



# SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

SANTIAMFLYCASTERS.COM

January 2026

## January 8 SFC Meeting

### An Evening of Fly Tying and Yarns with Dave McNeese



Dave was born and raised in Camp Creek, a little Oregon town on the Willamette River just east of Eugene. His first fishing experiences were with his father, and he was soon fly fishing for trout every day. In 1971 he began operating a fly-tying supply company out of his garage, advertising in national magazines. The young entrepreneur's name soon became synonymous with fly-tying materials of the highest quality.

He realized that what he wanted to know about fly tying could not be taught in Eugene. He was only twenty-two, and all facets of the hobby, from full-dressed Atlantic salmon flies to ethereal likenesses of mayflies, were his obsession. He bought every book he could find on the subject, including Art Flick's *Master Fly Tying Guide*, an anthology of notable angling personalities and their fly-tying methods. The book so profoundly influenced him that nothing less than a pilgrimage back East to meet the masters and learn the secrets of their craft would do. Dave still takes great pride in properly tying a Catskill dry.

A second turning point in his fly-tying education occurred in 1976, when he saw his first Syd Glasso steelhead fly. Glasso worked in Forks, Washington, as a schoolteacher and tied the most finely crafted steelhead flies in the world, bringing to our sport the tying excellence, the traditions, and the aesthetics of Old World tyers.

When Dave opened McNeese's Fly Shop in Salem, Oregon, he obtained exotic fly tying materials and dyed them in shades found nowhere else as an important service to his customers. He invented new steelhead patterns, testing them on dozens of friends, and he tied old standards in new ways by incorporating hot orange and electric purple while emulating the style and craftsmanship perfected by Glasso.

His favorite waters for testing new patterns are, alternately, the Deschutes, the North Umpqua, and the North Santiam.



### Board Meeting - By Zoom

January 5 - 6:30 pm

### SFC Meeting

January 8 - 7:00 pm

### Scottish Rite Center

4090 Commercial St. SE,  
Salem

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## Santiam Flycasters

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## President's Corner By Beth Jappay

This month we will have our second annual fly tying event. Last year's event was well-attended, and as we are advertising on social media as open to the public I am hoping it will interest some into trying the sport, as well as attract new members to the club. What is mostly understated in our advertising is that there will be multiple "stations" of other aspects of our sport. The design will allow attendees to ask questions of our experienced club members. This year I will be overseeing two "stations"--knot tying and entomology.

Last year I was inspired to create an educational display by my casting buddy James, who one day mentioned that he collected aquatic insects. He showed me his collection, which had some gaps but was otherwise impressive. I had the idea to create a display that not only showed and identified the insect, but also showed which fly patterns would imitate it. The two of us collaborated to come up with our final result. James is a machinist, and he created the display boards, which I designed. I also identified and labeled the insects, and chose corresponding flies and life cycle plaques.



A deep understanding of what trout eat is a necessary skill for the most successful fly fishermen, especially in stillwater fishing. This includes understanding the different stages of an aquatic insect's life cycle, and even more importantly how that insect moves in the water. Silhouette and movement are the two key aspects of fishing a pattern. I encourage members to take advantage of any aquatic entomology education available—our November presentation by Rick Hafele would be a good example. In my case, three years ago I took an online aquatic entomology course that Rick Hafele and Phil Rowley put together. It consisted of eight 90-120 minute presentations of aquatic insect identification that included life cycles and video clips. I ended up unleashing my OCD tendencies and creating my own Google document summations, which I keep on my phone. The course was my main reference for labeling the tubes in James' collection.

I encourage you all to come to our event and stop by my stations to chat and ask any questions.

# Pizza Pie and Tie

## Second Annual Fly Tying Event

January 17th - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Scottish Rite Center, Salem

Bring your vise to tie flies and socialize.

Curious about tying? We can provide a vise, tools, and instruction

### Fly Tying Demonstrations



### Featured Fly Tyers Include:

**Jim Ferguson**

**David Barlow**

**Todd Yorke**

**Jim Snyder**

**Jim Schollmeyer**

**Lee Child**

### Fly Tying Instruction



**Open to the Public, so Bring a Friend!**

**All skill levels welcome.**

**Try different vises**

**Free Fly Tying Materials**

### Skills

**- Entomology and matching fly patterns to insect life cycles.**

**- Knot - Tying**

**- Personal Watercraft for Fly Fishing**

## ***It's Time to Renew Your Santiam Flycasters Membership***

If you have not done so already, it's now time to renew your SFC membership for 2026. Dues for 2026 are still the same low fee of \$30 for individuals and \$35 for families. Life membership is \$300.

Use the form on the back of this newsletter to renew your membership or download the membership form from the Santiam Flycasters website ([www.santiamflycasters.com](http://www.santiamflycasters.com)). You can drop off the membership renewal form and fee at the January 8 speaker meeting, or mail it to: Santiam Flycasters, P.O. Box 691, Salem, OR 97308.



We already have the outings scheduled for the year, so you don't want to miss out on that, nor the monthly speaker meetings, special fly-tying events, weekly casting practice, and content-rich monthly newsletters. Join now so you don't miss out on all the fun planned for 2026.

Thanks for your continued support of our club through your membership.



***Volunteers Needed*** to assist with the Silent Auction at the Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing [Expo](#) in Albany, Oregon.

Our club is managing the Silent Auction feature of the Expo on March 13 and 14. Each day from 10 am to 4:00 pm, the time will be blocked out in three short hour shifts. Responsibilities include assisting bidders, watching over the items, and providing information.

Shifts run from 9:00-11:30, 11:30-2:00; 2:00-4:30.

To see available times and sign up, click on this link [Sign Up Genius](#) Or, contact Leroy Shepherd by phone or text (503) 550-6610, by email [lshepherd7999@gmail.com](mailto:lshepherd7999@gmail.com). For those who sign up before January 8, they will receive a name badge at the Expo allowing admittance to the Expo.

### **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](mailto:EJappay@comcast.net)**

## Annual Club Auction February 2026

The Annual Club Auction is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2026 at the Scottish Rite Center - we hope to see all of you there. The auction is open to the public so come out and support the club and take home some great items.

**Purpose of the Auction.** The money we generate from the Annual Auction provides the funding for many of our activities throughout the year. When bidding on items you should not consider success getting an item at a cheap price but rather bidding on items for a good price and that sometimes means paying more than the item may be worth – remember what we make helps fund our club’s activities. In the past we have had some low bids on items that cost much more than the winning bid. To prevent that from occurring, we will establish the lowest starting bids on select items. Thanks for your support.

### Featured Items include

#### A Dave Scadden Frameless Boat

#### Classic Accessories Clark Fork Pontoon Boat

#### Several Rods and Reels

**Beautiful Handcrafted Ukulele** donated by Jim Brik. He says, *“The top, back and sides of the box are of koa that were salvaged from an old restaurant that went out of business about thirty years ago but originally opened in the 50’s. The neck is quilted Oregon maple with wenge ( from South Africa) used for the fret board and headstock. The fellow from whom I sourced the koa told me that the restaurant first*



*opened in the fifties. Instrument builders crave accessing aged and air dried seasoned woods with the belief that the older the wood the sweeter the music. I hope the ukulele goes to someone who can make it sing!”*

**If you have any fly-fishing gear that you no longer need** or use, you can donate it to the club for the auction. We also accept various outdoor gear, supplies, etc. Another popular item during this auction are flies. If you are a good tier and want to tie flies that we can use in the auction we would appreciate it. The club (Tim Johnson) can provide fly boxes to put your flies in for the auction. A box typically has 12 flies in it with a particular theme (still water, moving water, steelhead/salmon flies/euro nymphs, dry flies, etc.)

**If you have items to donate**, you can bring them to the club meeting in January or coordinate to get it to the respective committee lead prior to the auction in February. The live and bucket auctions will also have several great items up for bid. More to follow as we continue planning this very important event.

**Auction Planning Committee.** We established committee leads during our board meeting in November and the committee has been busy planning and acquiring great items for the auction. The committee leads are listed below. Each committee lead still needs additional assistance in planning and executing their portion of the auction. If you are interested in being a part of a particular committee, please contact me at [rickylove20@aol.com](mailto:rickylove20@aol.com) or one of the leads below.

Lead Planner: Ricky Love

Setup/Cleanup Committee: Brian Hoag, Bill Steen, Greg Long

Cashier: Tim Johnson

Silent Auction: Scott Vaslev, George Hingston

Bucket/Live Auction: Ricky Love/Steve Reynolds/Kevin Finkenbiner

**Auctioneer.** We are looking for an auctioneer for the live auction. If you have experience or would like to do it please contact Ricky at the email above. There are several YouTube videos that give you the basics to succeed being an auctioneer.

FFI Donations: Bob LeClerc/Beth Jappay

Food and Drinks: Steve Morton

Entertainment: Bill Crucial. Bill assembled a few very talented musicians and will provide the entertainment from 6pm – 7pm. Here is a preliminary playlist. There may be additions to this list.

Harlem Nocturne, Moondance, Blue moon, Night and day, Sunny, Till there was you, Fly me to the moon, Blue skies, Girl from Ipanema, Stand by me, Sleepwalk, and Summertime.

**Food and Drinks.** The club will provide pizza and soft drinks during the auction. This will allow attendees to have a bite to eat and allow ample time to view the auction items.

### **Timeline.**

5:00pm – 6:00pm	Doors open for setup
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Musical Entertainment
6:00pm – 7:15pm	Silent Auction and Bucket Raffle/Food & Drinks
7:15pm	Silent Auction Closes
7:30pm – 8:30pm	Live Auction/Bucket Raffle Drawing
8:30pm – 9:00pm	Clean up (We appreciate any extra help cleaning up after the auction)

## Chef Mort's Corner: Fast Car, Slow Husband



My wife's car is very sneaky. It is a collision of innate ability. I fear this car is smarter than me.



When she brought this car home it immediately began to flirt with me on my many and frequent visits to the garage. Lights winking, posture leaning, complimentary remarks, radio lighting up with my favorite songs. Eerie stuff like that. I'm up on my Stephen King enough to know that cars can be quite malevolent if they choose to be so.

When driving, this car never goes at the speed I choose. I look down and I think I'm doing 65 and I'm really doing 80. Whoa there old steed. What are you doing here? Trying to get me a big fat ticket? I tried to slow down the other evening and park to watch a beautiful sunset with my wife and "Kristeen" (I assure you I'll shall call her this from now on), would have nothing to do with it. She preempted my parking attempts with a verbal warning and a lane departure alarm. It really killed the mood.

Kristeen never let's me just open a door. First I have to have the fob and then I have to stand just right and flower her with compliments in order to gain entry. What's next? Flowers? Champagne?

Meanwhile sulking outside in the cold, my faithful old 2015 Acura RDX shivers at the curb. She looks at me as I walk up as if to say, "I was your favorite once. I used to park in the garage at night. What am I? Chopped liver?"

My old car and I are rusting out together. I try to assure my RDX that she is still my gal. Top notch synthetic petroleum products and weekly bubble baths seem to help. But I still feel her giving me the side eye as I walk away. The plaintive chirp of her lock alarm has a distinctive weeping sound these days. As if alas, the blush is off the rose. Perhaps I can spoil her with some new doodads hanging from her rear-view mirror?

I think it may take more than a mere bobble to get me out of her doghouse now. It feels like if I'm going to be here for a while I may even have to rethink this décor. I seem to be strung out these days and all hung up on the automobiles in my life. I'm out of pocket on any more counseling sessions so I guess a monastic retreat to a desert island with no roads may be my only alternative. I have even considered missing a few car payments so that dog guy on TV can show up with his posse

and try his luck on Kristeen. I will turn my head away. Some things in life cannot be unseen. Repo man assaulted by Mini-Cooper details at eleven!

The Bistro years, well do I remember them. This Cioppino recipe was always my "birthday soup", prepared with love by my Mom and her husband John Rex. Friends in the early days often would ask why I didn't have this Cioppino on the menu at the shop? Well, because I feared if I did put it on the menu I'd would lose my ass on the food cost. I eventually did put it on the menu, and although it took longer than one might expect I did lose my ass in that shop! Mom and John were both huge influences on my cooking journey. I still remember John saying to me, "Damn kid you can cook!" I think if there is a word of warning on this recipe it is don't overcook this soup. This recipe purportedly came out San Francisco and the Portuguese fisherman's community. Many cultures have their versions of fisherman's stew. This is my family's Birthday soup!

### Morton's Bistro Cioppino

Serves 6-8 generous portions

#### Base

- 1/2 cup of olive oil
- 2 cups of diced white onion
- 2 cups of diced green peppers
- 3 tablespoons of minced garlic
- 2- 28-ounce cans of crushed tomatoes
- 6 cups of chicken or fish stock
- 1 ½ cup of white wine
- 1 cup chopped parsley

#### Seafood

- 2 lb. steamer clams
  - 2 whole backed, cracked and quartered Dungeness crabs
  - 1-2# of bottom fish, chopped in chunks
  - 1-2# of large shrimp, cleaned and deveined
  - 1-2# scallops. Bay or diver your choice
- Any other seafood you like can be subbed or added, remember this dish was a seasonal by-catch recipe

#### Assemblage

Prepare base in a large heavy bottomed pot and bring to simmer. When dinner is imminent add the clams and crab to the pot first followed by the more delicate items. Bring to a simmer stir gently and turn off the heat. Let this soup rest until the fish are firm to fork and the clams are open. Sometimes a gentle turn of the ingredients helps finish cooking all the fish that might be stacked up together. Serve with a salad, crusty bread and some nice chilled dry wine! Happy Birthday!

## 2026 Schedule of Outings-Santiam Flycasters

Here is the list of fly fishing outings our club has planned for 2026. The list includes opportunities to catch trout in streams and still waters, as well as opportunities for steelhead, chum salmon, small mouth bass, and Jetty fishing.

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).

Hope to see you on many outings this year!

January 17, Pizza Pie and Tie – Fly Tying Event

February 13, Silverton Reservoir (Friday)

March 21, Metolius River

April 18, Haystack Reservoir

April 20-25 Blue Den Lake (Oregon Fishing Club Opportunity)

May 1, South Twin Lake

May 15, Olalla Creek Reservoir (Friday)

May 20, Deschutes River – Warm Springs to Trout Creek (Wednesday)

May 30, Chickahominy Reservoir

June 6, Crane Prairie Reservoir

June 13, North Santiam River

June 27, East Lake

July 16, Three Creek Lake (Thursday)

July 31, McKenzie River (Friday)

August 8, Willamette River (Keizer to Wheatland)

September 12, Walton Lake

September 19, Hosmer Lake

September 26, North Santiam River

October 3, Crooked River

October 10, Willamette River (Marshall Island to Harrisburg)

October 17, Deschutes River

October 24, McKenzie River

November 14, Detroit Lake

### **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***

***January 2026 Fly of the Month***  
***Sparkle Dun -- Simple, Effective***  
***By Todd Yorke***



By varying the size and color, you can imitate any mayfly!

**Recipe:**

Hook: Your favorite light wire dry fly hook. Daiichi 1310 or TMC 900 size 12-20  
Thread: UNI 8/0  
Tail: Zelon ( can substitute Antron)  
Body: Superfine or other high floating dry fly dubbing  
Wing: Comparadun deer hair

One important decision happens up front with your choice of deer hair. Choose hair with a minimum of black tips and a minimum of underfur. The hair should be hollow (the black tips are not), so they flare correctly and float the fly. My early attempts with sparkle duns were poor mainly because the wing would not stay perpendicular to the shank over time. They looked good when I first tied them. A week later the wing would be pointed forward over the eye of the hook. I viewed a demonstration by John Kreft that gave me the techniques that cured the problem (on his website- [riverkeeperflies.com](http://riverkeeperflies.com)). John is a great tier. I would encourage you to visit his website or better yet, watch him tie at Expo!

**Directions adapted from John Kreft:**

1) Start thread behind the eye of the hook and wind halfway down the hook shank, then halfway back towards the eye. This is your tie in point for the deer hair. Placing the thread base in this manner prevents the hair from spinning.

2) Clean and stack a bundle of deer hair.

3) Proper wing length is the length of the hook.



4) Extend tips past the hook eye and tie in with two **loose** wraps. Pull straight down so deer hair flares. Keep a "death grip" on the butt ends and wrap 8 to 10 touching wraps evenly toward the tail to secure hair. Trim butt ends (if hair rotates around hook, use fewer fibers. Important to secure wing on your thread base).



5) Tie in Zelon for tail, secure Zelon so ends butt up against butt ends of deer hair to create a body taper. Tail should be the length of the shank.



6) Move thread to back of deer hair.

- 7) Sweep deer hair backwards to allow hair to stand straight up. Thread should be immediately behind deer hair. Sweep 1/3 of hair back and place 1 thread wrap securely in place by pulling straight down. You'll see the deer hair flair and stand up. Sweep next 1/3 back and place 1 thread wrap securely in place by pulling straight down. Sweep final 1/3 back and place 2-3 wraps (I tend to put more) at base of deer hair. If you notice 'stray' deer hair fibers, trim them.



- 8) Wrap thread to hook barb.

- 9) Attach **THIN** amount of dubbing and wind forward creating a thin tapered body. Important: Leave one thread wrap space behind deer hair (if you don't, it will force the hair forward). Bring dubbing directly in front of deer hair and begin figure eight wraps around hair. The first wrap behind hair, you will feel it snug tightly and force the hair straight up. Remember: It's important to keep the dubbed body **THIN** and tapered (there are no fat mayflies in nature!).



- 10) Wax your thread and then whip finish. If you whip finish correctly, you do not need head cement that will only add weight to your dry fly. If that doesn't seem secure enough, add a second whip finish!



Finished Fly!



Support our local Fly Shop  
located at 204 1st Ave. W.  
in Albany, Oregon.

Check out the shop at

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



# Santiam Flycasters

## 2026 Membership Form

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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.

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)**

[www.santiamflycasters.com](http://www.santiamflycasters.com)

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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 -- \$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

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*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 waiving 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