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NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB, ESTABLISHED 1925

AUGUST 2024

WWW.LONGBEACHCASTINGCLUB.ORG

Leader's Line...

Practice Your Casting to Improve Your Fishing!

TOM OLSON, PRESIDENT

Yee been fly fishing since my teenage years, but I never focused on my casting until I joined Long Beach Casting Club. If I had to do it all over again, I would have learned good casting technique as part of my fly-fishing journey. I should have learned from my brother Rick; he was a natural and easily out-fished me with his tight loops and line control. Like any other sport or hobby, if you can master the fundamentals of casting, you will be proficient.

This isn't the first Leader's Line on casting, but I want to promote our Club's casting instruction. We all have a great opportunity to become better casters with our talented members and facilities.

When I tried to be a self-taught Spey caster with a friend, before taking a lesson and before Youtube, I struggled and had sore muscles. I was doing everything wrong...I was all "top hand".

Then, back in 2016, my friend Jim Solomon suggested a Spey lesson from John Van Derhoof. I made the drive from my home in the South Bay and had an amazing lesson with John. After that, I started practicing and joined LBCC. I took a Spey class with Howard Uller and Mike Ivy and participated in the first annual Spey Tournament. After these steps, I eventually joined the Board as Pond Co-Captain, and I'm now serving as President. All by wanting to improve my casting.

From the beginning, I was amazed by the progress I made in casting by learning proper technique. I

enjoyed the members and camaraderie, and the support I got from our little fly-fishing network. I wasn't going on as many fishing trips, so casting at LBCC connected me to fly fishing in a new way.

I've turned into a fly caster more than a fly fisherman. I don't go fishing as much as I used to, but with all the casting I do now (Spey competitions at LBCC, San Francisco and upcoming Sweden), I'm enjoying casting as much as I do fishing. And when I do go fishing, I'm enjoying every cast, I'm catching more fish and I don't have sore muscles.

I want to set an example and encourage all our members to improve their casting skills. The Calendar shows how much casting LBCC offers. We have our weekly Club casts in single-hand and Spey, beginning classes, intermediate classes and "teach the teacher" classes. All of us should strive for the Bronze, Silver, and Gold personal levels. They are free, fun, a personal

Club Trips for 2024

STEVE TIMM, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

TRIP DATE	TRIP & LEADER
Aug 3	Yards and Inches w/Mick Woodbury Pre-Trip
	July 27, 9:00 am
Aug 6	Local Tenkara Event 9:00 am w/Art Strauss
	No Pre-Trip
Aug 8-11	Twenty Lakes Basin backpack trip w/Jim
	Garvey Pre-Trip July 31, 7:00 pm
Oct 2-6	Crowley Lake w/Steve Timm Pre-trip Sept 28,
	9:00 am
Nov 9-12	Northern California Steelhead w/Marc
	Bonvouloir Pre-trip Nov 2, 9:00 am

Trip locations, dates and pre-trips change, so be sure to 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 decide to cancel, your deposit will only be refunded if a Club member replaces you.

If you would like to be a Streamkeeper and you need help organizing a Club trip, please be sure to email me and let me know. Also, please contact Steve Timm if you have suggestions for a Club trip or if you have any questions at: <u>srtimm@hotmail.com</u>.



<u>Officers</u>

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August Speaker: Glenn Ueda

Jungle Predators "Beyond the Bucket List"

TONY DAUS, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Our August speaker is <u>Glenn Ueda</u>. A native of Southern California, Glenn was introduced to surf fishing as a child by his father. Reading about fly fishing in <u>Field and Stream</u>, Glenn soon learned basic fly casting and tying at world-famous Long Beach Casting Club. He was ten. A local pond provided endless joy fooling bluegill, crappie and bass.



Almost five decades later, following a rewarding career as an architect, he sought new challenges. Taking all of those cherished surf and freshwater lessons, he built a successful business, <u>So Cal Flats</u> <u>Fly Fishing Guide Service</u>, teaching fly anglers the art of sight-fishing in shallow surf for one of the world's most challenging species, the California corbina. He has guided highly-skilled anglers from all over the globe. Many agree after a day of stalking that our "Ghost of the Coast" is as difficult to catch as the popular and highly-coveted flats permit, if not more so.

Glenn has ventured abroad for exotic species such as Baja Mexico roosterfish, dorado and tuna, Belizean permit, tarpon and bonefish, Christmas Island giant



trevally, triggerfish and bonefish, Amazon arapaima, peacock bass, wolf fish and arowana, Argentinian golden dorado, pacu and pira pita, and most recently Colombian "vampire fish", also known as payara.

Join us Thursday, August 29, at 7:00 pm, at the Clubhouse or by Zoom.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83907882872?pwd= AEU2snsjOKA32ZPU7HDjsaOLtRkFNF.1

Meeting ID: 839 0788 2872 Passcode: 118905



Fly Tying Forum August Schedule

MATT MURDOUGH, MEMBER

John Van Derhoof will start us off this month in a surprising direction—nymphs tied specifically for Atlantic Salmon. The brainstorm of a trio of American tiers, <u>Preston Jennings</u>, <u>Charlie DeFeo</u> and <u>Ted Niemeyer</u>, these sparse, low-water dressings were mainly used in late summer when the salmon are "dour," and unwilling to move to conventional patterns. John will share one of his own creations, a Niemeyer-inspired golden stone. We'll be using real jungle cock (John is supplying it)!



Each year, there are only a few truly new innovations to the art of fly tying. That is, of course, because we stand on the shoulders of giants who already discovered most of the ways of attaching feathers and fur to fishhooks! One of those giants is <u>Harry</u> <u>Darbee</u>. We may think extended body mayflies are a fairly recent invention, but they're not. One of the first, the Two Feather, came from Harry Darbee's vise nearly 80 years ago. A founding father of the Catskill tying school, Harry and his wife Elsie also began the



first intensive breeding program for roosters with high quality dry fly hackle. Nearly every modern hackle farm, including <u>Whiting</u>, Metz, <u>Hoffman</u> and <u>Collins</u>, can <u>trace part of their genetic line back to</u> <u>the Darbee birds</u>. We'll tie Darbee's original Two Feather and some modern adaptions such as this Parachute Green Drake.



In the July edition of the Forum, we met another Catskill legend and close friend of the Darbees: John Atherton. Atherton was a professional artist who painted covers for the Saturday Evening Post from the 1940s until his untimely death while salmon fishing on the <u>Miramichi River</u> in 1952. Atherton shared his "number series" fly patterns with the Darbees, who tied and sold them commercially at their shop. We'll tie two of Atherton's impressionistic and buggy wet flies: the #2 and the #4.



We can come full circle in this month's Forum: The salmon nymphs we'll start the month tying share many characteristics with Atherton's nymphs and low-water salmon flies. In his book <u>The Fly and the Fish</u>, Atherton thanked Charlie DeFeo for teaching him to mount salmon wings. Ted Niemeyer credited DeFeo and Atherton, among others, as a source of inspiration for his patterns. Like Darbee, Atherton, DeFeo and Niemeyer, we all become better tiers by sharing our knowledge with others.

September is prime steelhead season in Alaska and British Columbia, so we're taking the month off from the Fly Tying Forum to chase some chrome. Tight lines...see you in October!



Anyone who would like to join our regular sessions at 7:00 pm every Wednesday, please email Shirley Sakaguchi (sakagusc@gmail.com) to get added to the Forum email list. We will send out pattern sheets to the Fly Tying Forum distribution for all the flies covered in the coming month.

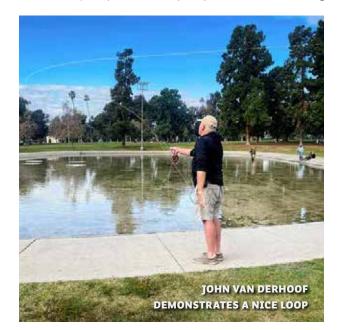
Anyone who is interested in leading a tying session should reach out to Matt Murdough (<u>mmroaringbrook@gmail.com</u>) to get onto the schedule.

If you have a pattern or genre of fly you'd like to learn how to tie, let us know; we likely have someone who can demonstrate it. We're looking forward to seeing some new faces at the Forum!

DATE	GENRE: PATTERN	INSTRUCTOR
8/7	Open Tying Night	None
8/14	Ted Niemeyer-Style Golden Stone	J. Van Derhoof
8/21	Extended-Body Darbee Two Feather	Matt Murdough
7/24	Traditional Wet Flies: Atherton #2, #4	Matt Murdough
		•

Leader's Line...Continued from page 1

challenge and a great way to meet other members and potential new members. I want to thank all the dedicated people who support casting here at LBCC: our certified instructors, our co-captains, our "Teach the Teacher" graduates, and our friendly members who will help anyone on any day with their casting.



Long Beach Casting Club New Members

SHAWN FIFE, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

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

- Scott Alexander of Yorba Linda
- Steven Calhoun of Palos Verdes

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!

Yards & Inches Tournament Coming Up!

BY MICK WOODBURY, PAST PRESIDENT

Have you had trouble getting out to fish? Do you miss the bite, setting the hook, feeling the bend in the rod? Would you like to fish close to home in a beautiful environment?

Your chance is coming on Saturday, August 3 at the Yards and Inches tournament—also known by many as the Posole Bowl. You'll be breathing fresh air and seeing friends you might not have seen for a while.

If you haven't tried fishing the salt, you're in for a treat. Sand bass and spotted bay bass have serious attitude. They can bend a rod and spike your heart rate in an instant. It's a floating event—kayak, pontoon, dinghy, float tube, small boat, etc. However, float tubers better stick to the boat docks; the main current gets too strong to kick against.

For those who are new to the Club, the Y&I is a local, members-only catch and release event that happens about five miles from the Clubhouse. The targeted species include spotted bay bass, sand bass, calicos, croaker, white sea bass, halibut, mackerel and just about anything else that swims in the bay except sharks and rays.

The rules are simple: catch a fish (flies only, no bait), measure and record its length and turn it loose. Repeat, repeat, repeat. The highest number (total length of everything you catch) is declared the winner. Last year, the combined fleet caught 425 inches (35+ feet) of fish caught and released. Kevin Green was the winner with an impressive 153 inches (more than 12 feet)!

Six- to eight-weight rods work just fine. You'll want a sinking line or shooting head and weighted flies. The fish are all bottom dwellers. If you're not plowing the bottom, you're not fishing. The most common fly is



the Clouser, or versions of it. More about flies at the Pre-Trip, July 27.

Fishing is in Huntington Harbor from the PCH bridge **inland**. It's all calm-water bay fishing. Launch around 6:00 AM. Lines out at 11:00 this year because the incoming tide tops out about then. It's a 4.1-foot tide.

Most launch at the Sunset Aquatic Marina at the west end of Edinger. You can also launch at Seabridge Park. Everyone is a winner. Even if you get skunked, you can claim a bowl of posole, chips, salsa and a PBR. If you're the actual winner, you also get your name on a trophy. OK, the trophy is a big yawn, but the bragging rights are cool and the PBR is icy. The "weigh-in" will be at Seabridge Park, 16252 Countess Drive about 11:30 on the west side of the parking lot.



Free Beginning Casting Classes This September

MARK KOCSIS, CASTING CHAIRPERSON

The Long Beach Casting Club will be offering a Beginning Casting Clinic this September. This is a condensed (no orientation but no shortening of casting) version of previous clinics. The class is taught by John Van Derhoof, who is a <u>Master Certified</u> <u>Casting Instructor</u>. The class will get our students started in discovering the joy of fly casting and fly fishing. It will be held on four consecutive Tuesday evenings. The clinic is free and open to all.

SESSION 1

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 from 7:00-9:00 рм.

You will learn the proper method of performing the Pick Up and Lay Down Cast.

SESSION 2

Tuesday,September 17, 2024 from 7:00-9:00 рм.

Review the Pick-Up and Lay Down Cast and learn the False Cast.

SESSION 3

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 from 7:00-9:00 рм.

Review the Pick-Up and Lay Down and False Cast. Then we will learn how to mend line to make us better fly fishers and fish catchers. The mends will be the Pile Cast, Reach Mend and the Reach Mend but with slipping line. We may also try the Roll Cast.

SESSION 4

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 from 7:00–9:00 PM. Briefly review the Pick-Up and Lay Down, False Cast, Line Mending. Then we will spend more time with the Roll Cast. You will then learn to extend line while false casting and, finally, we will work on a couple of other fishing mends.

Questions? Please contact Mark Kocsis at locating24@gmail.com. Cost: FREE! No signup is needed—just show up!

"Teach the Teacher" Classes

Wednesdays: September 4, 11, 18 and 25

COLIN KUMABE, PAST PRESIDENT

The Long Beach Casting Club is offering "Teach the Teacher" classes. The purpose is to train members to teach fly casting. Participants will be able to identify reasons for casting flaws and learn how to recommend ways to fix problem casts.

Teach the Teacher participants from previous sessions are encouraged to come out to practice teaching and assist new teachers.

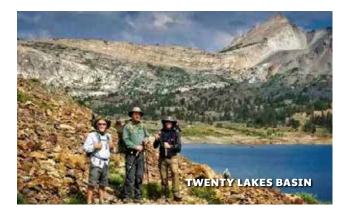
In addition to catching more fish and helping others, another side benefit of the Teach the Teachers program is for participants to coach themselves toward better casting.

The Teach the Teacher Class is scheduled on Wednesdays: September 4, 11, 18 and 25. Participants completing the Teach the Teacher Classes are encouraged to continue to practice what they have learned and apply this training to the Beginning Casting Classes. The Beginning Casting Classes will be on Tuesdays: September 10, 17 and 24, and October 1.

Anyone who is interested in participating, please make sure to notify one of the following:

Joe Libeu: fishlgf@ix.netcom.com Mark Flo: markcflo@yahoo.com Colin Kumabe: ckumabe@gmail.com





LBCC Backpack Trip!

JIM GARVEY, MEMBER

Off to Twenty Lakes Basin again! This year's backcountry fly fishing backpacking trip is scheduled for August 8-11. This is a moderate three-day/ two-night ten-mile loop through Twenty Lakes Basin in the Hoover Wilderness, adjacent to Saddlebag Lake, a few miles north of Tioga Pass. We have up to 15 available spots.

This trip is perfect for those new to backpacking and/ or backcountry fly fishing. This scenic area at 10,000 feet below the Sierra Crest includes lakes, meadows and interconnecting streams. Route elevation gain and loss is very manageable. Be prepared for quickly changing weather: sunny and warm to wind, rain and snow.

On Thursday, August 8 we will meet at the USFS Saddlebag Lake Campground for the group potluck dinner and to help acclimatize to the 10,000 foot trailhead elevation. It is about a seven-hour drive to the campground; participants are encouraged to arrive by 6:00 pm at the latest. We hike in Friday morning, August 9 and hike out Sunday, August 11.

The pre-trip meeting and discussion of lightweight backpacking equipment and techniques will be Wednesday, July 31, 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. To sign up or for information contact Jim Garvey, **310-985-0761**, jim_garvey@sbcglobal.net or Colin Kumabe, **562-221-9418**, ctkumabe@gmail.com.

Coming this Fall: Crowley Club Trip

STEVE TIMM, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

The Club trip to Lake Crowley is approaching fast. If you would like to have space in the Club condo, please email Steve Timm at <u>srtimm20@hotmail.com</u>. Of course, you are also free to arrange your own lodging, if that is your wish.

The trip is October 2 through October 6. We will arrive on the 2^{nd,} and leave on the 6th. The pre-trip meeting will be on September 28, at 9:00 am, in the Clubhouse.

Crowley fished pretty well for a group of us who went up in May. But we will have the opportunity to fish plenty of other lakes or streams in the area if Crowley doesn't produce.

Come out to Crowley with us. With any luck, you will end up with a fish in your net just like the one below.



Local Tenkara Fishing!

ART STRAUSS, MEMBER

This is for those newbies who want an orientation to Tenkara philosophy, equipment, set-up, casting, safely bringing in fish and post-fishing equipment care. It's an opportunity to fish Laguna Lakes Park, a bluegill and bass site. Date: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 9:00 AM. Location: Laguna Lakes Park in Fullerton

DETAILS:

- Time: 9:00 am (to avoid morning traffic)
- Location: meet at Laguna Lake Park in Fullerton, across from the Equestrian Center (3120 Lakeview Drive, Fullerton, CA 92835, +1714-738-6575)at 9:00 am. Contact Art Strauss for questions on meeting location. There will be no pre-trip meeting.
- Limited to no more than eight participants (including Art). Please contact Art Strauss to reserve a spot.
- Bring hat/face covering, sunglasses and water.
- Wearing a long-sleeved lightweight shirt is recommended.
- Sunscreen recommended.
- Only need tennis shoes as no wading allowed.
- Fishing License needed.
- Bring your Tenkara rod/line/flies if you have it.
- For those who do not have a Tenkara rod, Art has three loaner rods. Please contact Art Strauss to reserve a loaner rod.
- Parking is free but limited.
- The restrooms are usually unlocked.
- Line 3.5-4.0 recommended (in case of wind).
- Line length same as rod plus 3-4 foot tippet.

NOTES/COMMENTS:

- There is casting room—look for walkers behind you—better to cast parallel to the shore where the fish are visible and "pulse" your fly.
- Fish around the aerators as they make a current flow which is better for fly action.
- Recommend small worm patterns/scuds/soft hackles (size 14-18).

- Any small-beaded nymph/worm flies will work well here.
- Mysis shrimp are a good substitute for the grass shrimp which are usually present.
- I broke a rod tip on a bass that went into the weeds, despite a 6x tippet. Difficult dilemma using a Tenkara rod from shore on a lake.

Please notify me (<u>astraussmd@gmail.com</u>, 949-202-8643) if you plan to come. Thanks! Hope to see you there!

Big Win for Wildlife: Habitat Conservation Fund Secured!

Victory for Conservation Funds

CAL TROUT PRESS RELEASE

I nan inspiring show of unity and determination, we have fantastic news to celebrate: the <u>Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF)</u> has been protected from budget cuts this legislative session! Earlier this year, a draft budget threatened to slash \$45 million from this vital fund, disregarding the will of California voters. However, your voices and the efforts of our dedicated state leaders have ensured that this crucial funding remains intact.

CHAMPIONING OUR CAUSE

This victory wouldn't have been possible without the steadfast commitment of Governor Newsom and our allies in the Legislature. Special thanks go to Senator Catherine Blakespear and Senator Brian Dahle for their passionate advocacy. We are also deeply grateful for the crucial support from Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, Senate Leader pro tem Mike McGuire, Senator Scott Wiener, and Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel. Their dedication, along with your involvement, has been instrumental in this success.

Going Crazy; the World's Smartest Fishing Dog

GARY LAFONTAINE, AN EXCERPT FROM FLY FISHING THE MOUNTAIN LAKES

My backpack has been filled for weeks. It sits in the enclosed porch, right by the door. It's there to tease, to build up anticipation; or sometimes as a taunt, useless in bad weather. I love the feel of it on

my back and occasionally I have to put it on, adjusting the straps and shifting the weight until it's comfortable, and then I stand on my porch for a few minutes.

Some evenings, when I'm downcast about the long, cold spring, I put on my pack and circle the block. I stay on the sidewalk, going around two or three times, and I see my neighbors come to their windows and mouth words of pity, "It's just Gary with his backpack again."

The melancholy isn't over the lack of fishing; or even the lack of lake fishing—the season on low-elevation stillwaters starts in March in my home valley. But mountain lakes don't mean just fishing. The words "fishing and hiking" or vice versa, are linked.

"Where are you going?"

"Hiking and fishing."

The sadness, after a long winter is over the impossibility of even penetrating the high country, never mind fishing. Maybe, as a result of this lock-out, my friends fish the low-land ponds and lakes hard during the early season.

Ever sit there, waiting for a telephone call, trying to do something, anything, to fill the day, when the only thing really worth doing was waiting for that call? Mine finally came at seven one evening, and Andy Stahl blurted out, "I told you the old boy owed me. We're in. A week from Monday we can fish the pond."

Andy was so excited that he came over to my house the next morning to plot strategy. He wanted to talk about flies, tackle, techniques—everything had to be just right for this day of fishing. The 'old boy' who owned the pond was a cranky son-of-a-b****, a retired army officer from the East who had bought his piece of Montana paradise and hadn't let any local



people onto the best brown trout pond in the valley for nearly ten years. He may have owed Andy one day of fishing, but no way did he owe him two and, short of marrying the Major's ugly, divorced daughter, even Andy wasn't going to be able to get us in there again.

Andy talked until almost three in the afternoon and as he was opening the door to leave, he said, "And maybe you shouldn't bring Chester." Chester had been listening to our fish talk all

day, getting more and more excited, and I swear that when Andy said this, Chester's face dropped and he looked for a moment like a basset hound that had been licked. Then he slunk out the room.

"That was harsh."

"Nothing against Chester."

"Has he ever bothered you fishing?"

"You don't understand," Andy said. "It's not me. It's the owner. This guy makes fun of any dog that comes on the place. He thinks that he has the smartest dogs around."

"What does he do?"

"First thing he always does is sit his black labs down,

put dog biscuits on the ground, and then he tells the dogs not to eat them. And the dogs won't until he tells them to."

"Chester goes with me."

"It's your call."

For the next few days I tied flies and trained Chester. No problem with that—teaching Chester wasn't like training; it was more a discussion about how things should be done. Chester quickly understood how he must respond to that biscuit laying on the floor at his feet.

Even before we climbed out of Andy's truck, the owner of the pond was crossing the yard trailed by two black Labs. The man scowled at Andy, as if he didn't remember him or the invitation to fish. When he spotted Chester he stooped suddenly, staring at my faithful mongrel like Chester might be a threat to his breeding bitches, and he asked, "What's that?"

I smiled, "That's the world's smartest dog."

The Major humphed, puffing up, and tossed a dog biscuit on the ground. "My dogs won't eat that biscuit until I tell them to."

Chester never moved and I said, "Neither will mine."

The Major glared, "All right. Let's see which dog will hold the longest."

That had me worried. I hadn't trained Chester for endurance, but there was no way to slip this contest. I told the Major, "You go ahead and set them."

He put his dogs in position, dropped a biscuit in front of each, and said, "Don't touch that." Then he walked over to Chester, dropped the biscuit, and in the same stern voice, meant to intimidate, said, "Don't touch that."

Chester, not easily intimidated, never dropped his gaze. He stared back at the Major for a moment; and

then he looked over at the two Labs and, without a glance at his biscuit, trotted over, ate the other biscuits very slowly, and came back and sat in front of his.

"Damn," the Major said, more of a compliment than a curse.

And that's how we got in to fish the best brown trout pond in the valley, then and many times after. On occasion the Major would even call me and asked if I'd bring Chester out so he could show his friends, in his words, "The world's smartest fishing dog."

15% Aventik Discount

PAUL BURGNER, MEMBER

Chao Hang of Aventik is offering LBCC members a **15% discount**. Go to the Club page and click on "Sponsors", "Aventik". The Aventik 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 **2NQ3ILR9**. Items for this month:

- ASIN: B07D2C6S4D Tinsel Chenille
- ASIN: B07F65Y19Y Dumbbell Fish Eyes
- ASIN: BO1N4NJIII Strike Indicators
- ASIN: B07JKKJ5PR Fly-Tying Thread
- ASIN: BOCC8BBKB3 Fly Fishing Boxes
- ASIN: BOD2H58LS4 Rod Tip Repair Kit
- ASIN: BOCSYQKSDF Fishing Rod Holders
- ASIN: BOD1MBBLXW Rod Repair Kit
- ASIN: BOC9C9H331 Rod Tip Repair Kit
- ASIN: BOD1YCMM6G Foam Tackle Box



TEACH THE TEACHERS AUGUST 3, 10 & 17, 2024 12-noon to 3:00pm LONG BEACH CASTING CLUB

The Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International, along with the Long Beach Casting Club and casting instructors from several other local clubs, is hosting a "Teach the Teachers" class on fly-casting on the first three Saturdays in August (the 3rd, 10th, and 17th), from 12:00 noon until approximately 3:00 pm each Saturday.

The class is being taught by FFI Certified Casting Instructors, Master Casting Instructors, and students currently enrolled in the CI certification program. This class is designed to help fly casters become better at teaching casting skills to beginning and intermediate fly fishers.

Classes will begin in the LBCC clubhouse at 12:00 noon and then move out to the casting pool.

A \$20 donation per person to the Southwest Council is encouraged for the three-week class. <u>CLICK</u> to donate or bring a check made out to SWCFFI.

Spaces are limited, so sign up early.

To register, contact Jody Martin (FFI Southwest Council Casting Director) at: casting@swcffi.org

Casting Challenge!

COLIN KUMABE, PAST PRESIDENT

Tmproving casting skills is difficult without coaching Land instruction. The steps to improved control of the fly line and significantly better fishing success are mapped out in the Casting Skills Challenge Program, developed by Fly Fishers International. The Long Beach Casting Club is the place to help with improving casting skills. Experienced casters and instructors are available to assist with completing the Challenges.

Below is a simplified summary of the Challenge levels:

BRONZE LEVEL

- Pickup/lay down
- Roll cast
- Accuracy casts
- Shoot line
- Distance cast

SILVER LEVEL

- Pickup/lay down
- Belgian cast
- Accuracy casts
- Reach mends
- Distance casts



- Slack line presentation
- Seated/kneeling cast
- Non-dominant accuracy casts
- Curved cast
- Roll cast pickup and shoot
- Back casts delivery
- Distance cast

Details for each task in the Challenge may be found on the FFI Website. All Club members are invited to take these steps toward better fishing.

Anyone wanting to take the Casting Challenge is invited to meet at the Clubhouse on Sunday, August 4, by 9:00 am. Please RSVP to Colin Kumabe: ctkumabe@gmail.com or Mark Flo, markcflo@ **vahoo.com** to secure your spot. The casting challenge tasks are described here:

FFI Casting Challenge Tasks



LBCC Hats for Sale

COLIN KUMABE, PAST PRESIDENT

he LBCC is selling special "100th Anniversary 1925-2025" hats. There are only 100 of these hats. When they're gone, then you will be sorry you missed them.



Priced at \$20 each, you can't afford to pass these up. Hats may be purchased only at the Clubhouse of the Long Beach Casting Club. Just come to the Clubhouse during any event on the Calendar, such as the Monthly Meeting, to purchase these collectible stylish hats.



Shoot line

Fly of the Month: Stacked Blue-Wing Olive

JOHN VAN DERHOOF, EDITOR

I have to admit it. I have a favorite fishing place on this planet. I have fished all over (well certainly not as much as Libeu) but yeah, I have fished fresh and salt. Alaska and Mexico. Montana and Christmas Island. Costa Rica and limestone creeks in Pennsylvania. I also have favorite areas: our own Eastern Sierra ranks Number Two on my list and the rivers and lakes in the Yellowstone region are ranked Number Three. Still sitting out there in the Number One spot is the Green River, Utah!

I usually go in the springtime and at that time it's nymphs, midges and a really fun BWO hatch. A couple of seasons ago while fishing with my friend and favorite guide on the river, Doug Roberts (owner of <u>Old Moe</u> <u>Guide Service</u>) I fished a Hackle Stacker style fly for the first time in years. It floated, it was very visible and dang, it worked! While this year it was a midge cluster that knocked out the fish, my first choice as a dry was to try my version of Doug's Stacked Blue-Wing Olive—I trust it! So here is my turn to share it.

Now I learned how to tie Hackle Stackers 25 years ago from the originator himself, <u>Bob Quigley</u>. I enjoyed tying them for a while because they were a novelty but I was not fishing them as much as I should have back then and their charm wore off. They took more time to tie and I, frankly, didn't see the need. Well I'm back in the hackle stacker fold now. They fish just like a favorite all 'round fly: the Sparkle Dun. The way the hackle lies out around the thorax gives the fly remarkable floatability, even in slightly rougher water. Their appearance on the water certainly fools fish, with that low profile, and the hackle makes a great impressionistic foil of legs vs. wings. Also, I often add a wing to this fly, expanding it from just a dun pattern into something which can easily represent a spinner as well. This is something most tiers do not try, as it can be a bit tricky to tie, in but I think that this addition makes the fly work even better.

Of course, I have used this pattern very effectively on the Green River, but the Bighorn, Madison, Silver Creek, Hot Creek, the Upper and Lower 'O' and a variety of other smaller streams all prove prime waters for its use. Of course, you can also tie this pattern in other mayfly imitations like a Pale Morning Dun, Callibaetis, Trico, Tiny Western Olive, Mahogany Dun and more. But really, the greatest thing about the Stacked Blue-Wing Olive is this fly really works. Tie up a bunch and take 'em out for a test drive the next time you go fishing.

MATERIALS FOR DOUG'S STACKED BWO:

- Hook:Tiemco 9300, 100 or 101 dry fly hook in
sizes 16 to 20 or your favorite brand's
standard, or 1X heavy dry fly hookThread:Veevus Dark Olive; 12/0Shuck:Salmon Pink Zelon or Darlon; claret
Darlon is an excellent optionBody:Tying thread; keep it thinRibbing:Chartreuse Ultra Wire; extra smallHackle:Medium dun or Dark Grizzly DunWing:BWO EP Triggerpoint fibers (optional)Thorax:Dark Olive dubbing
- Head: Thread



HOW TO TIE DOUG'S STACKED BWO:

- Place the hook into the vise, attach your thread at the head space and wind down to the end of the shank. Select a small clump of salmon pink or claret (the original color) Zelon or Darlon (I use Darlon because it has a huge range of colors available and is usually straighter and finertextured). Tie in the shuck. The length should be about the length of the body—not including the thorax. I also like to feather and taper the ends of the shuck so it is not cut off straight and flush like a paint brush.
- 2. Tie in your chartreuse wire ribbing, low and on the far side of the hook. Tying it in this location is best for normally-wound ribbing, as it will start right at the end of the body without creeping halfway up the near side. For ribbing wound in the reverse direction over dubbing, tie it in low and on the near side of the hook.



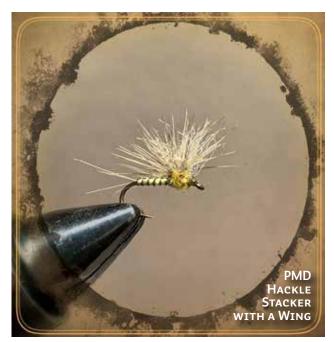
- 3. Smoothly wind your tying thread forward to the thorax, creating a slight taper. As you go, counterspin your thread to keep it flat, thereby making a very smooth body. Now wind the ribbing in the normal direction, evenly spaced to the thorax, and tie off. Try to keep the profile thin and delicate-looking as we tend to make most mayflies too chunky. If you want to use dubbing for the body, keep it very thin!
- 4. Time to create the hackle stacker...start by holding the index finger of your "off" hand over the hook shank, about four to six inches away. Right at the juncture between the body and thorax, wind

your thread up and over the top of your finger and then one or two times around the hook shank. Now, do this one or two more times until you have two or three four- to sixinch loops above the hook shank. Make sure all of the loops are the same



size, or winding the hackle will be a nightmare! The turns around the shank will help keep the large loop from being pulled smaller as you create the next large loop. Add a very small amount of thorax dubbing to your thread, and wind a small ball right behind the thread loops.

5. Select a nice long hackle (like a Whiting; it will make your life easier...) with the barb length sized for the fly. Make sure you use a hackle with a thin and flexible rachis or it may break during the winding process. Tie in the hackle with the dull side down, leaving about 1/16" of bare stem exposed. Holding the thread loops upright (I usually use my right index finger inside the loops of thread), wind the hackle smoothly up the thread and back down.



- Make sure that the amount of hackle wound on the thread will reach the start of the hook eye. Lay the remaining hackle over the front side of the shank and tie it off. Before you wind the hackle you can stiffen the thread loops a bit by adding the smallest of amounts of a UV-curing resin and hitting it with your blacklight. Now, while holding the loops upright, stroke the barbs firmly, getting them to point mostly to the rear of the hook.
- 2. If you want to add a wing, now is the time. Select a small hank of Triggerpoint fibers (half the diameter of a pencil) and trim off one end straight. With your



dominant hand and those butt ends only extending a ¹/16" beyond the fingertips, push them right up against the hackle stacker and tie the butts down with the wing material pointing towards the hook eye. Lift up the wing and add a few wraps in front to stand them up (the thorax dubbing will do the rest of the work). For durability add a very small amount of cyanoacrylate on the underside of the hook where the wing is tied in. Be careful; you don't want any to wick into the base of the wing or you won't be able to separate them later!

3. Apply the thorax dubbing to your thread and wind the thorax. Start the thorax dubbing by winding between the wing and the hackle loops, and then forward to the head space. I prefer to keep the dubbing rather loose and spiky. It looks better,

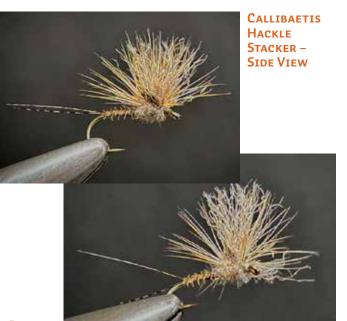


makes the fly look more lifelike, and also will allow the hackle to settle a little into the thorax, rather than sitting on top.

- Use your bodkin to separate the wing into two equal parts. Push one to the far side and the other towards you. Take hold of the thread loops of your hackle, pulling it upright firmly, and with your other hand again stroke the hackle barbs back towards the tail. Don't be too gentle-you want as many of the barbs as possible pulled back and out of the way so they don't get trapped underneath, which will give the fly a messy look. Also, be sure to leave the wing alone. Now pull the thread loops forward between the two wings to the head space. Keeping firm tension but not too much (you don't want the thread loops to snap back) wind two or three turns over the loops, to tie them down. I also will take the thread loops and wrap them once or twice around my tying thread (it tends to lock the thread loops down) and, while pulling the loops to the rear, form a very small thread head and whip finish. Remove your tying thread and then the loops of thread.
- 5. Finally, if you have wings on yours, pull them straight back and cut them off even with the bend of the hook. The fly is now done and ready for a test drive at your favorite location. I know where mine would be...

NOTES ON THE HACKLE STACKER:

- I think that the first observation I would make about tying a Hackle Stacker is to consider your hackle. Using a better than average quality hackle on these flies is important. A thin and flexible rachis is a must if one is going to use thread for the core of the wing. Many people use materials like polypropylene for their cores, which is larger in diameter and requires a less-tight turn of the hackle. If necessary use a long hackle, but use a portion near to the tip where the rachis is thinner.
- The idea of adding wings can really work to your advantage. I like the way they add an impressionistic view of your imitation. It makes it look alive and fluttering, like it's trying to escape the surface of the water. The insect wants to fly away and often a trout will see one fluttering, which triggers an "eat" response. Many species require time for their wings to fill out and dry before they fly, so fluttering them is a common test before they can take off.
- If you want to tie a wood duck wing like the Quill Gordon shown, it is best to tie in the wood duck first. Tie it down over a bed of thin thread, slightly ahead of its normal location. Leave it alone and pointing forward but trim off the butts. You can add a small drop of cyanoacrylate to keep it from rolling. Tie the fly as described above and when it is time to stand up the wing (after winding the hackle and before applying the thorax dubbing) fold the wood duck back, and squeeze the bejeezus out of it where it is tied down. A couple of thread wraps and your dubbing will stand them up permanently. Also there is no need to divide or post the wood duck—the hackle stacker will do that for you.
- Finally, you can use other wing materials like deer or elk hair if you wish. One of the photos offered was tied starting like a Comparadun with deer hair but using about half as much material as one normally would. The deer hair, like the wood duck, was tied in first and then stood up in the same fashion. All you need to do is pull the hair front and back to create room for the hackle stacker.



BOTTOM VIEW



A SULFUR MAYFLY WITH A STUCK SHUCK; THIS IS WHY WE USE SHUCK MATERIAL (NOTE THE SHUCK COLOR)



COMAPRADUN WING HACKLE STACKER WITH SHUCK

Fly Tying Tip: Dropper Tippet Tag

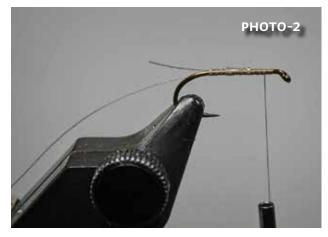
DAVE BOYER, MEMBER

One of our locals, "Bob", fishes the White and Norfork virtually every day and uses multiple fly rigs. His favorite is to hang the dropper/bottom fly off the hook bend, but with so many barbless hooks and requirements for barbless in catch and release areas you can have the tippet disengage and you lose your bottom fly. You can create a dropper tag hanging off the leader from above or tie off on the eye of your upper fly, but then those two solutions tangle or do not track well in the water column.

Bob instead ties in his tippet straight (no loop) on the hook prior to fly construction. I tried it and it is pretty slick with the trailing fly keeping the top fly in better alignment. In the photos I am using about 18" of 6X tippet placed on top of the hook (**Photo-1**).



Once I tied it in to the bend of the hook, I doubled over the shorter tag end and tied it down (**Photo-2**).



Now you can tie whatever fly you want as the upper fly (**Photo-3**).



If so desired, you can tie in your bottom fly before you attach it to your leader (**Photo-4**) or wait until you are on the water to determine what you want as a bottom fly. A little messier to store, but doable.



It's a slick technique to quicken your double/triple fly tieups without worrying about your tippet slipping off the bend of a barbless hook.

"Don't tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish." ~ Mark Twain

Recordings of LBCC Monthly Speakers

ROB PETERSON, TARGET TALK EDITOR

Here are our recorded speaker presentations for 2022 and 2023. Just click on a link, and copy and paste the password at the prompt. See February 2022 Target Talk, p. 17, for 2021 presentations.

JANUARY 2022: Steph Albano, Finatical Flyfishing, "Global Guide Service for Women". Steph Albano Presentation Jan. 27, 2022 Passcode: d9sE1*pn

FEBRUARY: Glenn Ueda, <u>So Cal Fishing Guide</u> "Planet Carp". <u>Glenn Ueda Presentation February 24, 2022</u> Passcode: 2C!.hWQ1

MARCH: Ernie Gulley, Ernie Gulley Flyfishing. "Stillwater Tactics". Ernie Gulley Presentation March 31, 2022 Passcode: Ri65p6%N

OCTOBER: Lance Egan, "Newfangled Nymphing". Lance Egan Presentation October 27, 2022 Passcode: i?hk7fd^

NOVEMBER: Charlie Craven, Fly Tying Demo. Charlie Craven Presentation Nov. 17, 2022 Passcode: C%uGCj33

FEBRUARY 2023: Steve Schalla, "Origins of Golden Trout". Steve Schalla Presentation February 23, 2023 Passcode: V?6FufM7

JUNE: Dave Smith, "DIY Fly Fishing New Zealand". Dave Smith Presentation June 29, 2023 Passcode: B9*x0P?T

JULY: Howard Uller and Art Strauss, "California Heritage Trout". **This was not recorded, but you can access their <u>presentation here</u>.**

Recordings of LBCC Monthly Speakers Cont'd: 2024

MAY 2024: Dagur Gudmundsson, "Fly Fishing the Central Coast of California". Dagur Gudmundsson Presentation May 30, 2024 Passcode: !K?zJ\$1f



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Calendar of Events

August

1	I	Thursday	8:45 AM	Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge Session
			7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
3	3	Saturday		Yards & Inches with Mick Woodbury
			9:00 AM	Spey 102 Class
			12:00 PM	SWCFFI Teach the Teachers
5	5	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
6	5	Tuesday	9:00 AM	Local Tenkara w/ Art Strauss
			7:00 PM 🦳	Tuesday Night Club Cast
7	7	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
8	3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
8	3-11	Weekend		Twenty Lakes Basin w/ Jim Garvey
1	ю	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
			12:00 PM	SWCFFI Teach the Teachers
1	3	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Club Cast
1	4	Wednesday	17:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
1	15	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
1	7	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
			12:00 PM	SWCFFI Teach the Teachers
2	20	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Club Cast
2	21	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
2	22	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
2	24	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
2	27	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Tuesday Night Club Cast
2	28	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
2	29	Thursday	7:00 PM	Monthly Meeting: Glenn Ueda
3	31	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
Septer	mher			
Septer			-	

2	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
4	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Teach the Teachers: Beginning Fly Casting
5	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
7	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
8	Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
10	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting
11	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Teach the Teachers: Beginning Fly Casting

Calendar of Events Cont'd.

12	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
14	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
17	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting
18	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Teach the Teachers: Beginning Fly Casting
19	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
21	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
22	Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
24	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting
25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Teach the Teachers: Beginning Fly Castin
26	Thursday	6:00 PM	Monthly Meeting:Frank Burr, Small Streams
28	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
		9:00 AM	Pre-Trip: Crowley Lake w/ Steve Timm
October			
1	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Beginning Fly Casting
2-6	Week		Crowley Lake w/ Steve Timm
2	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
3	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
5	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
C. S. C. I.			Double-Haul Ball
6	Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
7	Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Directors Meeting
9	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
10	Thursday	7:00 PM	Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
12	Saturday	8:00 AM	Club Spey Cast
13			
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday Club Cast
16	Sunday Wednesday		Sunday Club Cast Fly Tying Forum
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16	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum
16 17	Wednesday Thursday	7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting
16 17 18-20	Wednesday Thursday Weekend	7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Fly Tying Forum Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting Northwestern Casting Tournament
16 17 18-20 19	Wednesday Thursday Weekend Saturday	7:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 AM	Fly Tying Forum Project Healing Waters Evening Meeting Northwestern Casting Tournament Club Spey Cas
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