



SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

SANTIAMFLYCASTERS.COM

March 2021

March Meeting (presented online, NOT in person)

Fishing the Kootenai and Yaak Rivers in Northwestern Montana with Tim Flagler

Board Meeting

March 8

Via Zoom

General Meeting

March 11

"Zoom Meeting"



This month we would like to welcome back Tim Flagler who with his wife Joan operates Tightline Productions a fishing and fly tying video production company based in New Jersey. Tim's November 2020 presentation on Euro Nymphing was well received and this month he will be presenting on a slightly different topic, using an outfitter to explore and fish the rugged and beautiful Kootenai and Yaak river drainages in northwestern Montana. Tim is partnered with Linehan Outfitters, who are based in Troy, Montana and recent winners of the Orvis Flyfishing Outfitter of the Year award.

He will take us on an incredible journey into these remote yet not that distant drainages. The drive time from the Salem area is about 9 hours.

Imagine five days of fishing from a drift boat without seeing another soul as well as wading miles of crystal clear alpine streams and never encountering another fly fisher. That is what it is like on the Kootenai and Yaak Rivers. Tim will be on hand to answer any questions we may have regarding the trips themselves as well as providing other pertinent information that relates to fishing in this area, such as seasonal hatches, best times to fish up that way and a lot more. If you are an avid fly tier be sure to check out Tim's fly tying web site practicalpatterns.com for some beautiful tying videos.

In This Issue

- Time to Renew Your SFC Membership
- President's Corner by Scott Vaslev
- SFC Officers and Board Members
- Casting Clinic for SFC Members
- Schedule of 2021 SFC Outings
- Wi-Ne-Ma Lake Outing Report
- Detroit Lake Outing Report
- Using "Zoom" to View the SFC Meeting
- March 13 Crooked River Outing
- Fishing with Multiple Flies or An Indicator (Or Both) by Beth Jappay
- March Fly of the Month — Shakey Variant by Jim Ferguson
- 2021 Membership Form

Renew Your Santiam Flycasters Membership



If you haven't renewed your membership for 2021 yet, time is running out. Use the form at the back of the newsletter or download the form from the Santiam Flycasters website. Membership fees support the great Zoom monthly programs.

Not sure if you have already renewed your membership for 2021? Send a query to santiamflycasters@yahoo.com.

This could be your last issue! Please renew to enjoy all the benefits of being a member of the Santiam Flycasters.

Santiam Flycasters
BOARD AND OFFICERS

Scott Vaslev - President

VACANT - Vice President/
 Programs

Dennis Burnett - Secretary

Tim Johnson - Treasurer/
 Membership

Board Members

Will and Reenie Satak -
 Concessions

Matt Neznanski - Webmaster

Leroy Shepherd - Newsletter
 Editor

Bob LeClerc - FFI
 Representative

George Hingston

Beth Jappay

Ken Karnosh

Ricky Love

Don Meyer

Kent Toomb

Donnie Weninger

Board Members Wanted

The Santiam Flycasters want you! We are looking for a few good men and women. If you are interested in helping decide who our presenters are and where we go for our outings, please join us. Or, if you just want to find out what goes on during the board meetings or want to share your opinion; please join us. No experience needed, just your interest in fly fishing is all it takes to be a board member.

President's Corner

By Scott Vaslev

One skill a fly fisherman(woman) needs to have is knot tying. Here is a few just to refresh your memory: Clinch and improved Clinch, Blood, surgeons, Uni-Knot, Nail, Loop, and the Perfection Loop. I have used all of them at one time or another, but you can get by with a couple.



I used to use an improved Clinch for most of my hook ties but in the last 3 or 4 years have switched to the "Lefty Kreh" Loop knot for most of my terminal flies. If you want to see one tied, check it out on YouTube. The thinking behind the Loop is, since it is not Clinched to the hook eye it allows for the fly to move independently from your leader. I use it on all of my lake fly terminals and 75% on my river presentations.

I can't give you any statistical information on whether it's any better than your Clinch Knots but it makes sense to me and gives me more confidence.

For my two fly rigs, the top fly I normally tie with an Improved Clinch. I also use the Improved Clinch when tying on tippet rings, barrel swivels, etc. I can usually tie the knot thrifty enough so as not use too much of the tag.

I use the Blood Knot when joining tippet to leader. For instance, when making up a Euro leader I'll start with 10-12 ft. of 20 lb. Maxima Chameleon to 3 ft. of 12 lb. amnesia to 18 inches of 2x Rio sighter to my tippet ring. You can certainly use a Surgeons Knot for these connections, but the Blood Knot looks smoother.

Speaking of the Surgeons Knot it is the must know knot for attaching tags to your two fly rigs. I admit I use it if I am on a body of water for joining leader because for me it is a time saver. I can whip out a triple surgeon in half the time it takes to tie a Blood.

I have been tying up the top piece of my Euro leader where it joins my fly line loop with a Uni-Knot knot instead of a Perfection Loop. I know normal procedure calls for the Perfection Loop but have a hard time making the Loop small enough to pass through my guides smoothly. Probably better with the Perfection Loop so should practice tying it, although getting a small Loop when tying 20 lb. leader is a skill that is hard to master.

I also use the Uni-Knot knot when replacing the top tag when it gets too short or I want to fish a one fly rig. When you cut the tag off you still have your surgeons knot as a stop. So, if you want to replace your tag for your top fly, tie on a 6-8" piece of tippet with a Uni-Knot knot and slide it down to the surgeon's knot. Presto, you are back in biz.

My discussion on the Nail Knot will be short. Have not tied one in ages and usually make a mess of it. I have a Nail Knot tool for sale if anyone is interested.

Wintertime is a great time to practice knot tying. It is so frustrating when you're out fishing, and you need to re-rig and you are fumbling around trying to get back on the water. One thing I have learned the hard way is a half-assed knot is just that, half-assed. If your knot looks funky it probably is, so take a "chill pill" and retie.

Casting Clinics for Santiam Flycaster Members

Fine tune your fly presentation skills each Saturday

Wallace Marine Park

Spey casting at 9:30 a.m. on the gravel bar

Single hand casting at 1:00 p.m. on the soccer field
(gravel parking area)

No charge-A benefit of your Santiam Flycaster membership

Contact Klem at 503-302-9484

Winema Outing Report

On January 30, a dozen of us fished Wi-Ne-Ma Lake. Signs of spring greeted us, with pussy willows on the north end of the lake and a daffodil in bloom near the parking area.

The weather and fishing, unfortunately this year, left a bit to be desired. Mother Nature periodically tested the fan on her air conditioner and added a bit of rain and mist to complete the picture.

Fishing success ranged from zero to two per angler, although Denny Burnett managed to land a large cutthroat. Several of the guys fished after lunch, but with no additional success.

Leroy and Jean have hosted us at this gem of an outing for over 10 years, providing us with a wonderful lunch, pre-COVID, as well as a fun place to fish in mid-winter. The sad news is that they plan to retire this year, so we will need to find another outing location!

Thanks so much for this fun outing, Leroy and Jean. We'll miss it, but know that you will now be able to enjoy more summertime fishing and adventure.

Detroit Outing Report

Mother Nature foiled us again!

While we in the valley were getting iced in and having our power disrupted for days by falling trees, Detroit was getting about 2 feet of snow. Due to the snow on the boat ramp area, we had to cancel the outing.

The reservoir water level has been rising since February 1 and should fill by around May 1. There should be fishing opportunities there for another couple of weeks, after which it probably will be best to wait until fish stocking begins in late April.

Selection of 2021 Club Outings

January 30	Winema Lake
February 20	Detroit Lake
March 13	Crooked River
April 17	McKenzie (Hayden-Armitage)
May 1	Deschutes (Warm Springs-Trout Creek)
May 12 (Wed.)	Silverton Reservoir
May 22	Olalla Reservoir
June 2 (Wed.)	Crane Prairie
June 12	North Santiam (Stayton-Shelburn)
June 26	East Lake
July 10	South Santiam
July 14/15 (Wed/Thur)	Gold Lake
July 28 (Wed.)	Three Creek Lake
August 4 (Wed.)	North Santiam (Shelburn-Greens Bridge)
August 14	Willamette (Keizer Rapids-Wheatland)
August 21 (Rocky Point)	Klamath Lake
September 11	Diamond Lake
September 15 (Wed.)	McKenzie (Bellinger-Hayden)
September 25	Hosmer Lake
October 9	Crooked River
October 13 (Wed.)	Willamette (Marshall Is.-Harrisburg)
October 23	Deschutes (Warm Springs-Trout Creek)
November 6	Detroit Lake

Using “Zoom” To View The SFC Meeting

Due to the pandemic for the foreseeable future club meetings will be held using the Zoom videoconferencing service. Santiam Flycasters members will receive a link to join the Zoom Meeting one week, one day and one hour before the start of scheduled meetings. To join a meeting, simply click on the “Join the Meeting” link in one of the emails you receive. You can join the meeting early, but you will be placed into a Zoom waiting room until you are admitted into the meeting at around 7:00 PM.

There are several options for joining the meeting. You can join with a computer, a smart device, or a regular telephone. If you join with your computer, you will need to have a speaker(s) connected to the computer so that you can hear the presentation. It helps to have downloaded the Zoom Client for Meetings onto your computer beforehand. We recommend doing that prior to joining the meeting. You will be given that option in the email you receive with the “Join Meeting” link. You do not need a camera or a microphone on your computer, but that is an option if you wish to be seen and heard during the meeting. You will have the option to turn off your camera and microphone anytime during the meeting.

If you are joining the meeting with a smart phone or tablet, it may be best to first download the Zoom Cloud Meeting app. With the “Zoom Cloud Meetings” app installed, after you click on the “Join Meeting” link in your email, you will be given the option to open the “Zoom Cloud Meeting” app.

You can also join the meeting on your landline phone. You simply call the phone number provided in the email you receive. When prompted, you will enter the meeting ID followed by the # key. You will be able to listen to the presentation but will not be able to see the presentation or be seen by others.

Note: You will be provided with a Meeting ID but there is no password for joining this Zoom Meeting. Make sure to select the “Call using Internet” option if prompted.

A YouTube tutorial on joining a Zoom Meeting can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tr-JHfEas8k>

If you have questions, contact Tim Johnson at tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com, or call 503-507-8552. He is particularly interested in hearing from any member who wishes to take advantage of closed captioning option for the meetings.

March 13 Crooked River Outing



On March 13, we will fish the Crooked River south of Prineville. This is a walk and wade outing, no flotation device needed. You can camp at any of the several campgrounds (we will camp at Cobble Rock), stay at a motel in Prineville, or you can just make it a long day trip from home.

To get there, drive Highway 22 east to Sisters, turn left onto Highway 126 on the east edge of Sisters and follow it through Redmond to Prineville, turn right (south) at the Bowman Dam (Highway 27) sign in the middle of Prineville, and drive about 17 miles to Cobble Rock campground. None of the campgrounds are reservable.

Suggested gear is a 4-6 weight rod with floating line or a Euro-nymphing setup. There should be hatches of blue wing olives and midges, mostly in the afternoon, but most fishing will be nymphing right along the bottom with the cooler water temperatures. Nymphs include midge pupa, pheasant tails, and hare's ears, plus Euro-nymphing patterns. Dry flies include blue wing olives, midges, caddis, and PMDs. Soft hackles also may work. Most flies should be small, often in the size 16-20 range.

Remember your wading staff, since the rocks are uneven and slippery. And, it will be cool at night!

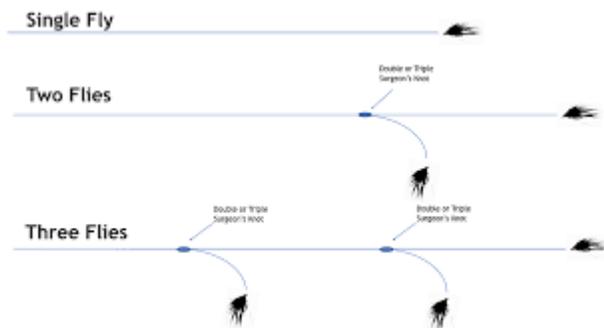
Due to COVID-19, the club will not provide a meal, so bring adequate food and beverages.

Ricky is the sponsor for this trip. E-mail him at ricky-love20@aol.com if you have a question.

Fishing With Multiple Flies or An Indicator (Or Both) ***By Beth Jappay***

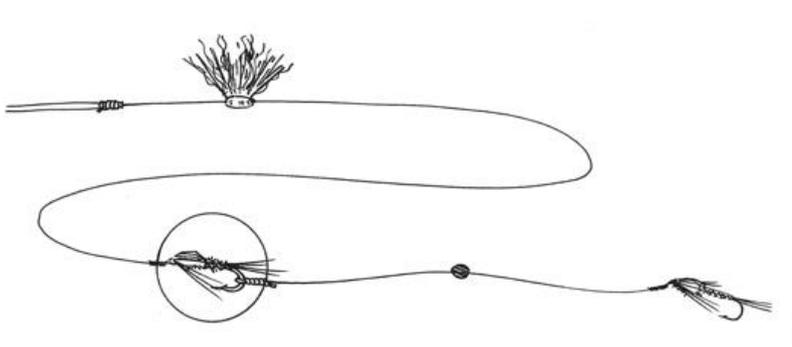
Fishing with multiple flies is very productive. In general fishing with more flies means catching more fish. The biggest disadvantage is the increased likelihood of experiencing tangles. There are ways to overcome this disadvantage as I will discuss in more detail below.

These days I rarely fish with just one fly. I will sometimes fish with three and occasionally with four.



There are many advantages to fishing with more than one fly. The most obvious is that the fish are seeing more than one pattern, increasing the likelihood of presenting a fly that will trigger a strike. Sometimes a flashier fly will attract the attention of the fish, who will then investigate and take the more realistic one. Also depending on the set-up a multiple fly rig will also present the fly at different depths. Fishing with an indicator, trolling with a midge tip line, multiple boobies on a sinking line, or euro nymphing are common examples of fishing different depths with multiple flies.

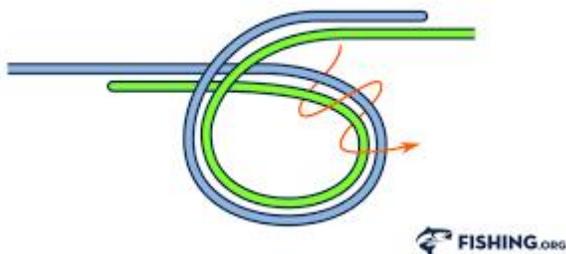
Twenty years ago when I was first advised to fish with a two fly rig, I was instructed to attach a section of tippet to the bend of the hook of my first fly.



The advantage of this setup is that this rig is less likely to tangle. The disadvantage is that this doesn't work well if the first fly has a barbless hook, as this section of tippet may just slip off. The other disadvantage is that the fish just don't seem to take this top fly as often. The thought is that the fish will feel the tied-off tippet and not take this top fly. The third disadvantage of this setup is that it seems to increase the likelihood of a foul hook by the second fly, especially if the second fly is less than 18" below the first.

These days I almost always create a dropper using a surgeon's knot.

2.

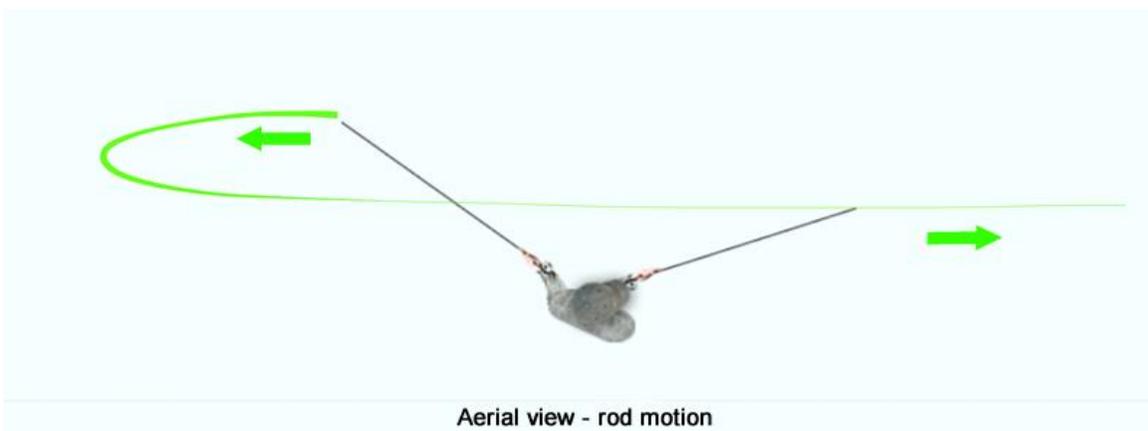
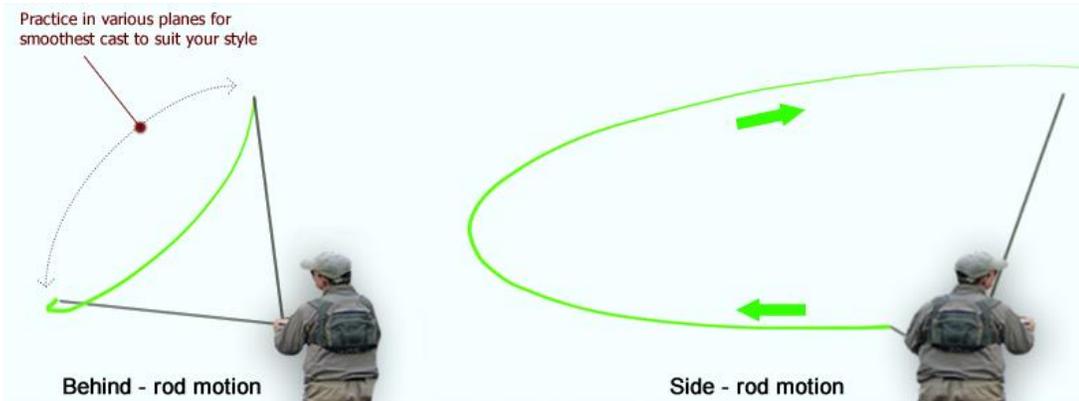


I usually want my dropper to be at 4 to 6" in length, so the overlap of the two pieces of tippet should be about 5 to 7", and the knot should be tied in the first 1-2" of the overlap. With the surgeon's knot it is particularly important that all of the ends be pulled tight at the same speed. If the loops don't lie straight, the knot strength drops considerably. A surgeon's knot should always be wrapped a minimum of three times, as a double surgeon's is not nearly as strong. I have always cut off the tag end pointing back toward the fly line (green in this illustration) and tied the fly on the section coming from the leader (blue in this illustration). I will sometimes tie a half hitch knot with this dropper section to have the tippet form a more acute angle with the leader, in order to hold the dropper fly farther from the leader. However during our February Zoom meeting Earnie Gulley recommended using the tippet coming back towards the fly line to tie on the fly instead, in order to achieve this same effect.



There were a couple of tips about using surgeon's knots that I picked up listening to Lance Egan on a podcast. First, when attaching tippets of different sizes, such as a 5x to a 6x, he recommended using a quadruple surgeon's. The knot is much stronger, since the smaller diameter tippet takes on a disproportionate stress when the sizes are unequal. He also ties his multiple fly rigs a little differently, first pulling off a 4 foot length of tippet and then tying a 7" section into the center of it, as opposed to tying a 24" section of tippet to another 24" section of tippet with a triple surgeon's.

The biggest downside of a multiple fly rig is the tangling, which can be spectacular. The most common time to tangle is while casting, but the cast can be adjusted to decrease this likelihood. This is one of those instances in which a tight loop creates more problems, as it makes the flies more likely to tangle. A cast with a larger loop works better. However, the best cast for a multiple fly rig or indicator rig is an oval or Belgian cast. With this cast the back cast is low and to the side and, while keeping constant tension, the forward cast is redirected into a higher path.



It is well worth the effort to add this cast to your repertoire.

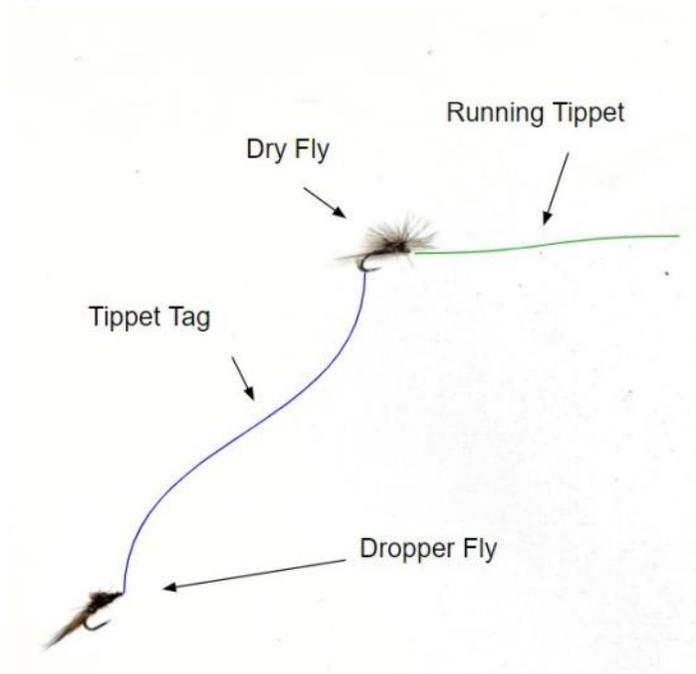
Casting with an indicator can be particularly difficult, since the indicator may not only add weight, but wind resistance to the cast. Using a large loop cast or a Belgian cast is even more important with indicator fishing. It also helps to use the smallest indicator that can both be seen and can float the weight of the attached flies. Another adjustment I use when lake fishing is to shorten my cast, then back away from the fly once it is in the position that I want it in.

In some fishing situations what is needed is a large indicator with one or two heavy flies hanging underneath. This is a particularly difficult casting situation, in which a water load cast works best. This cast is often used to move a heavy rig from downstream to upstream. When I am fishing from a boat with this kind of rig and I need to reposition my indicator and fly, I will use a water load cast behind me, let the rig land on the water, and the water load cast it back in front of me into the desired position. This cast in this situation helps to keep this difficult rig from tangling.

OK, here comes the most important tip I will give out in this article. **Watch your splashes as they land.**

When the flies are landing, make sure three flies make three splashes the right distance apart. If they don't, retrieve everything and check your set up, and more likely than not you will have avoided wasting time fishing with a fouled rig. In the same vein (heh, heh, medical joke) if fishing with an indicator and weighted flies, pay attention not only to the number of splashes, but also the distance the flies are landing from the indicator. If the distance is too short your flies may be wrapped up in the indicator.

A couple of other multi-fly rigs deserve mention: The dry dropper is a common and important technique.



A dry fly can be a great indicator. They don't tend to spook fish, and may catch a few. A great dry fly/indicator is a Chubby Chernobyl.

This unlikely-looking fly is actually a fantastic attractor pattern. Its foam body has enough flotation that even a tungsten-beaded fly can be suspended underneath. Using this fly is one version of a "hopper-dropper", and is a favorite of local guides.



The nymph dropper can also be attached to the dry fly on the eye of the dry fly hook. This is best if the dry fly is barbless, or if it is riding back-heavy when the nymph is hanging from the bend.

Can't see your black ant on the water? Pair it with a more visible dry fly, like a Parachute Adams.

Here's a variation I came up with: sometimes during a mayfly hatch the fish seem to be focusing on emergers just under the surface film. A rig that works for me is to pair a buoyant fly as my point fly with a nymph on a short dropper on a greased leader as an emerger pattern. This combination keeps the nymph just under the surface film. Watch for movement from the point fly or the tip of the fly line, or for a swirl under the surface.

Multi fly rigs have endless variations and are used in many situations. Hopefully I have given you some new ideas to consider.

I hope you guys are enjoying my articles. I enjoy teaching, and now I am finding that I enjoy writing as well. I hope to have in my articles a mixture of tips for beginners and experienced fly fishers. If you have a request, send me an email: EJappay@comcast.net.

March 2021 Fly of the Month

Shakey Variant

By Jim Ferguson



Hook:	TMC 3761, Daiichi 1550 , #10, #12
Thread & Rib:	\$3 Dip Brown 6/0 Danville, or an orangish brown like the head color of a March Brown
Tail:	Lemon Wood Duck flank
Abdomen:	Amber Superfine Dubbing
Thorax:	Orange Ice Dubbing or Trilobal Dubbing
Hackle:	Ruffed Grouse

The Shakey Beeley is one of the Blue Ribbon Fly Shop's popular soft hackle. One of the shop's tier, Buckey, developed a quicker and easier way to tie the pattern and called it the Shakey Variant. The Shakey Variant was usually used for fall runners in the Madison but has been found useful all summer long. This recipe adapts it a little more into what should be a good pattern for emerging March Browns.

Ruffed Grouse is pretty delicate feather and needs the bulky thorax to keep the feather fibers from collapsing down around the body. I used the Daiichi 1550. You want a stout hook. I have used a tying

technique to tie in hackle that produces a small clean head. Grouse feather stems can get pretty large in diameter after a couple of wraps and if you wait until the end to put on the hackle, you have both the tie in and tie off hackle stem diameters to contend with. Mounting the hackle first, will bury the tip of the grouse feather stem under the body. You could try to reverse that mounting by tying the grouse feather in by butt which buries the thick part of the stem under the body. However, this will result in wrapping the grouse feather leaving shorter fibers towards the front. Since you are only making a few turns, and due to the shape of the feather, this might not be a problem. I will have to try it that way on some future ties.

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. De-barb and mount the hook in the vise (Fig 1.)
2. Attach thread about a half eye length behind the eye and lay a thread base about halfway down the shank. Return the thread to about one and a half or two eye lengths behind eye of hook as in Fig 2. Trim off the thread waste.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

3. Select a Ruffed Grouse rump feather (Fig 3.)
4. Prepare the feather by stroking the fibers down and out to the sides, strip off some of the fluff leaving a bit of fluff, trim the tip, cut off the top fibers parallel to the stem as in Fig 4.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

5. Tie in the Grouse feather by the tip as in Fig 5. Notice, the tie in position is about an eye length behind the eye. Remember, the hackle will eventually be wrapped forward after the thorax has been constructed. You want the feather to lay flat on top of the shank with concave side up. This will allow the feather fibers to flow back over the body when eventually wrapped as a collar.
6. Wrap the tying thread down to the rear of the fly and mount the lemon Wood Duck feather fibers on top of the shank for the tail as in Fig 6. Put a wrap of thread under the tail.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

7. Form a loop at the rear tail tie down position (Fig 7.) This loop will eventually be spun and used as a rib.
8. Spin the body dubbing onto the tying thread. You want to form a tapered body so add the dubbing to the tying thread accordingly (Fig 8.)



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

9. Wrap the body dubbing forward forming a slightly tapered body (Fig 9.) Remove the waste.
10. Spin the loop to be used for the rib into a rope and reverse wrap a rib of 4 or 5 evenly spaced turns. Tie off the rib and remove the waste (Fig 10.)



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

11. Form a dubbing loop at the front of the body and place the thorax dubbing into the loop (Fig 11.) You want enough dubbing to form a shaggy thorax.
12. Spin the dubbing loop and wrap forward to form the shaggy thorax as in Fig 12. Wrap the thorax up to the tie in position of the hackle.



Fig. 11



Fig. 12

13. Carefully lift the hackle stem and stroke the fibers back. This feather is very delicate and can easily break. Wetting the fingers will help in folding the fibers back. Do not stroke the fibers with too much pressure. Wrap the hackle forward to form the collar. Using the fingers to carefully guide the fibers to the rear will help you to get the fibers to lay back over the body as in Fig 13. Make 3 or 4 turns for the collar. Tie off the hackle and trim off the waste.
14. Form a head with several wraps of thread and whip finish to form a secure head. Cut off the waste. Put some head cement on the head. (Fig 14.)



Fig. 13



Fig. 14

If the hackle stem breaks, you can recover by trimming the tip again as in Fig 4. Attach the tip in front of the thorax as you would normally, and wrap the hackle, tie off and form the head. If you wrap back a little into the thorax, you will still get a decent looking result. The head will probably be a little larger and there may be some tie in stubs to clean up.



Santiam Flycasters

2021 Membership Form

The Santiam Flycasters, Inc. is a group of men, women, and youths in the Salem area who have a common interest in fly fishing and have joined together to share their experiences and knowledge of the sport since 1975. The club was incorporated as an Oregon non-profit organization in March of 1977. The Santiam Flycasters, Inc. is affiliated with the Fly Fishers International.

The mission of the Santiam Flycasters is to promote the sport of fly fishing for all interested individuals of every generation now and into the future. Through fellowship, education, conservation practices, promoting research, guardianship of proper regulations and support, the Santiam Flycasters can succeed in this mission.

We meet in Salem the second Thursday of each month (no meeting in July)
at the Pringle Park Community Building
606 Church Street at 7:00 pm.
www.santiamflycasters.com

Mail the completed signed form to: *The Santiam Flycasters, P.O. Box 691, Salem, OR 97308*, or drop it off in person at our next meeting. *Memberships are from January 1st through December 31st. For new members, there is a 50% reduction after July 1st. There is no midyear discount for Life Membership.

Life membership -- \$300 Regular -- \$30 Family -- \$35

NAME: _____

ADDRESS/CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE : _____

EMAIL: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS: _____

Are you an FFF Member? Yes No

Are you interested in obtaining an SFC Name Tag? Yes No

You must sign this release each year when you renew to participate in club activities.

LIABILITY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by the Santiam Flycasters, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgment that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge the Santiam Flycasters, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such Santiam Flycasters activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waving any rights that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against the Santiam Flycasters for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in the Santiam Flycasters.

X _____

Signature

Print Name

Date