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NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

JANUARY 2023

WWW.LONGBEACHCASTINGCLUB.ORG

#### Leader's Line...

### A Reason to Celebrate

#### **BOB MAYFIELD, PRESIDENT**

s we wrap up the year, I wanted to give all our members a reason to celebrate. First and foremost, we are back to a full schedule of activities. We had our Teach the Teacher class last month. During that class we trained 20 teachers, who were then equipped to help with the Beginning Casting Class. At that class, we had over 60 attendees who wanted to learn the art of fly casting. Many of these folks then went to the On The River Clinic on the Lower Owens to test their newly acquired skills, and actually catch a fish. We have just kicked off our Beginning Fly Tying Class, with over 40 students.

Throughout this past year, the Long Beach Casting Club has had numerous fishing trips, from our local mountains to all over California, Utah and Montana. We are already booking our trips for 2023; check out the Club Calendar for a list of trips.

We've had great turnouts for our Monthly Meetings, and we've had some world-renowned speakers, with more planned for 2023. As we continue moving forward, we've added new members throughout the year. We now have over 500 active Club members.

Many of you are looking forward to 2023, and making your plans for the new year. If those plans might include getting more involved with the Long Beach Casting Club, we have a place for you. Since we are a volunteer-based club, we are always in search of people willing to help.

The Club has many volunteer opportunities for its members. Here is a partial list.

- We plan to launch a new website in 2023, and need help maintaining it. We can use skilled webmasters, or if you just have a willingness to work, we can train you to help.
- We are also always looking for articles for Target Talk, our newsletter. Do you have a topic you want to write about? If so, submit it to Rob Peterson, our editor, for publication.
- Do you have a particular fishing trip you have been doing over the years, and want to share with other Club members? How about becoming a Streamkeeper, and coordinating the trip? It can be as simple as a day trip to the LA river or Deep Creek, or as elaborate as a trip to Patagonia.
- For the ladies, we plan to start a women's group. We can use more women to help get this going.
- Want to start more simply? Well, we can use help with setup and teardown before and after meetings, and there is always the need for general cleaning around the Clubhouse.

Leader's Line ... Continues on page 5

## **Club Trips for 2023**

#### STEVE TIMM, 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
January 12–15	Lower Owens #1 w/J. Lincoln & D. Rivett; Pre-
	Trip Jan 7, 9:00 AM
February 9–12	Lower Owens #2 w/J. Lincoln & D. Rivett; Pre-
	Trip February 4, 9:00 AM
March 9–12	Lower Owens #3 w/J. Lincoln & D. Rivett; Pre-
	Trip March 4, 9:00 AM
March 15–17	Pyramid Lake w/P. Nakamura; Pre-Trip TBD
April 30-May 5	Green River w/John Lincoln Pre-Trip April 22,
	9:00 am
May 7–12	Green River w/Colin Kumabe Pre-Trip April 22,
	9:00 am
May 14-19	Green River w/Keith O'Donnell Pre-Trip April
	22, 9:00 am
May 30-June 3	Fall River w/Marc Bonvouloir Pre-Trip May 20,
	9:00 am

Trip locations, dates and pre-trips change, so monitor Target Talk or the Club's Web Calendar for the latest information. Deposits for trips which are "double occupancy", and require deposits in advance, are non-refundable. Should you cancel, your deposit will only be refunded if a Club member replaces you.

If you'd like to be a Streamkeeper and need help organizing a Club trip, let me know. Contact Steve Timm if you have suggestions for a trip or any questions at: <a href="mailto:srtimm@hotmail.com">srtimm@hotmail.com</a>.



## **OFFICERS**

#### **PRESIDENT**

BOB MAYFIELD (714) 392-2211

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

Marc Bonvouloir (213) 369-9525

#### **2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Steve Timm (562)-243-0826

#### **CO-CAPTAINS**

MARK FLO: (562) 420-8121 TOM OLSON: (310) 809-0409

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#### **TREASURER**

ED ALVARADO (213) 440-4655

#### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

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#### SENIOR DIRECTOR

COLIN KUMABE (562) 221-9418

#### **JUNIOR DIRECTOR**

STEVE JONES (562) 682-7920

#### TARGET TALK EDITOR

ROB PETERSON (310) 963-2515

## January Speaker: Joseph Stanovich

Environmental Scientist for California Department of Fish and Wildlife Discusses "Inland Trout Populations in our Local Mountains"

#### Thursday, January 26, 2023, 7:00pm

#### MARC BONVOULOIR, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

ome hear a representative from the CDFW talk about the health of our trout populations in our local mountains. How have our local rainbow trout fared when battling fires, climate change, droughts in our local mountains? Join us at the January Monthly Meeting and hear the surprising answers!

Joseph earned his Bachelor of Science degree from San Diego State University, with an emphasis in Marine Biology. During his time as an undergraduate student, he volunteered with the Coastal Marine Institute under Dr. Todd Anderson, where he assisted a graduate student with his research on carnivorous fish and the impact these fish have on macroinvertebrate assemblages.

He also spent time as a field technician for Cal Trout, where he performed intermittent fieldwork to help protect and restore wild trout and steelhead in their native waters, throughout Southern California. Additionally, he has earned his Master of Science degree from Unity College in Maine with an emphasis in Wildlife Conservation and Management. His culminating project included a population assessment of the translocated rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) within the Arroyo Seco River in Pasadena.

Joseph has been with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) since 2017. He began as a



Scientific Aid, assisting CDFW's reservoir program. In 2019 he began full-time work as an Environmental Scientist, working with the Department's Habitat Conservation Program.

Joseph's transition to the Inland Fisheries Program occurred in 2021. His primary duties and responsibilities include stream assessments, with a focus on rainbow trout, within Ventura and Los Angeles counties, for the purpose of assessment and management, and to evaluate population size and health of this species and its associated habitats.

#### Join us Thursday, January 26 at 7:00 pm.

TOPIC: Marc Bonvouloir's Zoom Meeting
TIME: Jan 26, 2023 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

#### **JOIN ZOOM MEETING**

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89694989610?pwd=U WtOeFdWc0NhWXgzc3c0RmNJajZqZz09

**MEETING ID:** 896 9498 9610 **PASSCODE:** 136695

## Fly Tying: Time's Flying!

#### Wrap-Up of Beginning Fly Tying, Weeks Four and Five

#### WAYNE SAKAGUCHI, MEMBER

Fly Tying. Our new fly tyers are doing a fantastic job learning the skills and techniques needed for tying new materials each week. Judging the flies is getting harder for the instructors, who have to decide whose fly gets to be displayed for a year in the Beginning Fly Tying Shadow Box.

On Week Three, John Van Derhoof came in early to give a better understanding of the importance of thread control (avoiding thread twist). John will be back on Week Six, to talk about different techniques of dubbing and Peacock Herl Direction.





## Recordings of LBCC Monthly Speakers

**ROB PETERSON, TARGET TALK EDITOR** 

ast year, the Club began recording our monthly meeting presentations (see <u>February 2022 Target Talk</u>, p. 17, for last year's presentations). Below is the info for this year.

Just click on one of the below links, and copy and paste the password at the prompt:

**JANUARY:** Steph Albano of <u>Finatical Flyfishing</u>. Topic: "Global Guide Service for Women, Run by Women". Length: 37 minutes.

Steph Albano Presentation Jan. 27, 2022 Passcode: d9sE1\*pn

FEBRUARY: Glenn Ueda, So Cal Fishing Guide
Topic: "Planet Carp". Length: 110 minutes.

Glenn Ueda Presentation February 24, 2022 Passcode: 2C!.hWQ1

**MARCH:** Ernie Gulley, Ernie Gulley Flyfishing. Topic: "Stillwater Tactics". Length: 81 minutes.

Ernie Gulley Presentation March 31, 2022 Passcode: Ri65p6%N

April-September speakers were not recorded.

OCTOBER: Lance Egan, Topic: "Newfangled Nymphing". Length: 123 minutes (includes 37 minutes of October Monthly Meeting).

Lance Egan Presentation October 27, 2022 Passcode: i?hk7fd^

**NOVEMBER:** Charlie Craven, Topic: Fly Tying Demonstration. Length: 126 minutes.

Charlie Craven Presentation Nov. 17, 2022
Passcode: C%uGCj33

## Calling All Lady Anglers!

#### LBCC and Fly Fishers Club of Orange County Announce a New Women's Program

#### KATHY KIM, MEMBER

Fly Fishing Program is being established as a joint effort by the Fly Fishers Club of Orange County (FFCOC) and Long Beach Casting Club (LBCC). This joint club program will provide opportunities to learn together and share our common passion for all things fly fishing.

Kathy Kim, FFCOC and LBCC member and Fly Fishers International Certified CastingInstructor, has volunteered to kick-start the program with a Women's On the River Clinic in late February/early March. This will include a half-day classroom session and a weekend outing on the Lower Owens.

In addition, Kathy is planning to host monthly casting practices and coaching sessions. There will also be virtual and in-person get-togethers. Participants will improve fly fishing skills and gain knowledge of fly fishing destinations and other topics of interest.

The core goal of the Women's Fly Fishing Program is to instill a sense of community for lady anglers, and to help them feel comfortable and safe as they learn new skills and grow as independent anglers, no matter their skill level. Additionally, the Program will offer a space for lady anglers to exchange ideas on fly fishing tips and techniques, share potential destinations and, most importantly, have fun along the way.

If you are interested in participating in the Women's Program or know someone who might enjoy being involved, please contact Kathy directly at <a href="kimkathy@sbcglobal.net">kimkathy@sbcglobal.net</a>.

#### Leader's Line...Continued from page 1

What I'm trying to say is that we have a spot for you if you want to get involved.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who have made 2022 such a success for the Club. I'm humbled and amazed at how people step up to keep our lines tight and the Club moving forward.

Many of us are in the spotlight and receive more than our share of recognition. But so many more work behind the scenes to make the Club a special place where people from all walks of life can come and feel that they are welcomed.

Again, thanks to all of you and I look forward to the New Year.

# 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 that a percentage of your sale goes back to the club.



#### **Long Beach Casting Club**

## Pyramid Lake Ladder Fishing Trip

w/Rob Anderson & <u>Pyramid Lake Fly Fishing Guide Service</u> March 15–17, 2023







## Experience a Truly Unique Adventure!!!

DATES – Fishing three full days - Wednesday, March 15 through Friday, March 17. Arrive Tuesday, March 14 and depart Saturday, March 18.

Guide Service (PLFFGS). Website: <a href="https://www.pyramidlakeflyfishing.com">www.pyramidlakeflyfishing.com</a>. Phone: 775-742-1754

COST – \$510.00 based on 10 participants with 3 guides, but may be higher or lower if we do not get 10 commitments (12 maximum). This includes light breakfast, hot lunch, drinks on fishing days and guide assistance.

LODGING PLANS – Hotel in Sparks, NV – Western Village Inn & Casino, 800-648-1170. We won't book enough rooms to secure a block of rooms. Please call them directly, ASAP, to get best prices as they will go up. Option, stay at Pyramid Lodge in Sutcliffe, NV, 775-476-0400. Call them to get availability and pricing.

WHAT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR - Your Transportation, Hotel, Meals (other than breakfast and lunch on fishing days at the lake) Guide tips, Fishing Permit (from Piute Indian Tribe).

FISHING GEAR — Rods/Reels: 9' - 8 or 9 wt. or 11' Switch Rod with floating line for indicator fishing or fast sinking or shooting head line for stripping. Tackle — Flies, adjustable indicators, 10-15# leader/tippets. Check their website for latest info. PLFFGS will provide the ladders.

#### **MORE INFO:**

- Deposit of \$255.00 due ASAP after signing up.
- Final payment of \$255.00 due no later than January 15, 2022. Make checks payable to the 'Long Beach Casting Club', and send to LBCC, PO Box 90035, Long Beach CA 90809.
- Contact Paul Nakamura for details and to get on the Trip List at <a href="mailto:pnaka1946@gmail.com">pnaka1946@gmail.com</a> or 310-487-3367.
- A Zoom meeting will be planned with Rob to get you acquainted with fly fishing at Pyramid Lake. Tentative date will be in November after we get a Club distribution developed.
- A Pre-Trip Meeting will be scheduled prior to the trip and more details will be sent to members who have signed up.

## LBCC Clubhouse Exterior Improvements

#### TOM OLSON, CO-CAPTAIN

The Board of Directors would like everyone to know that the LBCC Clubhouse has been undergoing some maintenance and improvements over the last four months. It has been thirteen years since the exterior of the Clubhouse was painted, and four years since the Clubhouse was tented for termites.

We received several bids for termite inspections and exterior painting. Suncrest Termite did an excellent job inspecting our crawl space, attic, and exterior. They determined that we did not need to tent again, but that several areas needed wood replacement and spot treatment. They replaced the 6x6 posts on the porch, several rafter tips, some siding and other trim around the perimeter. We plan to have yearly termite inspections going forward.

The front porch railing had extensive termite and water damage, and needed full replacement. A big "Thank You" to Steve Jackson and Jeff Gross for completing this part of the project for the Club!

Hector's Painting and his crew worked long days, doing very thorough preparation, priming and finish painting from top to bottom. We were fortunate to have good weather for two weeks. Steve Jones has used Hector on business projects and to paint his own house. Hector only used quality products from Sherwin Williams for our project. Another big "Thank You" to Steve Jones for finalizing this task for the Club, and for his suggestion to paint the benches green. The Board all agreed on the suggestion, and everyone says the benches look great!

Finally, one of our improvements was to the kiosk on the side of the Clubhouse. It was patched and painted, and the acrylic replaced. John Van Derhoof proportioned the content to make it legible, and added a QR Code to connect to our website. Tom Olson provided the graphic. The kiosk will act as a good communication board to the public, and will include our calendar of events.

If you need quality termite or painting work, give the contractors who worked for us a call, and let them know you are from the Long Beach Casting Club. Some of our members have already contacted them to work on their homes.

Suncrest Termite 800-585-5424 Hector's Painting at 714-333-5664

## Long Beach Casting Club New Members

MARK ANGELO,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

- The Board of Directors approved these new members at the last Board meeting:
- Joseph Saldana of Gardena, CA
- Kurt Stockbridge of Rancho Palos Verdes
- Peter Hardash of Seal Beach, CA
- Garret Erskine of San Pedro, CA
- Davina Pallone of San Pedro, CA
- Scarlet Erskine of San Pedro, CA
- Gail Marley of Westminster, CA
- Brent Baily of Westminster, CA

Please greet and welcome all our new members at the Club's next monthly meeting. Here's wishing them a lifetime of healthy hatches and tight lines.

Members: if you see visitors at Club meetings, let's make them feel welcome and inform them of the activities we have to offer!

## GOLDEN SAILS

### **SET SAIL FOR COMFORT & CONVENIENCE**

- On-site fitness center
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- 24-hour buisness center
- Outdoor year-round heated pool
- Oversized spa
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- Complimentary USA newspapers in the lobby

- 173 guest rooms featuring:
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- 32 inch flat-screen TV
- Microwave
- AM/FM alarm clock radio
- · Mini refrigerator
- Single cup Haus Maid coffee maker
- Ironing board
- Hairdryer
- Aquamer Institute Swiss® bath amenities
- · Air conditioning

#### **GOLDEN SAILS HOTEL**

## Northern California Steelhead 2022: Trip Recap

#### MARC BONVOULOIR, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

How difficult is it to work a plan when scheduling the Northern California Steelhead Trip each year? Obviously, difficult.

The plan this year, as it has been the last four years, was to fish the Lower Sacramento River on Sunday for numbers of trout or steelhead, then hit the Trinity on Monday for elusive large steelhead. The plan had failed each year for various reasons—mostly due to fewer fish running up the Trinity.

Year One had us fishing the Lower Sacramento/ Klamath combo. The next two years were Lower Sacramento/Lower Sacramento, then last year the Lower Sacramento River turned to mud from heavy rains in October and we had to fish the Trinity for two days. 2022 was going to be the year of the plan! At least for most of us.

Early November saw 14 LBCC members make the trek to Redding. The weather called for rain the entire three days, but the fishing reports were encouraging. The Lower Sacramento conditions were perfect, reports from the Trinity indicated plenty of fish running up the river and the same with the Klamath.

After meeting our guides at The Fly Shop early on Sunday we all headed to the river at different drop-in points. Immediately the rainbows started biting. Hooking fish didn't seem to be the problem—landing them was.

All the guides agreed that the cloudy/rainy weather motivated the big fish to bite. The problem? Crappy hooks. Wait, what? The size 18-20 jig flies we used from The Fly Shop were terrible—and all the guides admitted it.



It seemed the Fly Shop contracted for hundreds of flies that were defective—they either straightened out, or just plain broke in half. Crap flies. Many big fish were landed but many more were lost...20-23 inch rainbows ruled the day on the Lower Sac.

Overnight Sunday called for rain in the valley and snow in the upper levels, with Monday showing more of the same. If you had four-wheel drive, it wasn't a problem getting to the Trinity. Those who did were rewarded with a great day of fishing the Trinity, with multiple hookups of large steelhead. The rest of us fished the Lower Sac for a second day and did well with large rainbows.

A large part of the fun of our trips is the camaraderie among members at breakfast and dinner. The Red Lion Hotel in Redding offered great hospitality. The hot breakfasts were top notch. The last night saw us all dining at Cattlemen's Restaurant, laughing and drinking the night away. Another great NorCal Steelhead trip was in the books.



## Trout Rodeo Coming in February!

#### SOUTHWEST COUNCIL, FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

on Saturday February 04, 2023, the town of Bishop and the Eastern Sierra will welcome anglers from California, Nevada and abroad to take part in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bishop Trout Rodeo. The Bishop Trout Rodeo is an open competition targeting trout on some of the most scenic and productive waters in California. The tournament will be held rain or shine and will be open to both fly and conventional anglers (in separate divisions) of all ability levels who will compete for the prizes of longest stringer landed and released and the largest single fish.

There are also team categories and there is no maximum limit to number of anglers on a team (scoring for teams is done on average so size of team has no advantage/disadvantage). So get your friends, club members or family together, come up with a name, and get yourself registered when the portal opens November 1, 2022.

With support from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce, the event is being produced by the Southwest Council, Fly Fishers International. This event will provide outdoor fun in a safe and beautiful environment during a time of year that offers very productive angling opportunities with minimal crowds on the water.

For more information, including times, location, rules and when to sign up, please visit:

https://www.swcffi.org/rodeo

For press information, general questions or sponsorship opportunities, please contact:

**Southwest Council, Fly Fishers International Michael Schweit 818.6019702**specialprojects@swcffi.org

## Southwestern Tournament is Coming!

MARK FLO, CO-CAPTAIN

The Southwestern Casting Tournament is Saturday February 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers are much appreciated and will be needed to help with setup, score keeping, setting the lunches out, setting up the casting board and checking in equipment.

A volunteer sheet will be placed in the Clubhouse after New Year's; please sign up if you can help on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> and/or Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Email Markcflo@yahoo.com with any questions.





## Highly Recommended "Field Trip": Check out The Fly Fishing Show, Pleasanton, California

#### MICK WOODBURY, PAST PRESIDENT

If your fly-fishing itch needs a different kind of scratch, here's a suggestion. The finest old-fashioned flyfishing show around is February 24, 25 and 26 in Pleasanton, California.

You'll find more seminars than you can attend in three full days, you'll meet authors, chat with big-name fly tiers, watch casting demonstrations, shop for discounted items of all sorts, see the latest in rods and reels and, if you want, take classes from experts. The list of vendors and speakers isn't available yet, but you can get more information online as the date gets closer.

The best part of the show, for me, is Friday night at 6:30 with the showing of the **2023 International Fly-Fishing** Film. Tickets are \$15 at the door but if you order ahead they're \$10. My non-fishing in-laws join us every year.

Pleasanton is about the same distance from Long Beach as Mammoth. There are plenty of hotels and good restaurants, and Pleasanton has a quaint downtown that spouses would enjoy. The drive up is scenic, with almond and fruit orchards in full bloom and, if you'd like, you can always striper fish the nearby reservoir.

It's a must-attend event in my book. Just sayin'.



## Fighting Fish, Part Three: How Gear Helps in the Fight

#### **COLIN KUMABE, PAST PRESIDENT**

With the right rod and reel, the odds of landing your prized fish will be increased, but just as important as gear is the angler's knowledge of fighting fish. Reading this series of articles will give you a considerable advantage over future big fish. Consider the contribution of the rod and reel.

**ROD:** Use the rod to maintain tension on the fly line, to wear out the fish's "fighting" muscles. Consider the following ways to use the rod in the fight:

- Maintain tension on the line. Strip in line quickly and reel up line to keep the line very tight.
- Rod taper protects the tippet from sudden shocks. Moderate-taper rods provide a good cushion when the fish lunges suddenly. Fast-taper or very stiff rods don't bend as much, and require the angler to lower the rod.
- Reach around and keep line away from branches or sharp rocks.
- Redirects fish to the advantage of the angler, enabling the angler to pull the fish toward a desired location (this will be described in a subsequent article).

**REEL:** Use the reel during the fight to release and retrieve line. Consider the following ways to use the reel in the fight:

- Clean and well-maintained drag provides smooth release, and protects light tippet.
- Properly setting the drag on the reel will also protect the tippet.
- Additional resistance to a running fish may be added by "palming" the rim of the reel.
- Wind up line by "spinning the reel" to retrieve line already stripped in. Fighting the fish on the reel greatly reduces the chance of line tangles and losing the fish.

Remember that the most pricey rod and reel will not guarantee winning the fight. Knowledge of fighting, including the above, greatly improves the angler's chances for victory.

Improve your chances for catching fish: practice casting at the Long Beach Casting Club Pond. See you at the Pond!

### 15% Discount from Aventik

#### PAUL BURGNER, MEMBER

hao Hang of Aventik is offering LBCC members a 15% discount on the below products. Go to the club page and click on "Sponsors", then "Aventik". The Aventik (Amazon) page will come up. Type the ASIN # in the search area (example: ASIN B079NBK9L4). The product will come up. Or: just click on the item description below.

Use code **C404EVVU** for the discount. The list and code change monthly, so keep watching here.

#### **ITEMS FOR THIS MONTH:**

- Aventik Sea Anchor ASIN: B01N32TXS6
- Aventik Fly Line Tippet ASIN: BOB4B1SMBT
- Aventik EVA Foam Box ASIN: B07Y2XDFPP
- Smart Silicone Fly Box ASIN: B0865YK69K
- Waterproof Tackle Box ASIN: BO8LYJRVT4

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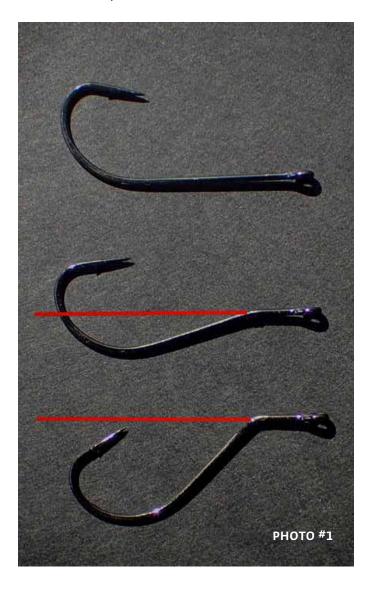
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## Fly Tying Tip: Bendback Hooks (& Flies!)

#### **DAVE BOYER, MEMBER**

Bendback hooks (also known as **Central Draught**) are great for creating a virtually weedless fly. You can purchase ready-made hooks like the Umpqua XS435, or if you have a 2x or 3x ring eye (straight) long-shanked hook (TOP OF PHOTO #1) you can create your own. If you create your own, use caution in the amount of bend you introduce to the shank. Use a smooth set of pliers.



If you bend the shank too far, you have the danger of not hooking a fish (BOTTOM OF PHOTO #1)! What is the proper amount of bend? You want a sufficient amount for the wing materials to help cover the hook point, but not radical enough to lose fish. Generally, you want the straight shank of the hook projection to hit somewhere near the center of the gap of the hook (MIDDLE OF PHOTO #1).



With a bendback style, you can add weight to the "keel" of the hook (PHOTO #2) to make it ride with the hook up, or tie in dumbbell eyes at the bend and make it a weedless Clouser style. As with a Clouser, tie it sparse. It's great for any species of small fish predator, in salt or fresh water. Here's a completed fly (PHOTO #3) with the hook from PHOTO #1.



(A quick note: Famed saltwater angler Chico Fernandez has been a huge fan of the Bendback style of flies, using them often at home in Florida, casting into and over mangrove roots for baby tarpon and snook. He would often surprise unknowing anglers with a "bad" cast deep into a jungle of roots and trunks only to slowly pull the fly out and hook a fish. Give them a try!!!—Van Derhoof)

### Fly of the Month: Nearly Dun

#### JOHN VAN DERHOOF, PAST PREZ

kay, everyone knows that I make an annual pilgrimage to the Green River below Utah's Flaming Gorge reservoir. Most probably think it's about the only place I fish any more—not true but dang close! The reasons are simple: beautiful setting, fish that average 17"–18" and go up to the 29" brute my daughter Nicole landed in 2010, great nymph fishing and great dry fly fishing on tiny flies for **BIG** fish! Since springtime is coming and I am going, it's time to tie up some flies.

When the hatch is on there are usually fish rising freely, but they can be very picky. Some afternoons and evenings they may be feeding on very small BWOs and midges, and my tried and true Upright BWO Emerger works really well. Other nights, not so much...on those occasions the fish are really keyed into a low profile dry that is similar to a dun that has **nearly** unfurled its wings. This is where the Nearly Dun really shines.

I like patterns that allow me to tie multiple variations of the same thing. Color changes are obvious options, but sometimes things like adding a hackle can make a difference, especially with flies that are size #20 or smaller. Again, the Nearly Dun allows me to quickly make changes at the tying bench. With today's amazing rooster hackles even #24s and #26s are possible, so we can imitate midges that often emerge at the same time as the mayflies. And hell, if I want something complex to tie, I could go back to tying Atlantic salmon flies.

Of course I have used this pattern very effectively on the Green River but also the Madison, Hot Creek, the Upper and Lower 'O' and a variety of other smaller waters. It has even been mistaken for a dark gray sedge on Hot Creek during a prolific evening hatch near the Hot Springs.

Of course, you can also tie this pattern in other mayfly imitations like a PMD, Trico, Tiny Western Olive, Mahogany Dun and more. But really, the greatest thing about the Nearly Dun is that it is incredibly easy to tie, in even the smallest of sizes, and the danged thing works. Tie up a bunch and take 'em out for a test drive the next time you go fishing.

#### MATERIALS FOR THE NEARLY DUN:

Hook: Tiemco 100, 101 or 9300 dry fly hook

in sizes 18 to 24, or Tiemco #2487 (and Daiichi 1140), or midge-style hook in sizes

18 to 24

Thread: Veevus Dark Olive 12/0 for

BWO, & Lt. Cahill for PMD

Tail: Wood duck flank feathers

Body: Dark Olive thread dressed thin

Ribbing: Chartreuse 6/o tying thread, twisted

tightly, or extra small Ultra Wire

Wing: BWO Trigger Point fibers (bluish gray)

Thorax: Peacock Ice Dubbing Head: Dark Olive tying thread



#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NEARLY DUN:

- at the head space and wind down to the end of the shank. Select two fibers from a lemon wood duck feather. I like to split the two fibers and I do this by untwisting my thread and gently passing it between the near side fiber and the hook and gently pull forward pulling the fiber towards you. Then I slowly push the thread away and slightly rearward, forcing the far tail fiber further away. Add one or two turns to lock things in.
- 2. Now, tie in your chartreuse wire ribbing, low and on the far side of the hook. Tying it in this location is best for conventionally-wound ribbing, as it will start right at the end of the body, without creeping halfway up it. For ribbing wound in the reverse direction, tie it in low and on the near side of the hook. Now, smoothly wind your tying thread over the wire and the untrimmed tail butts, creating a smooth body. Wind the wire in the normal direction, and trim away the excess wire and butts when you get to the thorax—about two thirds of the way up the shank.
- 3. Apply Peacock Ice Dubbing to your thread and wind a dubbing thorax. Don't make the thorax too thick. You will want enough size to make it look like a thorax and to slightly lift the wing off the body, but certainly not enough to make the wing stand up vertically.
- 4. Select your Trigger Point wing material and tie it in between the thorax and the eye, but still leaving a head space. Now, wind back towards the thorax one to three turns to force the wing against the thorax, lifting it slightly away from the body.
- 5. Form a neat, small head and whip finish. Cut the length of the wing at a point just short of the end of the body—this is a wing that hasn't fully expanded so shorter is better! Trim the butt ends with a short stub which helps lock the wing onto the hook. The fly is done and ready for a test drive at your favorite location. I know where mine would be...

#### **NOTES:**

PHOTO-3

- Choice of wing material should only be limited by your imagination; however, for size 20 and smaller, use thinner materials like micro-diameter Zelon and especially Enrico Puglisi's Trigger Point fibers, which are easy to use and coated with a floatant. Of course, CDC is always an option!
- Should your fishing conditions become less than ideal (high wind or rougher-than-normal water), adding a hackle to this pattern would certainly be a wise choice. To tie the pattern with a hackle, change the order up just a bit. Tie in the wing first, with a couple of thread wraps between it and the body, to lift the wing slightly. Tie in your hackle, and dub the thorax forward to the head space. Now, wind two or three turns of hackle and tie off, whip finish and you're done. I will oftentimes trim the underside hackle away from the front, letting the fly sit lower.



### **Calendar of Events**

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4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
7	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
		9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Lower Owens #1 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
8	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
9	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
11	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
12-15	Weekend		Lower Owens #1 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
14	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
18	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
21	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
21-22	Weekend		Long Beach Casting Club Open Spey Tournament
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Joseph Stanovich from CDFW
28	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
31	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Supplemental Fly Tying with John Van Derhoof
		7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class

## February

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
4	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
		9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Lower Owens #2 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
5	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
6	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
8	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
9-12	Weekend		Lower Owens #2 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
11	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
15	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
18	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
18-19	Weekend		Southwestern Tournament
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class
22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
23	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Steve Schalla
25	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
28	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Supplemental Fly Tying with John Van Derhoof
		7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Tying Class

#### **Calendar of Events Continued...**

#### March

1	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
4	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
		9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Lower Owens #3 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
5	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
6	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
7	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting Class
8	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
9-12	Weekend		Lower Owens #3 with John Lincoln and Dan Rivett
11	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
14	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting Class
15	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
15-17	Week		Pyramid Lake Trip with Paul Nakamura
18	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
19	Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
21	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting Class
22	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
25	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
28	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting Class
29	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
30	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Michael Schweit, Southwest Council FFI









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### SIERRA PACIFIC FISHING ADVENTURES for 2023-2024

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Lower Owens, Call for dates

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