

Puget Sound Fly Fishers

September
2013



*Hard choices! Continue chasing Pinks or
go to the Clark's outing?*

September Program -

Fly Tier Karen Royer

The Leader Line

By
Mike Trask

I hope every member has taken the time to go salmon fishing and caught their share of salmon during the month of August. Fall is here and it is time we break out the coats because the mornings and evening are getting cooler. We are looking forward to seeing you at the next general meeting on September 12, 2013, at the Tower lanes, in Tacoma Washington at 6:00 pm. I would like to remind everyone to purchase a meal because it helps pay for the meeting room.

If you missed the Club's Annual Picnic at Steve Saville's home you missed a great time. I would like to thank everyone that helped to set up and clean up. A special thanks to the Saville's for letting us use their wonderful home and to Terry Sanchez our Outing director. The Demo Day at the Fircrest Center was a lot of fun. I would like to thank everyone for showing up and having fun. A special thanks to Mike Hardouin and Robert Gerlach for setting up this fund raising event.

The Picnic



The venue



The food



Eating and conversation



...and a little casting

Demo Days



Vendors visiting vendors



Some of the raffle goodies



Tiers and students



Casting instruction



Floating Dreams! (I told you I'd put it in here! - Dennis)

PSFF NEWS

Our Next Meeting
Thursday, September 12th
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Tower Lanes Entertainment Center
6323 6th Ave.
Tacoma WA 98406

September 2013 Program

Karen Royer

Custom Flies by Karen
Lacey, Washington
Flytyingbykaren@yahoo.com
Specializing in "Fishable" Realistic
Flies



For over 17 years I have tied flies. I started off with the Traditional Flies and then dabbled in the beautiful Atlantic Salmon fly patterns. I still have an assortment of beautiful exotic feathers that I horde on my tying room wall today. Following

someone else's patterns and then having to substitute materials because the original pattern called for something either I couldn't afford or was no longer available did nothing to spark my creativity. It soon became mundane and my interest in bugs and nature began to stir. Tying with all natural material, or those that would have been available to tiers 100 years ago, and not so harmful to our environment, became my objective. I also wanted them to be quick so that fishermen would actually use them. I have been tying my realistic patterns for a little over 6 years now and enjoying the art more than ever.

FFF EVENTS



FFF Events in 2013

The Federation of Fly Fishers International Fly Fishing Fair will be held in West Yellowstone, MT. This will be a FALL gathering, September 24 - 28, 2013.

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Fishing Report
provided by
The Gig Harbor Fly Shop

For many in the Puget Sound region, September is met with some trepidation as it signals the end of our all too short summer. It's getting darker earlier and the nights cool off more rapidly and more deeply. For anglers however, September is a wonderful time with a multitude of options:

Lakes:

Lake fishing generally slows during the warmest segments of summer but will begin to pick up in September. Fish are more active during cooler mornings and evenings. Additionally, recreational boat traffic begins to slow down so the fish are less disturbed throughout the day. Many fish will begin heavy pre-winter feeding so now can be a great time to fish. Try streamers and indicator techniques during the middle of the day and don't be afraid to try dries early and late.

Salt:

September is probably my favorite month of the year to fish the salt. It appears that pinks have been later than usual this year so we should still have good fishing for them in the South Sound. September also equates to some of the best fishing for silvers. Heading north can be an excellent option as there should be larger fish moving in from the Strait and they are generally still on the feed while they are up there. When fish are located, you can have some phenomenal action if they are feeding heavily. As they push into the South Sound they sometimes become notoriously lock-lipped but anglers can still draw strikes if they locate schools and work smaller flies at the edges so as not to spook them and put them down. During all this salmon fever, many forget that September can also provide some of the most productive sea-run cutthroat fishing of the year and also offers an opportunity to take cutthroat on surface flies. Winged ants and termites are falling into near-shore waters and are on the menu for many cutthroat. September through October is a heavy feeding period for pre-spawn cutthroat.

Rivers:

Though many rivers are often crowded with salmon fisherman armed with gear, if a fly angler is willing to look off the beaten path, he or she can find some good fishing. Pinks will have moved into many rivers along with fall Chinook and early Coho. Summer steelhead are also available on some coastal rivers. September and October also offer some of the final small stream trout fishing of the season before the closures.

So get out and enjoy these remaining warm days. There are plenty of options!

-James Harrington

Upcoming Outings

Aside from the upcoming outing to the Clark's on September 7th and 8th,

Terry and I are working on the details for a new SRC outing this fall. We will be working out the details and discussing it at the Sept. Meeting.

What we know as of today.

- 1) Fresh water.
- 2) No Boat fishing. All fishing will be done from shore. Not sure about Drift Boats or Pontoon Boats at this time?
- 3) Time: Late Oct-Early Nov.
- 4) River fishing.
- 5) Walk-in access. Yes
- 6) Location: South Sound.
- 7) SRC 18-19" are common. (From a reliable source).
- 8) Breakfast at the Evergreen Truck Stop Restaurant at Lacy before fishing.

Terry Sanchez, Outing Chair Person.
Dan Carlton, Just a Fisherperson

RAFFLE NEWS

\$200 TFO NXT series rod / reel combo ready to go. Win this 5/6 weight, 9 ft. 4 piece with carry case. Great deal for \$1 a ticket

On the RAFFLE TABLE this month, \$ 5 for 6 tickets and a cookie, drawing mid meeting. Your choice of fly boxes stuffed with your favorite flies; a handy dandy compact multi tool & I'll throw in a camo bandana in case you cut yourself; or how about a very nifty gear bag with lots of compartments.



Out of the Salt and into the Pan

by Steve Saville

Well, best laid plans have a way of going wrong, I've heard. Things have not gone as planned but we are now in the thick of fishing for the Legendary Pink Salmon. We got started a bit late. I, of course, blamed it on all of the bank fishermen pitching lead and scaring the fish off but in reality, I've taken a better look and decided that perhaps a lack of rain had something very significant to do with it. It sounds strange; "lack of rain" in Washington. But the fish are here now, as I am writing this and trying to make the deadline so all is well in fishing terms. I'm also cleaning up the smoker and got some chips yesterday in anticipation of some smoked Pink Salmon.

In fact, my brother who recently moved back here from Anchorage after 35 years had some interesting things to say about our home. He seriously stated that the fishing is better here, now, than it is in Alaska because of all the publicity and tourism directed to the fishing industry there. (Let's keep ours a secret!) I seriously doubt that we have better fishing but in areas up there, you cannot fish for King Salmon anymore and if you don't fly out, there are few fish available. Let's hope our runs continue to grow but that we do a much better job of protecting the runs so we can enjoy them for a long period.

Remember, you don't need a boat to engage in this fishery. I have fished both boat and beach this year and had equal success. Many of the beach fish have been taken at or near Dash Pt. State Park or between there and the Metro Park's pier. Dock's place has yielded a bushel of fish as well as Browns Pt. It's nice to get away from the crowds but people have been respectful of the space of fly fishermen this time around. It seems we have a different groups or it could be the presence of the Sheriff this year and all of the signage posted by them. I wonder? I haven't even seen a single squabble over a parking space.

Have you been paying attention during the past four or five weeks? For some odd reason, our King Salmon fishery has been stellar. I don't believe I have ever heard about Kings in the numbers we are posting this year. Final counts will determine if I'm dreaming or not but it seems, from my limited points of reference, that

more people are landing Kings than in many of the past years; and on flies, no less.

For those of you who missed it, we had a pretty nice picnic this year; great company; good food. The tide was coming in all day and the weather turned out beautiful after morning clouds. I managed three fish before 9:00 and headed up the hill to get ready. The set-up crew did a fantastic job, thank you very much. My apologies to anyone I did not get around to talk to. Thanks to Thomas and Ruben who brought their tying equipment and showed us their latest creations. They also had a great day of fishing, landing 40+ fish between themselves and a friend. That's fishing for Pink Salmon! And Gene Jackson brought two versions of Salmon dip that were really quite delicious. I was going to include them but Gene was kind enough to post the recipes on the Yahoo site. Check them out. They are another outstanding way to enjoy your Pink Salmon catch.

Looking ahead, we have a well projected Coho season arriving in a couple of weeks. Coho have been scattered throughout this pink run and I have heard from friends about numerous good sized, hatchery Coho having been caught in the past few days. My friend, Luca, tells me we should have a good run beginning sometime around mid-September and lasting into October. Get those skinny Clousers ready and oil up your stripping arm. Try out some Myawaki poppers as well. I'm not finished with the Pinks yet but am starting to gear up for the Coho. Life is rough, don't you know?

Tight Lines.



Thomas' Ties n' Dyes
By
Thomas Lamphere



The Power of the Clouser!



Since joining the club my father Rueben and I have gotten to meet a lot of very cool and friendly people and have enjoyed the tying sessions every other Wednesday immensely. We have enjoyed teaching and showing other things that we have learned at the vice, and we also love answering questions that everyone has about patterns, materials, tools, etc. With this I have been getting two questions a lot. First, "What is your favorite salt fly?" and second, "What is the cheapest salt fly? ". The nice thing about this is that for both questions I have the same answer. The Clouser Minnow is by far my favorite salt water fly because it is very effective and very cheap to tie. It can be made from many different materials, color combinations, lengths, and is fished all over the world for every fish that will take a fly.

So let's start with the hooks and eyes. As for hooks in the salt water I love the short shank hook for a clouser. It puts the hook point at the head of a fly where most species tend to target when feeding. Gamakatsu SC15, Daichii 2546, and the Tiemco 811S are the top three hooks that I would use. Mainly in sizes 6-2 for local use, depending on which hook and what you're fishing for. As for eyes I like ones that have a pupil. It's not mandatory but I do it for a more realistic bait-fish look. Color of the eye is your choice.

For materials there is no end to what you could use. My #1 is marabou. I can get a lot of it, it's cheap, comes in many colors, and is easy to work with. The other materials that I do, or have used are buck tail, craft fur, slinky fiber, angel hair, and Congo hair. For the most part any material that is two inches or longer can make a great clouser. Also mixing some of the materials together is a smart thing to do as well. For example: make a clouser out of slinky fiber and put a back of angel hair on top for flash. Also for some of them sliding two saddle hackles in for a tail. That can add much to a clouser minnow giving it a deceiver profile. Most of these materials are inexpensive and you can get a lot of flies out of a few packs. The best thing to do is pick which ones you like the most and stick with them. Otherwise you can get an overflow of materials and flies that don't see the water much. In my fly box I have mostly marabou clousers. They have a lot of action and work very well, slinky fiber with angel hair is my number 2 and I have 5 different combinations in two different sizes for cutthroat and salmon. I also have a few craft fur for mainly salmon and all of those are tied with a stinger hook.

A good thing to remember is that the clouser minnow is a multi-use fly so don't freak if you hook a salmon while fishing for cutthroat. Also I will transfer a few of them to my bass box and tie them for tiger Muskie as well. With the synthetic materials I can make them 8in long and not cry when I lose one like some of my other pike flies.

If you really want a good look at how to tie the clouser minnow I have a video on YouTube just for the clouser. It is under "Tying Tips #10 Behind The Clouser".

(Editor:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmDB7iRdHeE>)

HOT SCOOP

Classifieds

Available at the September 12th meeting. See Bev Simpson. :

USED VINTAGE EQUIPMENT SALE from the depths of PSFF locker, 5 rods field tested by Mike K, check them out on gear table and **make us an offer**, all proceeds go to PSFF

FIBERGLASS RODS...

two Shakespeare 2 pc, 8 ft, 7-8 wt \$40 each

Berkeley 3 pc, 8 ft, 6-7 wt \$30....

Berkeley 2 pc, 8 ft, 6-7 wt, \$40.....

Scientific Angler's System 7, 2 pc, 8.5 ft, 7 wt **with extra tip**, rod sock & tube, near showroom condition \$50

REELS... two Scientific Anglers System 2, 10-11 wt, \$30 each. Two spare spools \$10 each

WADERS.... Neoprene, size small, \$20

New Members

No meeting last month, so none reported.

Library report:

By Galen Hansen

After my check of the library records, I see that there are 8 items that are overdue. I also have 3 cards that were turned in but not filled out. The titles are "Advanced Strategies for Selective Trout" a Doug Swisher DVD; "Fishing the Midge" a Gary Borger DVD; and, the new book "Hatch Guide for Lakes" by Jim Schollmeyer. Please check to see if you have any of these and return them at the next meeting. I have emailed each of you that have the items out, requesting you return them at the next meeting. In the future, please hand the cards at checkout to me or my assistant so we can ensure that they are filled out correctly. Remember...the date to put on the card is in the form mm/yy. If you put on month and day, we may be hitting you up for a book that we think is years overdue because the date is entered wrong.

If there is additional material that you would like to see added to our inventory, please drop me a line, or let me know at the meetings what you think would be a

good addition to the library. My email addresses are galen1943@gmail.com and galen1943@yahoo.com. Gordon Myers email address is gemy-ers50@msn.com.

A reminder...only club members that are current on their dues are eligible to check out materials from the library. Only 3 items may be checked out at one time.

I would appreciate help setting the library up before each meeting. Frequently the clubs storage closet is blocked by bowling alley materials and accessing it is a problem. Since we are not charged for the space we utilize, we can't complain to Tower Lanes and I, for one, very much appreciate all the do for us. So...if some of you that are early arrivals at the meetings would give me a hand, I would be very appreciative.



PJ's TIPS

Tying Tips - Waste Not

Let's say your pattern takes about 1.5" to 2" of material actually wound onto the hook to complete. So you cut off 5" or 6" to tie the fly; 2" for the fly and a couple inches to hold on to. The rest gets thrown away! Very wasteful! You just used enough material to tie three flies but only got one. Next time cut off a foot or so. You can now tie 5 flies and only throw away the last two inches. Better yet, if you can, leave the materials attached to the spool, card, holder or whatever and trim it off without losing any at all.

Fly of The Month

Credit to FFF Website

International Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month August, 2013

BALANCED STREAMER



Published by Bob Bates

Federation of Fly Fishers - Washington Council

Opening Comments

Fly patterns that hang horizontally in the water have become a staple in my part of the world. This includes Washington to North Dakota in the United States and British Columbia to Manitoba in Canada. The Balanced Bead Head pattern was developed before 2005 by Jerry McBride of Deer Lake, WA and published in the 2006 February Fly of the Month. Many times when successful lake anglers are asked "What-are-you-using?" the answer is "Balanced Leech", "Balanced Damsel", "Balanced etc." At the Liar's Club, a lunch gathering of fly anglers, fishing reports often contained "balanced" with some other description. They are so successful because the critters fish feed on, like damselfly nymphs, leeches, etc., move in a horizontal fashion.

A new way of tying the balanced pattern was shown to us by Leon Buckles at the May 2013 meeting of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. He learned about it from Bob Vanderwater in the Central Alberta Fly Tying Club, Canada. In many ways it is easier to tie than Jerry's technique so I asked Leon to get permission from the Central Alberta Fly Tying Club to put it in the Fly of the Month. Now May, June and July are bad times to get information from fishermen even with modern high speed e-mail because they are off fishing. Vanderwater's reply finally arrived in June.

The tying style came from Bob Morenski of the North Dakota (USA) gang. Morenski was not available because he spends most of the fly fishing season on Manitoba lakes. Morenski published it on the website, <http://www.flippr.ca/bob/TYGerLeader.pdf>, and Vanderwater felt that Morenski would be pleased if it was also published in Fly of the Month. So here it is.

This tying style gives you three options for fishing. It can be suspended from a strike indicator like any other balanced pattern (see 2006 February FOM for fishing details). It can be tied to a leader and retrieved like a traditional leach or nymph. If you want to have a second fly it can be attached to the bottom “eye”.

Leon Buckles tied his version of the pattern at his home in Spokane, WA.

Materials list

Hook: Tiemco 5263or Mustad 9672 size 8 3XL

Bead: 5/32-inch, tungsten, different color bead depending on color of fly

Thread: UNI-Thread, 6/0 black

Wire “eyes”: Rio, Wire Bite, 30-pound

Tail: Marabou, usually black, but can be olive

Rib: Krystal flash, purple

Body: Any dubbing may be used, but Leon prefers Ice Dub, black, peacock, golden and olive colors.

Tying steps:



Step 1

Smash barb and thread on bead with small hole toward eye. Start thread anyplace and wind back and forth to make a corrugated underbody. Stop the thread about the width of the bead behind the bead.



Step 2

Cut off a piece of Wire Bite with side cutters. Attach it to shank on tier’s side. Leave space at back so you can fill it in with marabou tail. Fold wire back, secure lightly about two bead widths behind the bead and pull wire back so loop just touches the bead. Tie it down and clip off at same length as other leg secure both legs. (You may need to experiment a little to get a balance. Leon has tied so many that he puts things in the right places.)



Step 3

Pull up the wire loop with a finger nail, or as Leon does it with a bodkin. Treat it as a post and wrap thread around it.



Step 4

Turn the fly over. (A rotary vise is handy for this.) Put another wire loop on the bottom of the shank. Use the same technique as putting on the top loop. When Leon was demoing the pattern at our meeting he had pre-assembled the wire loops so he had neat U shaped wires. It looked neater, but the fish don't seem to care with lesser beauty. Everything is hidden by the body that comes next.



Step 5

Make sure the wires are tied in tightly. Turn the fly up right, and wind the thread to the rear. Tie in a bunch of black marabou. He uses black most of the time but sometimes he uses olive marabou.



Step 6

Tie on a piece of Purple Krystal flash. Use any dubbing you want. Leon likes Ice Dub: put a little dubbing wax on the thread, and touch the dubbing to the thread. Smash the dubbing down a little by rolling it between the thumb and first finger. Always roll dubbing in the same direction. Wrap the dubbed thread forward, crisscross around the wire loops and put plenty of dubbing between the loops and the bead to keep the bead from sliding back.



Step 7

Counter wind the rib and tie off behind the bead. Whip finish, trim thread and put a little head cement on the thread winds with a small tooth pick or bodkin. You can check the balance of the fly by hooking a dubbing twister or threading leader material through the top loop. Minor adjustments in balance can be made by bending the loop back or forth. If it is way out of balance, on the next fly move the Step 2 tie in point as needed.

Closing Comments

There has been some discussion about the hook point being up or down. Morenski's article has it up. This is an easy pattern to tie, so tie a bunch for fishing on your lakes or ponds. Use different colors of dubbing and beads. Leon tries to make the fly hang as horizontal as possible. However he has caught fish with flies that were as much as 30 degrees off horizontal. People have asked him if the wires slip out. He has not had a wire slip even with some very big fish. Keep the thread tight when you are securing the wires. Some people have experimented with monofilament loops. The jury is still out on that.

You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at
flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org.

PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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September 1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7 Clark's Out- ing
8 Clark's Out- ing	9	10	11	12 PSFF MTG	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 PSFF BD MTG	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	27	28
29	30					

		October 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 PSFF MTG	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 PSFF BD MTG	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

**Check for Newsletter Article Deadline Date.
Remember articles can always be submitted early.**

Puget Sound Flyfishers

Club was founded in 1956 and has a long and proud history of involvement, action, camaraderie, and fun. The club's website is located at www.psff.org

Aims and Purposes of the Club are:

1. To improve and encourage the sport of flyfishing by social, educational and political means.
2. To encourage flyfishing and other selective fishing techniques as a means of conservation and increasing fishing opportunity.
3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement of sport fishing.
4. To promote "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
5. To aid in the eradication of pollution and other practices destructive to fisheries.
6. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers, and to adopt the club's philosophies.

General Membership Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except August). These meetings are for social, entertainment and educational purposes.

Educational Activities: The club offers classes and

instruction in fly fishing, fly-tying, fly-casting and rod building. The club has an extensive library of books and videos. The club sponsors an annual Spring Clinic to promote flyfishing.

Outings: The club organizes monthly outings to various lakes, rivers, and estuaries. Experienced gillies provide expert information and instruction on how, when and where to fish.

Conservation Activities: The club has a long and proud history of encouraging flyfishing (and other selective fishing techniques) as a means of conserving and increasing fishing opportunities. The club is active in many of the important conservation issues of the day and in helping to fund local conservation projects.

Membership / Dues: Membership is open to anyone 18 or over. Dues are \$40 (Family \$60) per year plus a one time (\$10 Initiation Fee) per member.

Affiliations: The club is an active member of the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

HOW TO JOIN THE PSFF YAHOO GROUP.

To receive and post to the PSFF Yahoo group you must first sign up as a member of Yahoo if you're not already signed up.

In your browser search for or go to Yahoo.com and look for the button asking if you want to join Yahoo. Click on the button and follow the instructions to join Yahoo. You will need an email address, a user name and a password. Remember these as periodically Yahoo will ask you to use them to resign in.

Once you are a member of Yahoo look at the top of the Yahoo page and find the search box. Enter PSFF in the box and press the 'Search' button. There will be a number of results as PSFF is used by several entities.

Scroll down though the list until you find Puget Sound Fly Fishers. Select the Puget Sound Fly Fishers and Yahoo will take you to the group site. You will notice a small box that asks you if you want to join the PSFF group. Select (yes.)

Another page will open up seeking your sign in information for the PSFF group. This information is separate from the information you entered for Yahoo itself. There will be a box for you to enter a short message telling the moderators why you want to join and basically who you are. Again you will be asked to select an email address where the PSFF group messages are sent.

You will need to select whether you receive individual messages or a Daily Digest. I suggest a daily digest but you can change this selection at any time later. At the bottom of the page you will have to enter, repeat, a displayed code of mixed letters and numbers. When you have done this go down to the bottom right and select 'Join'. You are done.

All new members are on a moderated basis and unable to post until approved by a moderator to help prevent SPAM and malicious posting. One of the moderators will handle your status usually within 24 hours.