



# SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

SANTIAMFLYCASTERS.COM

August 2018



## **August Meeting: The Annual Fly Casting Clinic on Thursday, August 9, 6:00 pm**

Probably each of us could use a bit of improvement, or at least some refreshing, of our casting actions or techniques, couldn't we?

As usual, instead of an inside meeting/presentation on August 9, we will do a casting session on the lawn. The session will start around 6:00.

Dwight has graciously agreed to lead this event. Bring your own rod and reel, preferably with floating line. Nope, don't have a fly on the end of it but you can tie a bit of yarn instead!

This is always a fun time, with a chance to learn something new about casting, as well as a chance to talk about fishing.

Hope to see you there.



### **Board Meeting**

Monday August 6

7:00 pm

Garibaldi Family Restaurant

### **General Meeting**

Thursday August 9

6:00 pm

Pringle Community Center

### **Fly Tying Group**

Wednesday August 15

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Garibaldi Family Restaurant

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**Santiam Flycasters  
BOARD AND OFFICERS**

**Ricky Love**

President

**Jerrold Martisak**

Vice President/Programs

**Bill Crucial**

Secretary

**Tim Johnson**

Treasurer/Membership

**Board Members**

**Will and Reenie Satak**

Concessions

**Matt Neznanski**

Webmaster

**Leroy Shepherd**

Newsletter Layout/Design

**Howard Palmer**

IFFF Representative

**Keith Burkhart**

**George Hingston**

**Bob Karau**

**Ken Karnosh**

**Don Meyer**

**Steve Reynolds**

**Kent Toomb**

**Scott Vaslev**

**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 Ricky Love**

**Santiam Flycasters Venture to the Southfork of the Snake River**

One of the exciting aspects of fly fishing is getting the opportunity to fish new waters in Oregon, other great fisheries in the United States, or even abroad in foreign waters. During the first week of July, I had the pleasure of fishing the Teton River and South Fork of the Snake River in Eastern Idaho with fellow Santiam Flycaster members Bill Crucial, Scott Vaslev, and George Hingston. Since I consider the South Fork my home waters, I was eager to show off this great fishery to the crew. It was a trip filled with lots of humor, a great group of individuals, good food, great scenery, and awesome fishing.



We stayed in the small town of Irwin, Idaho and from this location you have access to a variety of great fisheries depending on how far you are willing to drive in a day. Opportunities include the South fork of the Snake River (1 minute from Irwin), the Teton River (45 minutes), Henry's Fork (1 hour,45 minutes), Henry's Lake (2 hours), the Madison River (2 hours 30 minutes), Jackson Hole, Wy (1 hour), and Yellowstone National Park (3 hours).

On Monday, July 2, we fished the Teton River by Driggs Idaho. The Teton Mountains provided a spectacular back drop throughout the float. The beginning of the float was encouraging as we saw lots of Green Drakes flying about the vegetation and water, however the winds quickly picked up and made fishing conditions very difficult the entire day. We did manage to catch some fish but not the numbers we anticipated. The highlight of the day was a startled cow moose that jumped into the river and landed a few feet from the drift boat Scott and Bill were in near the bank – Scott's hair turned gray from this traumatic event. This river has a reputation as a tremendous fishery but we will have to schedule a return trip to adequately provide feedback. Our guides for this river were from Teton Valley Lodge.



The next day we fished the South Fork of the Snake River with guides from the Lodge at Palisades Creek in Irwin, Idaho and it was non-stop action with numerous fish netted in the 20-inch range. *(continued next page)*

## SFC-Fish Electronic Message Board

One of the benefits of being a Santiam Flycasters member is having access to the SFC-FISH electronic message board. The message board gives members the opportunity to communicate with other about fly fishing and related topics. Once subscribed, you can post messages to SFC-FISH by sending an email to

[sfc-fish@googlegroups.com](mailto:sfc-fish@googlegroups.com)

You will receive messages posted by other members via your email account. It's as easy as that. To subscribe to SFC-FISH, simply send an email request to [santiamflycasters@yahoo.com](mailto:santiamflycasters@yahoo.com),

and we'll subscribe you and notify you when you can begin using the message board. Note: your SFC membership must be current to be a subscriber of SFC-FISH.



The pride of the South Fork is the Yellowstone Cutthroat but we also caught a variety of other fish to include; Rainbows, German Browns, Cut bows (cutthroat/rainbow), and Whitefish. We floated section 3 of the Southfork and the Salmon fly hatch was on. We caught about one third of our fish on dry flies and the other two thirds on

weighted nymphs suspended under a big dry fly or a strike indicator. The guides provided great flies, however our own Scotty Vaslev provided the nymph that netted the most fish. He calls it the "Scotty Special" and I was a non-believer initially. That was before I tied one on and began catching fish after fish. Perhaps we can convince him to provide the recipe in a future newsletter.

The third day we fished section 1 of the South fork in my drift boat. I am very familiar with this section. Bill Crucial floated in his pontoon boat and briefly switched with Scott along the way. We had another very successful day and netted many fish. The Salmon fly hatch had not made its way up river to this section yet so we caught most of our fish using nymphs – to include the "Scotty Special".

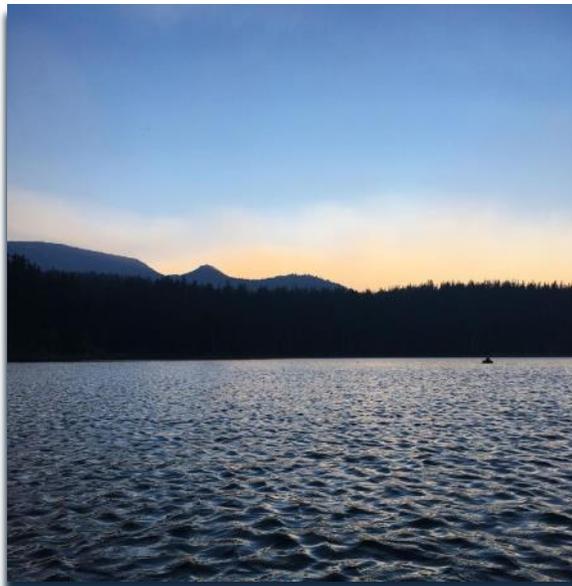


One valuable lesson I learned on this trip is don't assume since someone can row a pontoon boat they can row a drift boat! I won't mention any names, Scotty. Bill Crucial on the other hand was much more successful at rowing. Scotty even attempted to drown me at one point but that's a story for another time or while drinking an adult beverage. It was an awesome trip filled with great memories and one I can't wait to do again. I highly recommend the South Fork of the Snake River get added to your "bucket list."

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## Three Creek Lake Outing Report

### By Tim Johnson



There were at least 8 club members and guests who participated in the Three Creeks Lake outing that was scheduled for July 25.

Unfortunately, the lake had warmed considerably in the 12 days since I last fished it.

When I fished the lake with my brother on July 13, the water was clear and the fish were feeding on the surface, taking dry flies actively. By the time of the outing, an algae bloom had clouded the lake and driven many of the fish into deeper water. I measured the surface

## ***Fly Tying Group Wednesday August 15***

We will meet on Wednesday, August 15 at Garibaldi's Family Mexican Restaurant in West Salem from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Come join us to tie, learn, or just visit about fishing. Enjoy some tasty food or a beverage, if you wish, as well.

We try to demonstrate a pattern to tie, if you wish, or each person can tie a pattern of their choice. It's very laid back and it is for all levels of tying ability.

If you have questions, contact Kent Toomb at [kent.toomb@gmail.com](mailto:kent.toomb@gmail.com) or by phone at (541) 990-3964.



Hope to see you there.

temperature at 69 degrees. I did manage to hook 10 fish, but it wasn't easy to find them, and even harder to get them to bite. Even periodic insect hatches weren't enticing fish to come out of the depths and eat our flies. And when they did come up, they were being very selective.

I caught my few fish on a variety of fly patterns, but none on dry flies. A Partridge and Orange soft hackle pattern worked best for me, although I also caught fish on a Carey's Special and Possie Bugger. I concentrated my fishing in the rocks near the lake store and across the lake in the weed beds, using a floating line most of the time.

I did manage to hook a 14-inch rainbow and a beautiful brook trout of about the same size. I got a photo of the rainbow but unfortunately the brook trout jumped out of the net before I could click the shutter.

The lake temperature will probably continue to be warm until September. After Labor Day, the crowds will thin and fishing Three Creek Lake will most likely return to its normal fabulous conditions. That's when I will return to this beautiful alpine lake.



## ***McKenzie River Outing July 14 By Leroy Shepherd***

We were not alone for the McKenzie River float on a 90+ degree day in July. We did have the first couple of miles early in the morning mostly to ourselves. By noon, however, the recreational float tubes, rubber rafts, and the occasional kayak were hatching out in full force. By the end of the float it was cast, drift, wait for several folks to float by, and then cast again and wait for another opening.



I understand most everyone caught at least one. Fish that is, not one of the flotillas of crafts seeking cooling relief from the sun. Ken and Tim seemed to have it dialed in, finding consistent success using an orange and partridge soft hackle (Tim) or a

pheasant tail soft hackle (Ken). I managed a smallish native cutthroat on the orange and partridge soft hackle. They are a beautiful fish.

It is a trip to do again some time. Plan to spend some time on the big bend where the Mohawk River enters the McKenzie.

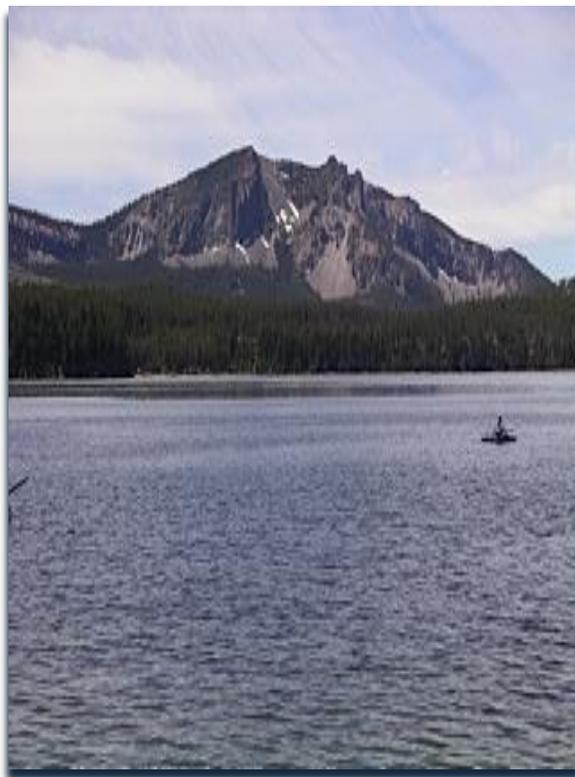
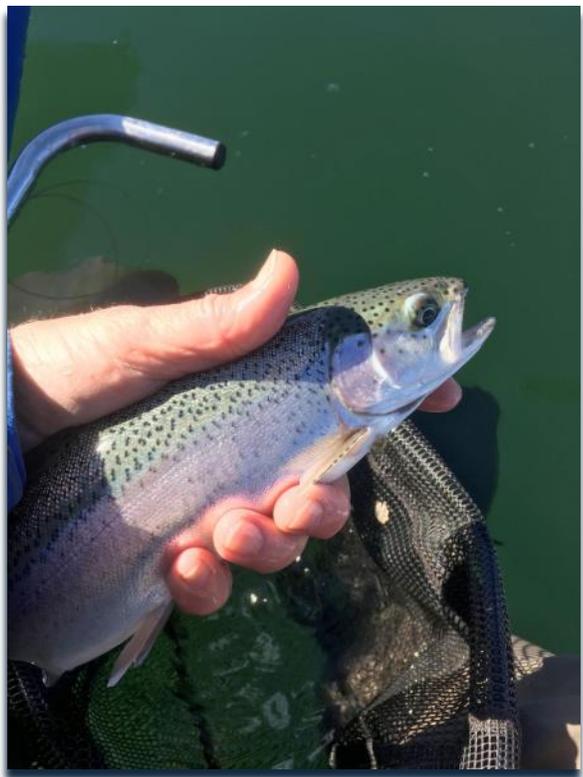


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***Pictures from the East Lake Outing  
By Tim Johnson***



## More from East Lake



## ***SFC East Lake Outing by Howard Palmer***

About 26 hardy souls ventured to East Lake on June 30 in search of those ever elusive trout that are known to inhabit this jewel of Central Oregon. Located at around 6300 feet in elevation, just the altitude can be a problem for some of us; and there is the unpredictability of the weather. Over the years, we have been plagued with rain, hail, snow (yes, even in July) and always, there is the ever present wind that blows daily during the afternoon. Sometimes it dies off after dinner; sometimes not. This year, aside from the afternoon winds, the weather was most pleasant; that is if you don't mind scraping ice off your pontoon boat first thing in the morning. Yes, the early morning temperatures were pushing the freezing mark each day except Sunday.

For those of us who are somewhat piscatorally challenged (as in why do I bother), fishing was less than successful. I was able to land a single Rainbow, albeit only about 6 inches in length. But, he (maybe it was a she) fought gallantly enough to gain a quick release once in my hand. Other more talented individuals like Ken, and Larry, and others (Larry always catches fish) it was a most worthwhile trip indeed, and they did indeed have the magic touch, as in Ken's case, some well tied Pheasant Tail Nymphs. Whatever their secret was, many folks were indeed successful.

Lunch was provided by the club at the magic touch of Chef Howard (that's me) who produced the entre of BBQ'd Salmon. Many asked for recipe, so here it is:

*Any Salmon will do as long as it is fresh, and real fishermen catch their own. These were bought however at COSTCO and were farm raised Atlantics. WINCO, Fred Meyer, Safeway, and Roths all had several kinds available. I prefer BBQing full fillets, but have made individual foil boats, and I have also been known to cook whole Salmon, although the cooking time is harder to control. **(Plan 8-10 oz per person)***

*Place the fillet (these fillets were about 3 lb. each) on a large sheet of heavy duty aluminum foil (the sheet should be large enough to completely wrap the fillet and seal it.*

*Dust the fillet with salt and pepper to taste, Seasoning Salt, Cajun Spices (all lightly). I have also used garlic powder, but not on these.*

*Spread ¼ Cup Brown Sugar lightly over the entire fillet.*

*Sprinkle lightly with Soy Sause the length of the Fillet*

*Close the Aluminum foil tightly around the fish and seal.*

*Place on a Medium High grill and cook for 10 minutes*

*At the end of 10 minutes, open the aluminum foil and continue cooking while keeping a close eye on the fish. There is a fine line between perfect and disaster when cooking fish. It is done when it doesn't look raw any more. Remove it from the heat the second it changes color.*

*Serve it with what ever you can con the neighbors into bringing to share, and your favorite beverage. I prefer a fine Chardonnay or Sauvignon Blanc but, It really deserves something sparkling.*

***Bon Appetite***

## ***August Outings***

### ***Willamette River—August 11***

On August 11, we will float the Willamette River for about 8 miles from Keizer Rapids Park to the boat ramp just below Wheatland Ferry to fish for smallmouth bass. A pontoon or drift boat is needed for this trip. A typical smallmouth in this section is 10-12", but we have caught some up to about 19".

Plan to meet at Keizer Rapids Park (at the westerly end of Chemawa Road in Keizer) at 8:00 with your boat assembled. We will need to shuttle our vehicles to the Wheatland Ferry boat ramp before we start our float. Plan to pay for parking at the Wheatland Ferry boat ramp (\$5 day use fee).

Suggested gear is 5 or 6 weight rods with floating or intermediate line. Flies include woolly buggers, clousers, and similar flies, probably beadhead or weighted to fish them near the bottom. A version is to tie a woolly bugger with dumbbell eyes. Green, purple, and black are good colors. Good fishing locations often are where the current is slower, especially where the depth quickly increases, and the depth is 3-8' or so, probably within 50' or so of the shore.

The club will not provide a meal, so remember your lunch as well as water, fins, PFD, etc. and plan to be on the water until late afternoon.

Tim Johnson will be the outing sponsor, so contact him at [tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com](mailto:tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com) if you have a question.

### ***Little Nestucca River — August 25***

On August 25, we will float the Little Nestucca River to fish for searun cutthroat trout by floating upstream with the end of the incoming tide and back on the outgoing tide. A pontoon boat or boat is needed for this float.

High tide will occur at about 1:30, so plan to be on the water by 11:00. You will be back at the boat ramp by 3:30.

To get to the Little Nestucca River boat ramp, drive west on Highways 22 and 18, turn right (just before the casino) at Valley Junction onto Highway 22, in about 15 miles turn left at Dolph Junction onto the Little Nestucca River Highway, turn left onto Highway 101, and turn left onto the road to the boat ramp just south of the Little Nestucca River bridge. Plan to pay a \$4 parking fee at the launch site.

Suggested equipment is 4-6 weight rods with floating or intermediate line. Flies should provide movement, maybe with some flash and brighter colors, such as purple jock, spruce, mini-clousers, or woolly buggers. Cast to the shore, brush, or other cover, and strip for movement.

The club will not provide a meal, so remember your lunch and fins, as well the other necessities for floating a river on the coast. Also remember to wash your gear when you get home as this is a tidal zone.

Ken Karnosh will be the outing sponsor, so contact him at [kenkarnosh@gmail.com](mailto:kenkarnosh@gmail.com) if you have a question.

### ***2018 Fishing Opportunities with Santiam Flycasters***

- Aug. 11 — Willamette River (Keizer Rapids to Wheatland Ferry)
- Aug. 25 — Little Nestucca River
- Sep. 8 — Hosmer Lake
- Sep. 15 — Umpqua River (Elkton)
- Sep. 29 — Owyhee River
- Oct. 13 — Crooked River
- Oct. 27 — McKenzie River (Hendricks to Hayden)
- Nov. 10 — Detroit Lake
- Nov. 17 — Devil's Lake

**FLY OF THE MONTH**  
**"Not A Mercer's Missing Link"**  
 or  
**"My Mistake Caddis"**  
 By Jim Ferguson



Hook:	Dry Fly 12 - 18
Thread:	8/0 color of choice (usually to match body color)
Body:	8/0 thread color of choice (hopefully matches a hatch) - ribbed with a strand of Krystal Flash (pearl or holographic) coated with head cement or UV coating
Thorax/Wing Splitter:	Ice Dub dubbing - color of choice (I used a black mixed with several purple and reddish strands)
Down Wing:	Z yarn, Dark Dun Olive
Up Wing:	Elk Body Hair, dyed olive ( you can use whatever color matches the hatch)
Hackle:	Dry Fly Hackle, Dark Dun

I was reading a recipe given by Kent Toomb in an Idaho Flyfishing Club newsletter for something called Mercer's Missing Link. He also talked about the black caddis that was hatching in the river and I remembered some of those little flies that hatched during sunbreaks on a cloudy stormy day on the Metolius during one of my outings. I started tying some flies according to the pattern given. However, when it came to wrapping the hackle. I made a mistake. I was supposed to pull up on the wing and the waste so the hackle would be under the "up wing." Instead, I pulled the hackle stem around and wound it around the waste which made it into a parachute hackle around the elk waste post. This changed the fly considerably and I tied over a dozen before I really looked at the picture provided by Kent. His wing set was definitely higher than mine. I then googled Mercer's Missing Link on the computer and watched a YouTube video which showed

the correct wrapping of the hackle. The Missing Link was designed to be a spent caddis but has been used for a mayfly, stonefly or terrestrial. Tied the way I did gave the wing a lower and more spread out set. Try both methods and see what you come up with!

### Step-By-Step Directions:

1. Mount the hook in the vise, attach the tying thread and wrap back about one eye length as in Fig 1.
2. Attach the Krystal Flash ribbing material (Fig 2) and wrap back using flat adjacent turns of the thread as in Fig 3. Using flat edge to edge wraps, take the tying thread to the front (Fig 4) making sure your wraps cover the Krystal Flash.



Fig 1

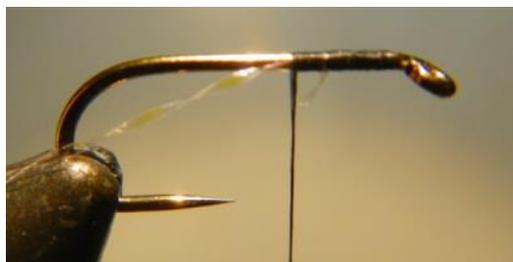


Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

3. Wrap the Krystal Flash forward creating 5 or 6 ribs evenly spaced (Fig 5). You can either coat the thread and the Krystal Flash with head cement or use a UV setting fluid to make a more durable rib and body assembly. The UV setting fluid, like epoxy, allows the iridescence of the rib to react better to the light. After the coating is set, take the thread back to just forward of the half shank position as in Fig 6.

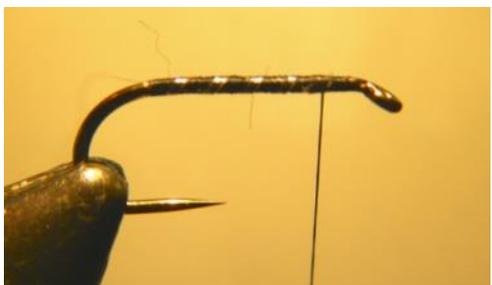


Fig 5



Fig 6

4. Form a dubbing ball at the half shank position, Fig 7. This dubbing ball is like a thorax that will also keep the underwings angled outwards and separated. Tie in the Z yarn in front of the dubbing ball with the far wing favored to the far side of the shank as in Fig 8. Bring the near wing section back and secure it so it favors the right side of the shank. as in Fig 9. To keep the Z yarn from getting in the way, pull the yarn ends to the rear and secure with some wire wraps as shown in Fig 10.



Fig 7



Fig 8



Fig 9



Fig 10

5. Attach the hackle, dull side down in front of the thorax with the stem waste positioned as in Fig 11. To create a flat spot at the front, wrap the stem against the near side and about a half an eye length back from the front, bend the stem back and lash it to the far side of the shank as seen in Fig 12. The idea is to create a flat surface for mounting the elk hair wing so it does not spin around the hook shank. You do need to use a hackle stem that is small in diameter, normally found in better quality saddle hackles. Using this method of securing the hackle does allow you to put more tension on the hackle stem without fear of it pulling out.



Fig 11



Fig 12

6. Select, clean, and stack your elk hair for the outer wing. Tie in the elk hair with the tips towards the rear of the hook and waste towards the front. In Fig 13 you can see where my second thread wrap slid down. Try not to do this. Tie down the elk hair with several good wraps and then lift the waste so you can make several wraps in front between the post and the eye of the hook. At this point I should have figured out the hackle was to go under the elk hair to conform to Mercer's recipe for the Missing Link but I misunderstood directions and only lifted the waste end of the elk hair to wrap the hackle around. Fig 14 shows how the hackle should be pulled towards you to start the first wrap around the post formed by the waste end of the elk hair.



Fig 13



Fig 14

7. Wrap four turns of hackle counter clockwise around the post as in Fig 15. Wiggle the stem as you wrap to minimize trapping hackle fibers. I lay the stem across the shank behind the eye and then with my right hand, I pull the hackle fibers up and back so I can make few turns of tying thread over the hackle stem. Trim off the hackle stem waste (Fig 16), and whip finish the head.



Fig 15



Fig 16

8. Trim the elk hair waste just as you would for an elk hair caddis. I add head cement to the head, the thread wraps under the wing section, and some on top between the post fibers. Be sure to clean out the eye if needed. Undo the wire wrap holding the underwing to the rear. Preen the fly by making sure the hackles are evenly distributed around the post. Make sure the overwing is evenly spread over the body (Fig 18.)



Fig 17



Fig 18

9. Pull the Z yarn underwings to the rear and trim them so they will be about to the end of the bend. When cut, the Z yarn will spring back so plan where to cut. Be sure to pull the Z yarn away from the tips of the elk hair so you don't cut them short. Fig 19 shows how the Z yarn shortens up and the elk overwing covers the Z yarn. Fig 20 shows a top view of a typical caddis like wing that tents over the body.



Fig 19



Fig 20

10. Fig 21 shows the underside view. Be sure to give the exposed thread area a good coating of head cement. Fig 22 shows the completed fly.



Fig 21



Fig 22



# Santiam Flycasters

## 2018 Membership Form

The Santiam Flycasters, Inc. is a group of men, women, and youths in the Salem area who have a common interest in flyfishing 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. For new members, there is a 50% reduction after July 1<sup>st</sup>. There is no midyear discount for Life Membership.

Life membership -- \$250    Regular -- \$25    Family -- \$30    Youth--\$10

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