scheduled for each of us to explore our interests in the area. Since it was not a lot of time to devote to the region's fly fishing opportunities, I had to get creative. Enter dumb luck and kindness.

Around the same time, [CALIFORNIA FLY FISHER](#) magazine had an incredible online blog where anyone could post stories, queries or fishing conditions all over the state. I posted a question inquiring about fishing in Redding. Almost immediately publisher and editor Richard Anderson replied, saying he had a contributing editor in Redding that might help. Chip O'Brien has been an avid fly fisherman, guide, writer and teacher. But most of all he's an amazing individual. Instead of telling me where to fish he offered to take me to one of his top fishing locations to float tube. His generosity was overwhelming. He picked me up at the hotel after lunch in a crazy old van outfitted to the hilt with the latest fly fishing gear. All I needed to bring was rod, reel and waders.



We weren't going very far but, as he said, it was "a world away." Shasta dam is the eighth tallest dam in the United States, at 602 feet. As we drove toward the dam I thought maybe we would fish Shasta lake but then we made a turn and came upon a gate manned by a federal deputy. Chip recognized the man and as they spoke the massive gate was raised for us to drive across the dam. Wow, I thought, this is incredible!

Once across we drove downhill to a parking lot and there it was—Keswick Reservoir, a five mile-long afterbay that is part lake and part river. We donned wading gear and hiked float tubes to the edge. Crystal clear and deep, pockmarked by massive truck-size boulders--some just below the surface and many barely visible--the water looked ominous. Moving at just under trolling speed away from the massive dam, we kicked across the 250-yard width of the reservoir to the far side and set up our indicator rigs, tossing them into the super slow eddies.

A couple of years ago Chip spoke at one of our club meetings. It was interesting to hear someone who has written books and dozens of articles for such renowned publications such as [FLY FISHERMAN](#), [CALIFORNIA FLY FISHER](#), [SOUTHWEST FLY FISHING](#) and [NORTHWEST FLY FISHING](#). His humorous writing style makes me laugh constantly and in person, he's no different. At the club he tied a number of flies including his favorite, the O'Brien Birds Nest, a variation on Cal Bird's famous fly. That's the fly we

hung under indicators, to catch big rainbows which would normally die of old age, since hardly anyone fishes this impoundment. Although the fishing was great, the camaraderie was even better. To give of oneself so selflessly to another is truly impressive and has had a profound effect on me. That's the sport that we love—where giving is more important than taking.

Kicking back after a few hours of catching over a dozen fish, we were carried by the current about 100 yards below the drop-in. We hiked the float tubes that distance through a gorgeous wooded area which hadn't seen a human in some time. Chip opened a cooler of beer and as we toasted to a new friendship, all I could think about was how lucky I was to have asked for help from our fly fishing community. Dumb luck and the kindness of strangers.

In appreciation for the many years of support,

Bob Marriott's is pleased to give 2% of all Long Beach Casting Club member purchases back to the club. This store credit can be used by the club for raffle prizes or toward other product purchases that will help enhance and benefit club activities. When purchasing from Bob Marriott's, please be sure to mention that you are a LBCC member to help ensure a percentage of your sale will go back to the club.



LBCC Web Page Development

COLIN KUMABE, JUNIOR DIRECTOR

The LBCC is considering ways to enhance the club web page, www.longbeachcastingclub.org, with increased functionality that is more inviting and user friendly. As such, input from members and users are needed.

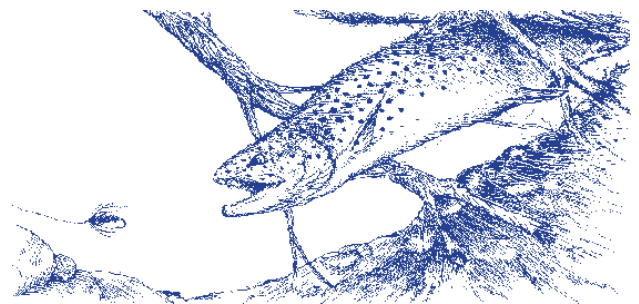
The first meeting seeking input from members will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, starting at 7:30 pm on Zoom video conference. During this meeting, comments will be stated and NOT DISCUSSED, to allow everyone a chance to say what they want. Participants are allowed to add ideas or build on ideas. The link for this meeting is below:

<https://zoom.us/j/93808465199>

The second meeting will be to discuss the approach to implementing these recommendations on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, starting at 7:30 pm. on Zoom video conference. Participants are encouraged to discuss and ask questions on the website development concepts. The link for this meeting is below:

<https://zoom.us/j/91567753158?pwd=K2QoWlhCZlBaZnVmOXVkeW1DdFFBZzo9>

Please send your recommendations for enhancing the club's web page to ctkumabe@gmail.com or Steve Jones, LBCC President, SJones@austinjonescorp.com.

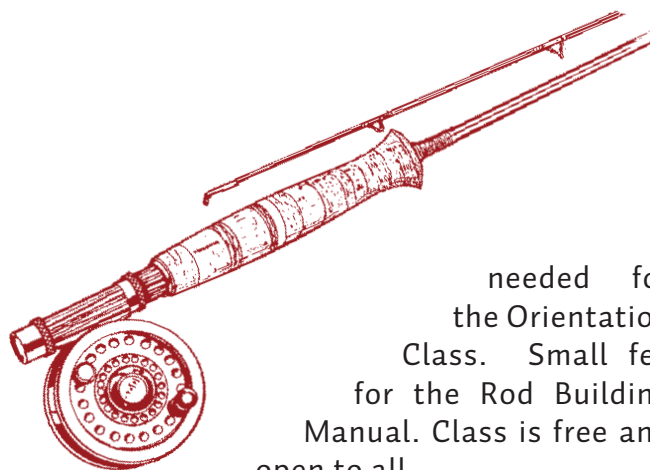


Coming to a Clubhouse Near You! Don't Forget About the Rod Building Class Starting September 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM

EDDIE MADRID, ROD BUILDING CHAIR

Learn the steps needed to build your own fly rod. This class covers the basics of component selection and techniques needed to make your own rod. While instruction focuses on fly rods, the techniques covered are applicable to regular fresh and saltwater rods too.

In addition to instruction, class participants have access to specialized building tools to help build that special heirloom rod. No tools are



needed for the Orientation Class. Small fee for the Rod Building Manual. Class is free and open to all.

The Orientation Class will be on September 1, 2020. After a two-week hiatus, the class resumes on September 15 for actual instruction. There will then be five weeks of rod building instruction, and the class will end on October 13.

For questions, contact Eddie Madrid (562-537-9618 or netboy3@verizon.net)



It's Full on Summer IN THE EASTERN SIERRA!!!

Crowley Lake is California's premier trout stillwater fishery. The summer bite is strong, and the views on the lake can't be beat.

***Give me a call if you'd like to book a trip for the lake. Chris Leonard - 818.288.3271
I offer half-day and full-day trips. Moving waters as well as Crowley Lake.***



Fly Tying Tip: Thread Control (Follow-up)

DAVE BOYER, MEMBER

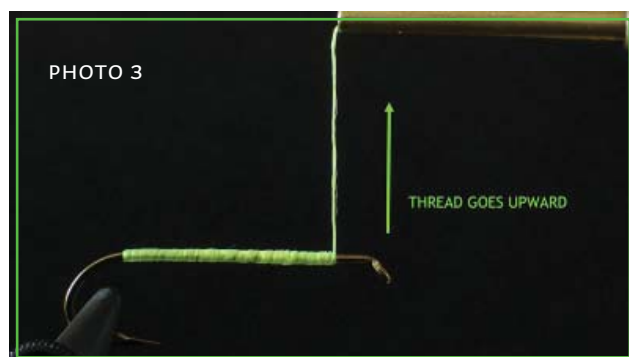
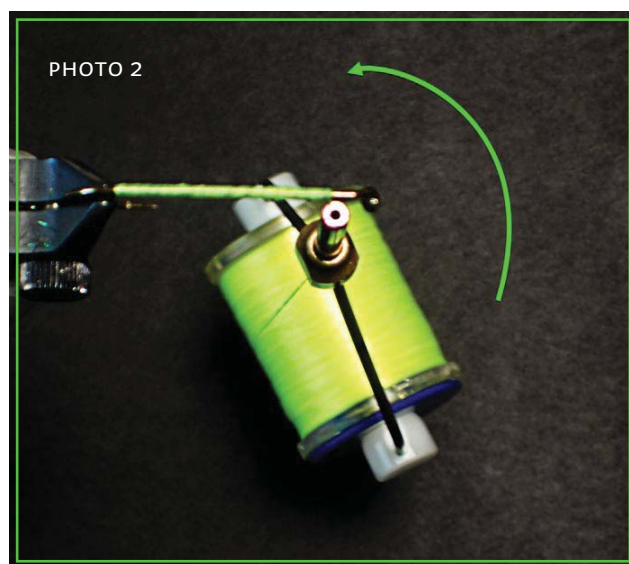
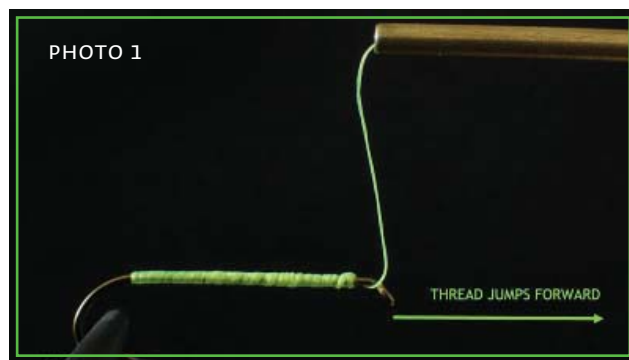
Last month John Van Derhoof filled in--thanks! To reinforce what John was saying, thread control is the basis of all fly tying, no matter the skill level. The more knowledgeable you are of the thread you use, the better tier you will become. John talked about the "twist" in the thread as you tie. So what, who cares? Well, you should!

If you do your jamb hitch to start your thread base at the eye, take it back to the end of your hook, then back to the front of your hook and now want to place your tail or other material on, there may be issues!

If you leave your thread twisted, the loop/thread wants to jump forward (Photo #1) making the Pinch Wrap (Loose Loop method) the only way you can grab the materials without "pushing" it over the hook shank. If the twist is allowed to build, the thread can even begin to wrap the nose of your bobbin holder. It will also lead to uneven thread bases that will make bodies lumpy, wings unsteady or loose and hackles not wind evenly.

An alternate to that is to, as John suggests, un-twist your thread (Photo #2, lefties go clockwise), until it is flat and the loop goes straight up (Photo #3) or with further un-twisting the loop jumps rearward (Photo #4) allowing you to catch material easily. Another way to tell which way to un-twist, is let the bobbin holder drop and see which way it wants to rotate on its own. Let it rotate until it stops. Of course, the fastest way is to spin it yourself once you know the direction.

There is a whole lot more to learn using flat or twisted thread, but twisting and un-twisting your thread is a basic technique that almost all of the great tiers use... whether you see it on videos or not!



Fly of the Month: Tups Indispensable Flymph

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PREZ

"A wingless artificial fly with a soft, translucent body of fur or wool which blends with the undercolor of the tying silk when wet, utilizing soft hackle fibers easily activated by the currents to give the effect of an insect alive in the water, and strategically cast diagonally upstream or across for the trout to take just below or within a few inches of the surface film."

[THE ART OF TYING THE WET FLY AND FISHING THE FLYMPH; J.E. Leisenring, V.S. Hidy, 1971.](#)

So many of our members have discovered the soft hackle for fishing but I wonder how many know the Flymph? It's a shame if they don't. The name "Flymph" was coined by Vernon S. (Pete) Hidy to describe *"that stage of an insect's life when the nymph leaves the rather comfortable surroundings of the stream bed and swims up through the water column to hatch into the dun on the way to adulthood."* Today we would call it an emerger but Hidy's name is probably more indicative of the reality...not a fly and not a nymph.

There are many iterations of the Flymph; in most versions the body is fully covered with an airy, translucent dubbing and wrapped with a "thin" palmer hackling. For these types of flies I like to use a split thread dubbing with an underbody of similarly colored thread. Also, I usually only palmer the front $\frac{4}{5}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ of the body. But you can certainly push the envelope of what is a Flymph to include a floss body with a dubbed, spiky, longer than normal thorax. The pattern for this month, the Tups Indispensable, is one of my favorite soft hackle patterns to fish. However, you can absolutely turn any soft hackle or nymph for that matter into a Flymph.

I was very fortunate to fish a couple of times in Montana with Sylvester Nemes of The SOFT HACKLED FLY and The SOFT HACKLED FLY ADDICT fame. He taught me an undying appreciation of softies and showed me multiple ways to fish them. Lately I have been using a 3 or 4 weight short two-hander on the Green to fish a two soft hackle rig and having a lot of fun in the process. The Flymph is just an extension to your soft hackle array of flies. Give them and the Tups Indispensable a try!

Materials for tying the Tups Indispensable Flymph:

- Hook: Daiichi 1530 Wet Fly/Nymph in sizes 10–18.
- Thread: 12/0 Veevus Light Cahill (primrose or pale yellow); Black at the head.
- Tail: Wood Duck flank fibers; 3.
- Tag & Ribbing: Fine Silver wire; reverse wound.
- Body: Rear $\frac{3}{5}$ Primrose (pale) yellow silk floss. Front $\frac{2}{5}$ Pink Angora Goat and Rabbit mixed 50:50.
- Body hackle: Honey Dun hen (light dun optional); 1 to 2 sizes smaller.
- Hackle: Honey Dun hen (light dun optional).



Instructions for tying the Tups Indispensable Flymph:

1. Place your hook in the vise and attach your thread behind the head space. Wind smoothly down the hook shank, keeping your thread flat by counter-spinning. This fly is noted for a slim smooth body and you ain't gonna get it if the thread's not flat! Pull off a 6" length of fine silver wire and tie it in on the near lower side of the hook. This is the proper location for reverse winding a rib.
2. Select three barbs from a wood duck flank feather and tie them in the length of the shank and with them curving lightly upward. The tail should be light in appearance, so keep it to three barbs!
3. Smoothly wind forward about $\frac{3}{5}$ of the shank. Pull off a 4" length of primrose silk floss and gently stroke it until it is slightly flattened and smooth. If your hands are dirty and/or dish-washing rough you're in trouble! Tie in the floss at this spot and smoothly wind back toward the tail with a small bit of overlap, reverse direction, return to the starting point and tie off. Keep the floss smooth and flat—the resulting body should be thin.
4. Select a hen hackle of the appropriate color for the body hackle. I use a Honey Dun hen neck that I have but this may be tough to find so use a light dun hen neck. Select a feather where the barb length is less than the hook gap. With the shiny side up hold the feather by the tip and remove all of the left side barbs except those you are holding on to. Tie in the feather at the tip with the shiny side of the feather facing up and the bare rachis/stem facing toward the eye.
5. Now let's dub the thorax. I like to use a natural dubbing that is translucent and spiky, but for smaller flies it works best to mix it with rabbit to make the dubbing work with the thread more easily. My choice for the spiky bit is Angora Goat but if you can't find it, try a pink synthetic seal's fur substitute (seal's fur is no longer available and ethically abhorrent) which should be mixed half-and-half with the pink rabbit dubbing. Create a long

thin noodle and wind it evenly over the thorax area to the head space.

6. Now wind the body hackle forward and $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 turns over the thorax and tie off. Keep the hackle thin—this is not a rough water dry!
7. Now taking the silver wire, reverse wrap three adjacent turns (no gaps) immediately behind the tail, and continue winding five evenly spaced turns over the body and thorax and tie off. Four turns will land on the body; the fourth turn will be where the body and thorax meet and the fifth turn will land in the thorax. Be careful to try and wiggle the wire in between the hackle fibers so few of them are trapped underneath.
8. Select a hackle with barbs about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 times the hook gap for your collar. I prefer to see a hackle that stands out perpendicular to the hook shank (I term it "spider" style) which means that I will tie in the hackle at the quill end (not the tip) of the feather and the shiny side facing up. Wind $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 turns (not too many now) and tie off. Wind a minimal head and whip finish. Now go fish!



NOTES:

A traditional Flymph usually has dubbed body that is light, spiky and almost translucent. To create this lighter appearance I use a split thread dubbing technique and small amounts of dubbing. A split thread dubbing starts with flattening your thread!!! Counter-spin your thread until it looks flatter and wider. With the thread resting on the ball of your non-dominant index finger, grab a bodkin and poke the thread splitting it. Insert the dubbing between the two halves of the thread and you're ready to wind. Spin the thread clockwise to trap the material (or use Dave Boyer's technique from a couple of months ago). Finally, have fun!

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New Trip Announcement

2020 and Early 2021 Season

BELIZE ❖ SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA ❖ TIERRA DEL FUEGO & SANTA CRUZ, ARGENTINA

New Destinations; New Experiences –

We are excited to announce 3 new destinations being added to 2020 – early 2021 season:

BELIZE RIVER LODGE, BELIZE

May 21-28, 2020 ❖ **\$4,575-6,325**

TARGET SPECIES: Tarpon, Permit, Bonefish, Snook
7 nights ❖ 6 days of fishing ❖ including 2 nights in Long Cay Outpost Lodge
Single Lodging and Single Guide options available
6 rods available

LAWRENCE BAY LODGE, NORTH SASKATCHEWAN

July 2-9, 2020 ❖ **\$4,900**

TARGET SPECIES: Northern Pike
7 nights ❖ 6 days of fishing
8 rods available

TWO PATAGONIA TRIPS IN 2021

Estancia Maria Behety, Tierra Del Fuego, Argentina

January 2-9, 2021 ❖ **\$6,600**

TARGET SPECIES: Sea-Run Browns
7 nights ❖ 6 days of fishing
8 rods available

ESTANCIA RIO CAPITAN, ARGENTINA

January 9-16, 2021 ❖ **\$5,900**

TARGET SPECIES: Rainbows
7 nights ❖ 6 days of fishing
6 rods available

As many of you requested, we are letting you know about these trips far in advance. Please let us know if you would like to reserve a spot or would like more information about any of the new trips mentioned here.

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Calendar of Events

August

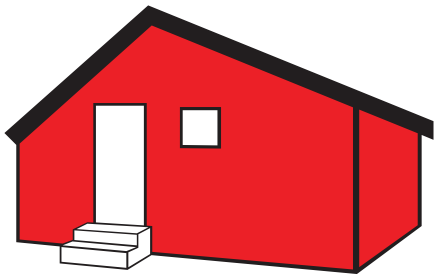
1	Saturday	8:00 AM	Local Tenkara event at Laguna Lakes, Fullerton w/ Art Strauss
3	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
5	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
9	Sunday	6:00 AM	On the Bay Salt Trip with Kevin Green
12	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
18	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Eastern Sierra Backpacking-McGee Trail with Jim Garvey
19	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
25-30	Week		Eastern Sierra Backpacking-McGee Trail with Jim Garvey
26	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
27	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: John Sherman (Fishing the Delta)
29	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Fish with "The Quiet Fly Fisher" with Terry Komisak

September

1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building-Orientation Class
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Pre-Trip: Eastern Sierra Backpack 20 Lakes Basin w/ Jim Garvey
7	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
9	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
12	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-trip: Yards & Inches with Mick Woodbury
12-16	Week		Eastern Sierra Backpacking, 20 Lakes Basin with Jim Garvey
13	Sunday	9:00 AM	Captain's Handicap
13-17	Week		Fish with "The Quiet Fly Fisher" with Terry Komisak
15	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
16	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
19	Saturday		Yards & Inches with Mick Woodbury
22	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
23	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
24	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: White Elephant Club Activity
26	Saturday	9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Green River
27	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Cast
29	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
30	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line

October

5-9	Week		Green River Trip with Colin Kumabe
5	Monday	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
6	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
7	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
11	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Cast
12-16	Week		Green River Trip with Yash Iseda
13	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Rod Building
14	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
21	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
25	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Cast
27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying
28	Wednesday	7:30 PM	Fly Tying Forum on-line
29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: To be determined
31	Saturday	9:00 AM	Northern California Steelhead Trip with Marv Bonvouloir



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