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SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

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November 2025

November 2025 SFC Meeting

Seasonal Hatches and Patterns with Rick Hafele

We know that streams are not static and many changes occur in them throughout the year. This program describes the seasonal changes that occur on a stream and how insect hatches, trout, and fishing tactics change with them.



Rick Hafele has a Masters degree in aquatic entomology and a minor in fisheries biology, and has worked as a professional aquatic biologist for over 40 years.

Books to his credit include *An Angler's Guide to Aquatic Insects and Their Imitations* (with Scott Roederer, Johnson Books, 1995), *Western Mayfly Hatches* (with Dave Hughes, Amato Pub, 2005), *The Complete Book of Western Hatches* (with Dave Hughes, Amato Pub, 1981), *Nymph Fishing Rivers and Streams* (Stackpole Books,

2006), and most recently the two volume set *Tactics for Trout and Seasons for Trout* (Stackpole Books, 2014) co-authored with Dave Hughes and Skip Morris. In addition Rick is well known for instructional DVDs that include the 1983 classic *Anatomy of a Trout Stream* and more recently the four-volume set titled, *Fly Fishing Large Western Rivers*, plus *Nymph Fishing Basics*, *Advanced Nymph Fishing* and *Advanced Tactics for Emergers & Dries*. He also penned the *Entomology* column for *American Angler* magazine for over 30 years.

More info about Rick and his programs can be found at his website: www.rickhafele.com

Board Meeting - By Zoom

November 10 - 6:30 pm

SFC Meeting

November 13 - 7:00 pm

Scottish Rite Center
4090 Commercial St. SE,
Salem

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By Beth Jappay**

Well, it's November and temperatures are soon to drop. While many of us will continue to fish lakes and the rivers that remain open, a lot of us will change our focus to tying flies until next spring. I am mentioning fly tying in this month's article because many of the available fly tying forums have already gotten started or will start up shortly for the winter.



My favorite forum is the Fly Fishers International fly tying group. The group has a guest tyer demonstrate via Zoom every other week...I believe it's from mid October to early April. If you are not an FFI member, I highly recommend joining. The annual membership is \$35 (\$25 for seniors) and the tying group is only an additional \$20. The group also records their events, which they make available to the public on their website.

Another online tying forum is the Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild. The group meets monthly in Sisters, but also has weekly demonstrations (open to the public) via Zoom performed by members or guest tyers. The COFTG group usually starts in early December. For more information contact Sherry Steele at Steelefly@MSN.com.

For local in-person fly tying demonstrations, I recommend Garrett's fly tying group, put on by the Linn-Benton club. They meet the second Monday of every month at the River Center in Lebanon, and Garrett typically brings free materials to tie with. It's free to show up if you are an SFC member, but I recommend joining the LB club if attendance is going to be a regular thing.

As far as fly tying events for the Santiam Flycasters, I am hoping that in January we will repeat the Saturday fly tying event we had this past January. It was well-attended and a lot of fun. We may also resume pre-meeting fly tying in January if there is enough interest. If anyone has strong feelings about this, please let me know at one of our meetings.

It's time to elect our club officers for 2026!

It's your time to campaign to let the Board know that you want to be a club officer or to twist the arm of that person who you want to be an officer!

Also, we encourage any and all of you to join our SFC Board to help plan our activities. The monthly meeting is done via Zoom and lasts an hour or less. Come join the Board!

Anyway, the Board will nominate officers for 2026 at its November 10 meeting and the membership will vote on those nominations, as well as the Board members, at the November 13 general meeting.

If you are able to participate in the November 10 Zoom meeting to do nominations, please contact Tim at santiamflycasters@yahoo.com to provide the link.

2025 Outings-Santiam Flycasters

Here is the list of the remaining fly fishing outings our club has planned for 2025. The list includes opportunities to catch trout in streams and still waters, as well as opportunities for steelhead, chum salmon, and small mouth bass.

Most waters are best fished from a floating device (float tube, pontoon boat, or other boat). In the newsletter article for the outing, we will say if there are opportunities for bank access at that location. If you do not yet own a floating device but want to participate in the outing, let us know and we should be able to have someone lend you a device for the outing.

Obviously, when we are on or around the water, there is an element of risk. Please be aware of the disclaimer also in this newsletter. Also, please use a personal flotation device (PFD).

November 8 - Mckenzie River

November 15 - Detroit Reservoir

At the Board Meeting on December 8 the Board will be scheduling Club Outings for 2026. If you have outings to suggest and/or are willing to sponsor an outing please convey your thoughts to one of the Board Members.

SFC Outing Disclaimer

Santiam Flycasters does not represent that any of these trips are suitable for any of its members. Each stream, river and lake present its own unique hazards and dangers. Each member must evaluate the suitability of his or her own physical condition, equipment and skills before participating in any of these trips. Each member that chooses to go on any of these trips personally assumes all risks of injury and damage while participating

Crooked River Outing Report by Ricky Love



On October 4, eleven Santiam Flycasters were joined by four Linn Benton Fly Fishers on the beautiful Crooked River just outside of Prineville. The water level was just a little higher than previous outings this time of year. The river was initially running at 230 CFS (cubic feet per second) on Thursday, then dropped to 215 CFS Friday and Saturday. Water temps were consistently around 55 degrees – perfect conditions. The higher water allowed us to fish in some sections that are normally too low to hold fish.

A few of us started fishing on Thursday morning and enjoyed a lot of success and beautiful weather before the rain and thunder arrived in the early afternoon and continued through the night. Steve Reynolds, Brian Hoag, Greg Long, and I all had a productive day on the water. Both Steve and I netted close to 30 fish each. We were euro nymphing and the successful flies were a size 14 Jig Napoleon Perdigon with a 2.8mm bead, size 14 Red Arse PT nymph, size 14 Blue Perdigon, and a size 14 Pheasant Tail Flashback nymph with an orange bead. Brian netted most of his fish euro nymphing with a Perdigon on the point and various soft hackles on the tag. Greg used a Rainbow Warrior and Flashback Pheasant Tail in sizes 16 and 18 to net fish. He landed the largest rainbow of the trip – 15 inches. The rain came about 1:30pm and thunder a little later and we never got back on the water that day.

On Friday, the CFS dropped to 215 and for most of us fishing was not productive. Our catch rate significantly dropped although Brian Hoag started catching fish as the day progressed. Bob Elliot's fishing was not affected by the river drop and he was able to net 60 fish on Friday and another 60 on Saturday. He put a lot of time in on the water. He was euro nymphing and using a size 12 bead headed scud to net most of his fish.

On Saturday, conditions were great again and most of us had another successful day. I netted close to 50 fish by the end of the day using small flies. I used a size 18 Green Gasolina with Orange collar on the tag and a size 14 Blue wing Olive Quill Nymph on the point. Steve Reynolds netted

Photo Album - Crooked River Outing

Photos provided by Ricky Love, Mike Miller, and Leroy Shepherd.



close to 35 fish during the day using the PT Flash-back Nymph with orange bead, a size 18 Frenchie, and the same size 18 Gasolina Perdigon I used. Mike Miller, Brian Hoag, and I all enjoyed catching fish in the evening swinging soft hackles and small blue wing olive bead heads. Several members netted good sized white fish during the trip.

The club hosted a great lunch on Saturday. Steve Reynolds cooked some delicious tri tip and hot dogs and other members provided side dishes. Bobby Scherer (Herb Harry's brother-in-law) made a delicious Dutch oven peach/blueberry/blackberry cobbler for dessert. It was served with huckleberry ice cream. Another wonderful trip on the Crooked River is in the books.



Deschutes River Outing by Brian Hoag



Five members and a guest floated and fished the Deschutes from Warm Springs to trout Creek on Saturday October 18th. Some of us also fished the day before. The river was in good shape for fishing at about 4,200 cfs. Friday was warm and a bit windy. Saturday was calm and pleasant with a cold start. The fishing was good, and we managed to land several fish including rainbows (redside) and whitefish. Ricky proclaimed himself the king of whitefish! Haha. I think everyone had the most success tight line (euro) nymphing. Kent did the best with many fish and some quite large. The Deschutes canyon is a beautiful place to enjoy.



Photo Album - Deschutes River Outing

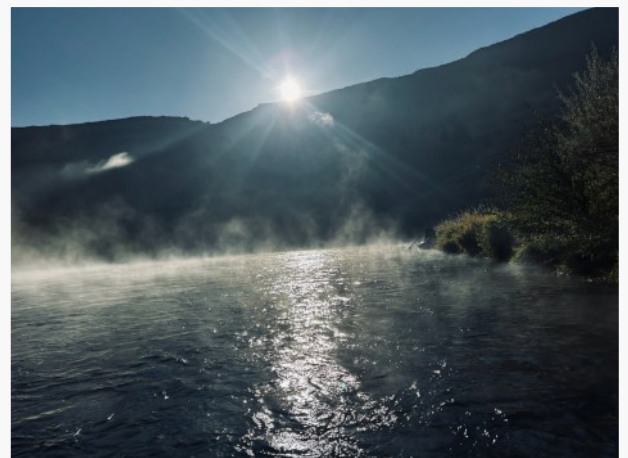


Photo Album - Deschutes River Outing



Photos from Ricky Love and Brian Hoag

Interested in Improving Your Casting?

Teaching by certified instructors is available on Saturdays

Wallace Marine Park in West Salem

Spey Casting—9 am at the gravel bar near the walking bridge.

Single Hand—10:30 am also at the gravel bar near the walking bridge.

For more information, contact Beth at

EJappay@comcast.net

November 8 McKenzie River Outing

On Saturday November 8th we will float and fish the McKenzie River from Deerhorn County Park to Hendricks Bridge County Park (about 8 miles). A pontoon boat or drift boat is needed for this trip. We will meet at the Deerhorn Park landing. We will have our boats unloaded and ready to shuttle our vehicles to Hendricks Park Boat Ramp at 9:00.

To get to the Deerhorn Park, drive I-5 south to Eugene, exit on Exit 194A onto Highway 126E for almost 7 miles, turn left to stay on Highway 126E for about 5 miles, go over the bridge at Hendricks and keep going forward until you get to Holden Creek Lane and take a right then another quick right on Bridge St, go over the bridge and circle back under the bridge to the downriver side landing. You will need a parking pass that you can buy through the Lane County Parks website or at Hendricks Park.

Suggested gear is 4-6 weight rods with floating line or a 2-3 weight 10' or longer rod with a Euro-nymph setup. For nymphing, use a very heavy fly tied below a dropper with a nymph, midge pupa, or soft hackle. For swinging, use a bead head, like a possie bugger, with a soft hackle or other wet fly tied below or above it. Also, just swinging a soft hackle can be productive. There also may be a mid-day hatch of BWOs. Remember your lunch, beverage, PFD, etc. The outing sponsor is Brian Hoag. He can be contacted at brianhoag@comcast.net or text/call at 503-910-1860.

November 15 Detroit Lake Outing

If Mother Nature cooperates and the lake draining process has not started, we will fish Detroit Lake on November 15. A floating device provides your best opportunity for success there. To get there, drive Highway 22 east and turn right at Mongold Boat Ramp a few miles above Detroit Dam. You will need to either have a State Parks pass or purchase a daily pass for \$5 via credit card.

We recommend launching at the new boat ramp to the right at the bottom of the parking lot, since low water will normally leave mud on the old ramp to the left and you need to carry your boat a couple of hundred yards to the water. Suggested gear is 4-6 weight rods with intermediate or sinking line. Flies include the normal Stillwater selection of leeches, buggers, and other attractor patterns.

The club will not provide a meal, so remember your lunch and other essentials.

The outing sponsor is To Be Determined. Watch your email for more information and status of this outing.



Support our local Fly Shop

located at 204 1st Ave. W.

in Albany, Oregon.

Check out the shop at

<https://www.tworiversflyshop.biz/>

Chef Mort's Corner: The Oysterman



Before you ever entered Oysterman's world you were assaulted by the smell of creosote, salt, and stale beer. Inside the creaking door of his fish shop you could hear the oyster man in back, scuttling about like a crustacean in the wrack and gloom of his damp world, cursing for the lost and maybe never found. His aged, withered claws grasping at the briny miscreants that had the misfortune to stumble into his liar, (although fine table fare indeed).

First things first. The cold formality of the abattoir awaits all creatures who enter. Each step from here darker than the last but no less inevitably rehearsed with time proven care. Grandma said that old Snitty Vandunkle was older than the sea itself.

The moniker 'Oysterman' came from a time long ago wherein as a lad Snitty would ride the oyster skiffs over the roil of the surf and out into the Tillamook Bay for the briny treasure they could rake and scrape from the bay's wounded bosom. A meager living indeed. Tutored meticulously by old salts who had come before him, Snitty learned his trade at the cruel thorough hands that ruled the oystermen's frugal world.

"I would like two dozen of your smallest, choicest oyster meats please," said Miss Patricia, a heavily bosomed old lass who maintained a house tab in good standing for many years in Snitty's shop, The Crab Pot.

Grandpa often warned Grandma, "Old Snitty ain't no saint."

The Oysterman loved his lady patrons. A ribald joke shared amongst the callous men, softly and insidiously delivered followed by the Oysterman's cackle ricocheting around the dilapidated walls of the Crab Pot like buckshot in a tornado. Housewives, timbermen, drunks and louts all orbiting the rutted timbered floors daily in a choreographed waltz of dirty jokes and fine seafood. "The shorter the hem the better," Snitty could be heard to mutter. The occasional peek-a-boo cleavage blatantly exposed over the glistening fresh sole filets never ceased to amuse and tickle Snitty's long days of rack and ribaldry.

"Hide your woman and guard your wallet men, we are off to see the Oysterman."

"If wisdom were pearls we would all be rich," Snitty would say, always fond of giving free advice but never accepting any in return. "After all, who's God damned shop was it anyway?"

Oysterman's solitary haunt was only occasionally interrupted by a misfortunate, browbeaten apprentice who, if lucky, would just manage to duck from the wrathful flying ice thrown in his deserved direction. "Tidy shop, tidy profit," the old grunion would sneer as he pitched his ice strewn fit!

The Pot had proudly operated continuously for ninety-six years dodging the inevitable floods, famine, and pestilence that periodically swept through Snitty's dockside location. The ebb tide flowed in Oysterman's life as inevitably in all others. I suppose it came as no surprise that Snitty wasn't discovered sooner. Sadly over the Sabbath he was found by his startled apprentice swimming head down in the lobster tank. Many would later say, "Old snitty had an entire bay to drown in. What the hell was he doing swimming in his own lobster tank?" Like many of life's mysteries the Oysterman's demise shall remain so.

The Crab Pot is many years closed now. All outstanding tabs are settled or forgotten. A stringy bunch of scrub cottonwood trees are struggling mightily to take hold in the foundation of the Oysterman's shack. Like life itself, they are hanging on just waiting to catch a break. Sometimes when I chance to pass what's left of The Pot and the southwesterers are howling through town like a banshee, I think I hear the echo of old Snitty sneering at all of us. Inevitably one of Snitty's old jokes comes to mind:

How many mongers does it take to make a decent chowder? Forty-three, one to make it and forty-two to stand around and say, "I could have done that!" The Oysterman's dried leaf cackle is carried away by the winds of autumn.

Rest in peace all mongers of the fin and sea!

Snitty's Oysters Almondine

(Snitty wouldn't touch an almond with a ten-foot pole, I added that bit of fancy just to show off.)

A couple of dozen fresh Pacific oysters and some tartar sauce and you too can enjoy a recipe passed down by Snitty himself. I'm not saying it's easy but it's worth a little mess to bread up a bunch of fresh oysters and fry them lightly in some vegetable oil.

Breading station

1 cup seasoned AP flour in a bowl (Seasoned with salt, pepper and a couple pinches of Old Bay seasoning)

Egg wash station

4 eggs mixed with ½ cup milk beaten well and placed in a bowl

Crumb station

You will need to mix up about 6-8 cups of your favorite breading mixture. Here are some examples, corn bread. Old French bread, store bought breadcrumbs or Panko crumbs, ground up crackers. I like to grind up all my bread heels, French bread stubs and anything else I can get my hands on. Using my food processor and a couple cloves of garlic I rough chop all these ends and pieces while drizzling olive oil into the processor bowl. After I get the consistency I desire(a little rough) I season the breadcrumbs with salt and pepper and toast them in the oven on a low heat stirring occasionally to prevent burning. Cool these crumbs and pop them into your breading bowl. Add 1 cup of almond slivers if you want Almondine oysters... or omit as you see fit.

To bread.

Drain your fresh oyster meats and save the nectar for your next oyster stew or clam chowder. This nectar can be frozen until needed. Dust the oysters in the flour being careful to shake off excess flour. Drop five or six floured oysters at a time into the egg-wash bowl. Using a fork carefully lift the oysters one at a time and place them gently onto your open hand which is full of tasty breading. Next add another handful of breading on top of your oyster with your clean dry hand . Do all this over the breading bowl to catch the falling breading and there will be lots of breading to catch. Firmly form the oyster

croquette in your closed hands being careful to completely coat your oyster with breadcrumbs. Squeeze firmly and shake off the extra bread crumb mixture into your bread crumb bowl. No bare oyster meats showing. You may need to add more breading if you don't achieve a fully breaded oyster. Repeat as needed. This is as simple as dipping the oyster's unbreaded portion delicately back into the egg mixture and repeating the breading step this time on only the part of the oyster you missed the first time. Place breaded oysters on a tray. When all your oysters are breaded they can be placed in the refrigerator until you are ready to fry. They will hold for several hours but eventually they gather moisture from the refrigerator and this effects the quality of the finished product. I also do not advise freezing oysters...I think Snitty would agree. Best freshly breaded and fried.

To cook.

Heat about ¾ of an inch of vegetable oil in 2 inch or deeper frying pan. Cast iron works great for this. Drop a bit of breading into the hot oil to test for approximate desired heat (350 degrees) or use your handy kitchen thermometer. Gently place oysters into the hot oil carefully away from your body to avoid inadvertently burning yourself. Crisp oysters one side at a time and remove oysters as they finish to a pan with a paper towel to soak up any excess oil. Salt and pepper and perhaps a sprinkle of fresh chopped parsley and serve. I like a dry white Sancerre or Chablis with my shellfish and nice tartar (remoulade) sauce for my oysters and a little fresh lemon and so did Snitty. Enjoy!

Mort



November 2025 Fly of the Month

Peacock Caddis

By Jim Ferguson



Hook: Dry Fly Standard #10 -14
Thread: Black, 8/0
Body: Peacock herls
Wing: Elk Hair
Hackle: Brown and Grizzly rooster saddle hackles

This caddis pattern is designed to sit low in the water using elk hair to assist in keeping it afloat.

STEP-BY-STEP

1. Debarb the hook, mount it in your vise, attach tying thread an eye length behind the hook eye, and wrap a thread base back to where the bend of the hook starts. Fig 1.
2. Attach two or 3 peacock herls, make a spinning loop for the herls, wrap the thread to about mid shank. Fig 2.

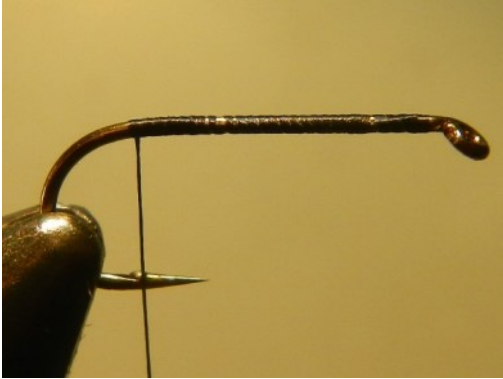


Fig 1



Fig 2

3. Spin the loop and herl to form a peacock chenille like rope and wrap forward. Remember, the rear of a caddis is usually larger at the rear so make several turns at the rear if you want to mimic the caddis body form. Tie off the herl at the mid-body position. Fig 3. Trim the waste and wrap the thread forward to the eye and back. You need a thread base to cover the shank so the elk hair does not readily spin around the shank in the next step. Fig 4.



Fig 3



Fig 4

4. Bring the thread wraps to the front of the body. Fig 5. Select, clean and stack the elk hair for the wing. You will tie this on similar to an elk hair caddis with the butts extending over the eye and the elk hair tips over the shank. (Fig 6) A caddis wing extends well past the end of the body. You want to tie in the elk hair to form a sort of tent over the top of the body.
5. Elk hair will flair. To minimize some of the flaring, I pre-glue the elk hair clump at the tie down area on the bundle with head cement. Make a soft wrap around the hair while holding the hair along the shank. Pull up on the thread but not too much. Do not let go of the elk hair. Make another soft loop in front of the first wrap and pull up a little tighter. Use the hand not holding the hair to control the splayed elk hair butts and orient them along the top of the shank. Continue to wrap the elk hair butts down as you wrap the thread forward. When you get to the eye, pull up the butts and make several turns on the shank right behind the eye as in Fig 7. Now wrap the thread between in the space between the wing tie in and the butt tie down section as in Fig 8.

Fig. 9



Fig 5

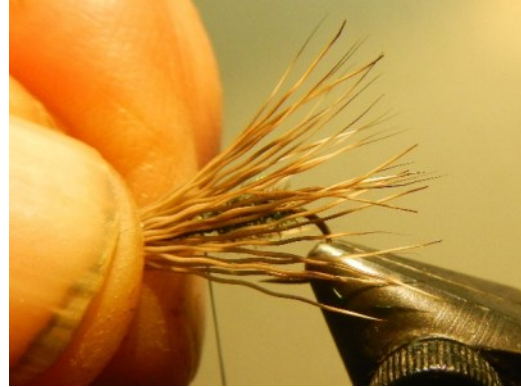


Fig 6



Fig 7



Fig 8

6. Check both the front and back of the fly where you have tied in the elk hair. If you have some fibers that have rotated under the shank, pluck them off with tweezers (Fig 9 shows the fly rotated upside down to reveal several wing fibers that need plucking.) With the fly upright in the vise, trim the butts at an angle similar to the angle formed by the wing. Tie in the hackles on the far side of the top of the shank. I place the hackles belly to belly so the fibers angle both to the front and the back. Tying them in on the far side of the top allows for a more even distribution when you tie off the hackle on the front top side.



Fig 9



Fig 10

6. Trim off the hackle butts as in Fig 11. Wrap the hackles in tight adjacent turns in the space between the wing and head. Tie off the hackle of the top near side as in Fig 12.



Fig 11



Fig 12

8. Trim off the hackle butt waste (Fig 13). Carefully make a few wraps to secure the hackle stubs without trapping hackle fibers. I make two sets of 3 whip finish wraps to form the tie off behind the head. Pluck out any trapped fibers as in Fig 14.



Fig 13



Fig 14

9. I usually add some head cement with a fine needle. Make sure you do not plug the eye or goop up the hackle fibers. Trim the bottom hackle fibers off the bottom as in Fig 15. Figure 16 shows a bottom view of the fly.



Fig 15



Fig 16

10. Figure 17 shows a top view of the fly. Figure 18 shows a hatch of peacock caddis.



Fig 17



Fig 18

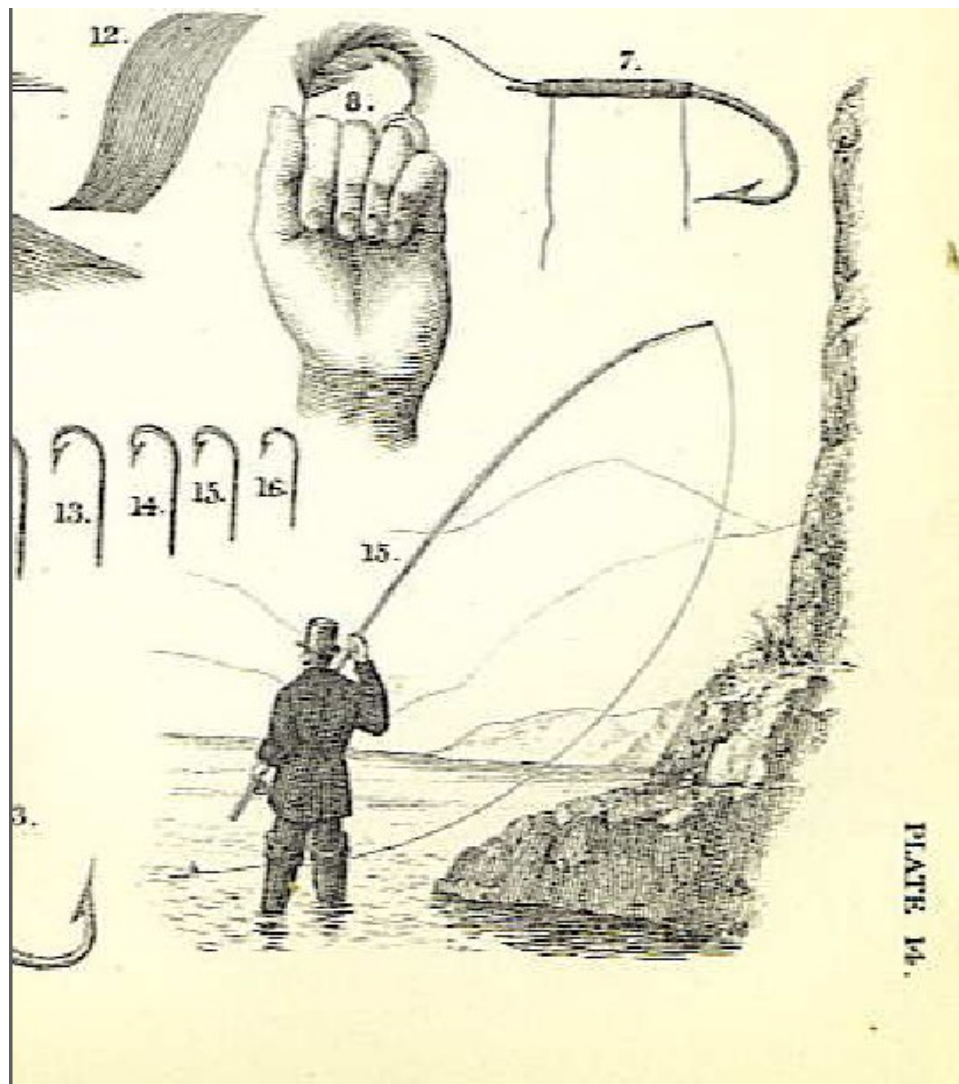


Illustration from *The Spey Cast or Welsh Throw: History in Great Britain, Roots in British Columbia and North America*

https://flyfishers.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/history_of_double_handed_rods_in_bc.pdf



Santiam Flycasters

2025 Membership Form

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.

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 an affiliated club of the Fly Fishers International.

We meet in Salem the second Thursday of each month (no meeting in July)

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 Fly Fishers International 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