



January 2021

Volume 65 #1

Meeting via Zoom 1/14

Leader Line

Welcome 2021!

Greg Shimek

I am sure everyone is looking forward to a much better year for a number of reasons, many of which I am not even going to comment on. As your new Interim President, I am excited for a new year, challenging as it may be. I am honored to hold the position and together with our dedicated officers and board members we will continue to make PSFF an organization of Fly Fishing, Fellowship and Fun. Although for the foreseeable future we will continue to meet virtually via Zoom meetings, we will still be having informative and entertaining speakers, fishing reports, outing updates and much, much more as they say. For those of you that have not joined any of the meetings on line I say, "Give it a try!" It is not that difficult, really." You will all be receiving an invitation to the January meeting via email and all you have to do is click on the link to get started. The link will look like the one below. If you have downloaded the free ZOOM app from the web you will automatically go to the meeting. If you are just using your browser, you will be asked for the meeting number and password. Those will be in the email invitation along with the Zoom address as it is listed below. We look forward to seeing many new attendees as the years progresses.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7522402188?pwd=NTBJSFVrYIBISW16citnc25uMTFWQT09>

Meeting ID: 752 240 2188

Passcode: PSFF2020

I want to personally thank Mike Koslosky for his leadership during the most challenging year anyone could ever have imagined. Together with his group of officers, board members and committee chairpersons who have stepped forward to accept these positions, they have kept PSFF a strong organization that met all the legal and financial requirements needed to be recognized by all State and Federal entities.

... continued

It takes everyone to make this or any other organization a success, and that starts with being involved. This is a theme you will hear from me all year long, whether it is participation at outings, helping at events, or helping run our fly club by filling an officer or board position. I know this is not a new request, we all have heard it before, but I can not stress enough the importance of the involvement of members to the ultimate success of an organization. PSFF has a long and respected history in fly fishing, both locally and nationally. I, and I am sure, all our members want to continue that legacy. So hopefully, if anyone would like to join the team and become an officer or a board member feel free to contact me at gregs47@icloud.com or any of the other officers. All are listed in the newsletter.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year

Outings

Jim Baker



The next two winter months can be a challenge and a hot stove time, what with weather and cold temperatures. I fished local lakes several times last month and I know with my feet in the water they start to get numb after 3-4 hours. - Time on your hands? If you check out the next article Kristin Macy has a fly tying challenge that should help to pass the time until we can fish more regularly.

January - February Outings

For these two months only, I have no 'planned' outings. But if you have a suggestion please let me know. Here's my address, bake5636@wavecable.com I will use the 'Forum' instead for any notifications.

So, when a weather pattern looks favorable, I'll post an outing 3-5 days earlier for location and time. Also, if you have a favorite lake or salt shoreline and want to invite other club members to meet up do a Forum post or contact me.

It can't be 15-20 mph winds and wet every day and getting out on the water is a good thing. We'll just have to look for opportune days.

Fly of the Month - Superfloss Chironomid

Kristin Macy



This fly was featured as Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month January, 2012 By Bob Bates

There are thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of chironomid patterns available. Here is one that Jim Maus of Lakewood, WA uses to catch a lot of fish. He was tying it at the 2011 International Fly Fishing Fair in West Yellowstone, MT.

Some people look down on chironomid fishing, and call it “bobber fishin’”. Even if for the dry fly purist this isn’t their preferred technique it is an effective way to fish. Chironomids live in the oxygen poor environment of lake or stream bottom mud. To compensate they have extra hemoglobin in their blood. For that reason, the naturals and imitations of them are red or at least partially red. Also, chironomids hatch anytime there is open water, even in the middle of winter.

For most anglers the first technique is to use a floating line and suspend the fly under a strike indicator (bobber) so it is a foot or so above the bottom or weeds. The original instructions called for casting the fly directly downwind from a boat anchored at both ends. Any waves or ripples on the water surface move the bobber and fly up and down. Retrieve the fly very slowly. Fish don’t always feed at the bottom, so a fish finder will help find them if they are higher in the water column. Watch the strike indicator and wait for a fish to pull it under or move it in a strange direction. Usually, it will go under when you are pouring a cup of coffee or watching a bird fly by. Casting crosswind or even upwind sometimes works.

If strike indicator fishing is not your cup of tea then dredging might work for you. Use a full sinking line, cast as far as you can, count the line down to near the bottom and retrieve the line very slowly. If there are weeds on the fly when it comes in shorten the count and if no weeds lengthen the count. Vary the retrieve also.

Materials list:

Hook; Straight eye hook, 2487 Scud, Tiemco 200R depending on the desired body length, #18 or 22

Bead: Clear

Thread: 70 denier, white

Gills: Fluorofiber, white

Rib: Silver wire, 0.006-inch

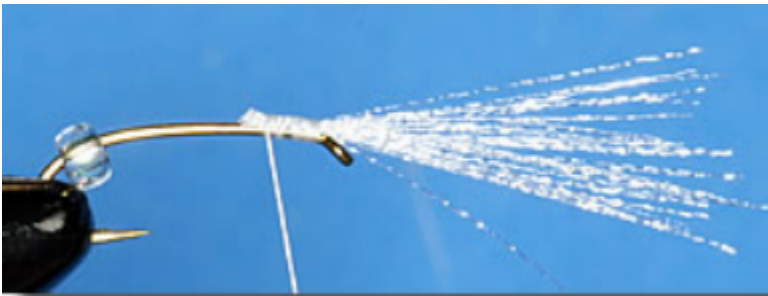
Body: Super floss, red

Thorax: Peacock herl

Tying steps:



1. Debarb hook, slide bead on, put hook in vise and push bead to back. Start thread at eye.



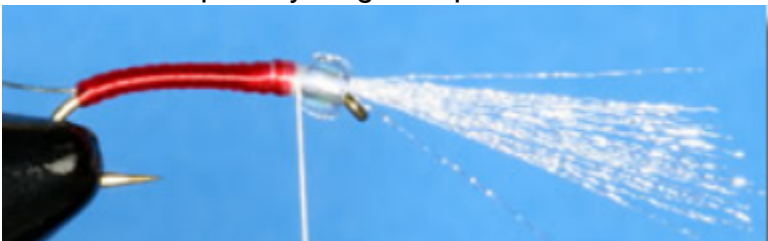
2. Tie on gills with as few wraps as possible right behind the eye. The gills are a very fine clear sparkly material.



3. Whip finish and trim thread. Slide bead forward to eye.



4. Reattach thread behind bead. Color of thread depends on color of Super floss going to use. Sometimes Jim will use white thread to accent the color of the Super floss. Secure rib wire and Super floss behind bead, stretch Super floss wind thread rearward over Super floss and wire to just around the bend. Keep everything on top of hook. Then move thread forward to back of bead.



5. Wrap Super floss forward, stretching it at first then easing up to build a little bit of a taper. Secure and trim excess behind bead.



6. Spiral rib forward to bead, secure and trim



7. Tie one strand of peacock herl in behind the bead. Put it in a dubbing loop. Catch the peacock herl with a dubbing tool, and spin the tool to capture the herl and thread. Then three or four wraps of herl is enough.



8. Whip finish between the bead and the herl. It helps to put a little head cement on the thread just before the last turn of the whip finish. Trim the gills.

Closing comments: This pattern can be altered in many ways. Using black thread under the red Super floss will change the color to burgundy. The white thread can be spotted with a felt pen. The fly can be given a hot butt by leaving the thread white at the very back and darkening the rest of it. It is an easy pattern to tie and it is effective in many lakes on both sides of the Washington Cascades. Over the years I have used chironomids to catch a variety of trout in both lakes and streams. Sometimes the action is fast, but other times enjoy the scenery or move to another spot. For the smallest patterns use the herl from the peacock sword feather.

This item fly is Credited to FFI Website or FFI Clubwire for the of the pattern. Direct any questions or comments to FOM at flyofthefmonth@fedflyfishers.org

Mentorship Program Re-engages

Mike Koslosky

Are you new to fly fishing and stumped by all the jargon, strange equipment needs, variety of rods and reels, and don't know one butt from the other? We can help you out.

Are your fly tying skills more reminiscent of an unclipped poodle or the dust bunnies under your bed? We can help you out.

Is your cast ending up in the trees behind you more often than in the water? We can help you out.

Do you wonder where the heck to fish, what to fish for, What they eat, when they are here and when they aren't, and what the heck lives out there in the water anyway? We can help you out.

The Mentorship Program has a number of PSFF club members who have volunteered to help you get the kinks out of your cast, your knots tied correctly, your flies tied so the fish won't laugh at them, and you know what it is that you've caught. Don't be stuck in a funk. We can help you out. No matter what your needs are we can help you out and make you a happier, more successful fly fisherman.

Just email me at ; mikek1801@gmail.com and let's chat about your hopes and dreams. I will set you up with the appropriate Mentor to get you on your way. No fees, No fuss. Just plain fun.



Membership Year-End News

Tess Frazier

2020 has (finally) come to a close. Our last in-person meeting was in held in February, but still, we had folks join Puget Sound Fly Fishers throughout the year. Our reputation as a resource of fly fishing experience and shared knowledge, our excellent presentations, classes and instruction, extensive library, club outings and our community and conservation involvement, plus overall friendliness, have drawn an avid membership.

As of December, we have 106 paid members. Here are those who joined Puget Sound Fly Fishers in 2020:

Bill Cooper
Brandon Edgerly
Justin Fordice
Bobby Kemp
Tom Krughoff

Andy Lueck
Penny Mabie
Ron McNeal
Michael Spuck

Out of the Salt and Into the Pan

Steve Saville

There is no question that 2020 was a trying year for everyone. It will be nice to put it in the rear-view mirror for many reasons. It has been difficult for me as I have been out fishing only a handful of times because of the Covid problems and because of the loss of two of my fishing buddies. But I decided that perhaps it may be time to get back to doing the things that give me pleasure.

I started fishing in the salt more than sixty years ago traversing the docks in Old Tacoma in search of anything that would bite my line. More often than not I caught bullheads but on rare occasions I got lucky and hooked up with a salmon. I also spent a couple of summers on Burley Lagoon at my aunt's house and fished many days for silver perch under the Purdy Bridge. It is a lost fishery now but each time I have gone back to fish for sea run cutthroat nearby it reminds me of better days.

A few years ago, I wrote a series of articles spanning seven or eight months about fishing in the salt water, particularly Puget Sound. I decided to resurrect the articles and re-write, add and subtract material and then re-submit them to the newsletter. We have a tremendous resource at our fingertips or more appropriately our rod tips that is waiting for us to take advantage. There are 2700 + or - miles of coastline on Puget Sound and the variety of fishing opportunities are endless. If you haven't taken advantage you should, weather permitting. It doesn't take anything particular to fish the salt. A 6 wt. rod and either floating or some type of sink tip will do. One item that is essential is some sort of stripping basket in which your line can be collected as you strip your fly in. Because of the currents, sea weed, and the occasional piece of driftwood it is to your advantage to have a basket of some sort to hold the line. Shucks, a dishpan and a bungie cord will do the trick or one can be purchased for a "not so cheap" price if you desire.

The upcoming year has to be better than the last so here goes: January is an odd time to fish for most of us unless you happen to be a saltwater fisherman. There is still fishery for sea run cutthroat and many may not know that there are still salmon out there to be had. The resident coho fishery lasts most of the year though one must be sure to check the regulations carefully before targeting these fish. A rare bi-catch may have to be released according to the regs so be certain before you fish. The cutthroat fishery is year 'round. I chose to include a fly pattern that may work well in January and February for searuns.

Euphausiid

"Euphausiid" - noun: "any of an order (Euphausiacea) of small, usually luminescent malacostracan crustaceans that resemble shrimps and in some areas, forms an important element of marine plankton."

In our case, they are one of the main sources of searun cutthroat trout and resident Coho. Right now, they are present, on the surface of the Sound. If you have recovered from the holidays by now, it is time to hit the beaches and give the cutthroat and Coho (Regulation permitting) a shot. ...continued



These small crustaceans or krill as we sometimes call them are very small. I found a pattern somewhere that suggests size 18 to size 24 hooks. Now I am not one to quibble about the small stuff (pun intended) but that is a pretty small fly, especially in salt water. I have rarely ventured below size 16 at any time and then with some difficulty but I thought I would give it a shot. I have had some size 18 hooks lying around for years waiting for me to get up the gumption to try something small. It's a pretty simple to tie fly (just my style) and after the first two, tied very slowly and behind a giant magnifying glass, they have turned out to not be so difficult as I had once imagined. Heck I have size 22 and size 24 hooks just waiting for the challenge.

Once I get a few more of these micro flies tied, I am heading for the beach to try them out. I'll have to break away from my normal Outbound intermediate line and use a floating line and a longer leader and instead of stripping the fly in like normal, I will probably let it lay on the surface for a while and twitch it periodically. I guess it is sort of like surface chironomid fishing or like paint drying. It's not the most exciting type of fishing until the fish grabs it and then it gets pretty hairy because in order to get the tippet through the eye of a size 18 - 24 fly, it has to be pretty small.

Here is a brief recipe for the fly:

Hook of choice - size 16 or smaller

Thread - clear mono

Tail over the body - a few strands of mallard flank about the length of the hook shank and hanging over the eye to resemble feelers.

Monofilament eyes, burned and colored with a magic marker at the rear of the hook

Body - translucent white antron yarn or translucent dubbing. I use some stuff called "micro-chenille." This could also be pale pink or pale orange.

UV epoxy over the body to form that crustacean look and to give it durability. I also use some Sally Hansen's that has thickened up

When (if) you try to tie these, be sure to place the eyes at the rear of the hook and attempt to taper the body to the front before adding the epoxy over the top to form a translucent rigid body.

It's actually a very simple pattern that should attract the fish. Just look for fish dimpling the surface or rising to something that you can't really see. Oh, and by the way. These small crustaceans are also the main source of food for baleen whales. They are, of course, catch and release so you may want a bigger rod. Hint: pre-tie the flies on about 2' of tippet to avoid losing the fly from cold hands.

Good luck and Tight Lines!

Don't Forget

You are invited: Puget Sound FlyFishers General Meeting

Time: Jan 14, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7522402188?pwd=NTBJSFVrYIBISW16citnc25uMTFWQT09>

Meeting ID: 752 240 2188

Passcode: PSFF2020

2020 IN REVIEW

Mike Clancy, Conservation Chair, WSCFFI

The Academy - As most everyone knows, Jim Brosio and I could not conduct the NW Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy this year because of the virus. We are also concerned about 2021. The Academy is a WCTU event. We will be conducting a zoom meeting in January with the board of directors to determine what we might consider for 2021. 2020 was going to be Jim and my last year as Directors. We are fortunate to have 3 solid new Directors to assume the function of The Academy. Jim and I will conduct the next event with the participation of the new Directors. One of the big concerns - the majority of the staff are in the older age group. Some may have health issues, and I wouldn't blame them for opting out. If we can make 2021 work, it would be a recruiting student event. We're fortunate, the financials are solid, Let's keep our fingers crossed, that 2021 will be a better year for all of us.

Fly Fishers International (FFI) - This year has been another busy year. We are conducting many zoom meetings, two I am involved with, conservation and education. The education committee has established an incredible "Learning Center". The only way I can describe the Learning Center, I suggest, is for you go to the FFI website and download the link. Seriously, it's amazing! The conservation committee is supporting various conservation events throughout the USA. Then there are the education zoom presentations on the FFI website. Fly tying, casting, location, etc, they are entertaining and fun to watch.

Dams and Mines - The most successful event that has taken place this year, the denial of the permit for the Pebble mine, November 25th. This has been a 20 year event. Because of my conservation position with WSCFFI, I have experienced a wonderful communication experience with Meghan Barker, TU, Pebble Organizer, Alaska. She and the staff of TU Alaska have done an incredible job in promoting the denial for this event. Now the goal is to get whatever it takes to make this a permanent denial and make sure Bristol Bay fishery lives on forever without a threat from potential chemicals destroying the largest salmon run in the world and destroying 17,000 jobs in Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California. Please go to www.savebristolbay.com to learn about what's going on. It's really a fun website. If anyone is interested in fishing the Bristol Bay area next year, Meghan has suggested 3 guide/lodge companies. Let's talk.

Club Anniversaries

Robert Anderson 7

John Bechtholt 8

Derek Burney 2

John Clark 31

Terry Dillon 6

Paul Fournier 13

Jason Kasner 2

Pete Kauffman 28

Bobby Kemp 1

Michael Koerner 5

Mark Malone 3

Tom Phelps 6

Doug Post 4

David Roholt 7

Bob Shirley 4

PSFF Library

Kristin Macy

Well absolutely nothing has changed for the last several months for obvious reasons. Stay safe and keep your distance and wear a mask.

If you have some suggestions for the library please send me an email KHMacy@live.com - I'm happy to look at something new to add.

Missing and Lost books

Take this time at home to peruse your personal library and make sure that none of the pesky missing book had infiltrated and take residence. If you find something, there will be no questions asked - Just return to the Catch and release basket on the library table when we gather next. Our books have a stamp or hand written "Property of the Puget Sound FlyFishers" inside the front cover.

Library Organization

I have been working with the library now for a about 2 ½ years. Most everyone has stopped by and checked out the books but I wanted to take a moment and let you know how I have everything organized so that you might find that special book that you want to check out a little bit quicker.

Books are setup in the following categories:

- General Fly Fishing
- Fly Tying
- Destinations
- Novels
- Rod building
- Conservation
- Women's Fly Fishing
- Reference
- Float Tube / Drift Boat / Kayak
- Knots
- Casting

Videos are setup with the following categories:

- Fly Fishing
- Fly Tying
- Destinations
- Movies
- Conservation
- Knots
- Casting

Please stop by and have a look around - I'm happy to help you find what you are look for ...continued



Effective Immediately

All books that have been checked out since January 2019 and in the future are to be returned within two months or replaced if you are unable to locate them.

Checkout requirements:

- Current Membership
- Up to 3 items at a time
- For 2 months at a time
- Write Month/Year on checkout card
- Return books to the basket

Directory - It's in the e-mail. Need a hard copy, contact Kristin. If you did not receive a copy or your email has changed contact Dennis Beardsley as soon as possible

Club classified

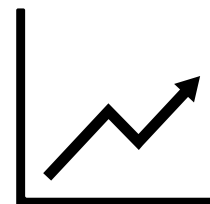
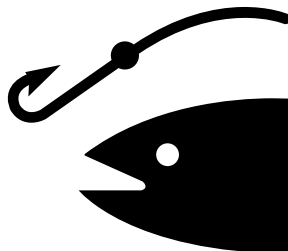
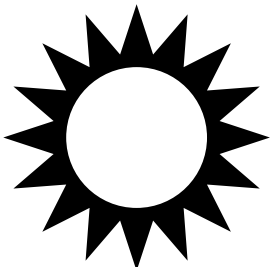
Puget Sound Fly Fishers

Recently PSFF was the recipient of some fly fishing donations. All proceeds will go to the club. Contact me at mikek1801@gmail.com to make arrangements to purchase.

- TFO Lefty Kreh Professional model, 4wt, 4pc, 8'6", \$100
- Reel, Redington Surge, brand new, large arbor, 3/4 wt line, \$70
- Reel, Scientific Anglers System 2, 7/8 wt. line, \$80
- Reel Ross Fly Cast 2, 4wt line, \$80

2021

And in this New Year I wish for all of you sunny days, great fishing and success in every venture.



Officers and Servants

Interim President: Greg Shimek, 253-588-7606, gregs47@icloud.com

President Elect: Vacant

Vice President: Vacant

Past President: Mike Koslosky, 831-247-8655, mitek1801@gmail.com

Secretary: Becci Curtis-Lillie, 253-355-2775, beccicurtis@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley, 530-624-0929, dsb615@sbcglobal.net

Director, 1st year: Bryan Habeck, 253-345-8565, bryan.habeck@icloud.com

Director, 2nd year: Tess Frazier, 360-265-6833, tessfrazier@wavecable.com

Director, 3rd year: Chic Sundahl, 253-381-5082, chicster21@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Tess Frazier, 360-265-6833, tessfrazier@wavecable.com

Librarian: Kristin Macy, 253-222-0715, KHMacy@live.com

Raffles: Doug Post, dougpostthedrummer@gmail.com

Programs: Chic Sundahl, 253-381-5082, chicster21@gmail.com

Outdoor Activities: Jim Baker, 253-394-1522, bake5636@wavecable.com

Web Site Editor: Bob Jimerson, 253-682-7768, bobjimerson@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Tom Long, 253 514-8838 tflong2@comcast.net

Legislation: Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259, Mtclancy39@comcast.net

FFI Representative: Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259, Mtclancy39@comcast.net

Education: Steve Saville, 253-927-4401, stevesaville@comcast.net

Conservation: Greg Shimek, 253-588-7606, gregs47@icloud.com