



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 18 Issue 3

March 2018

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President Wayne welcomes Spring with great fishing and many SSFF activities.

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March program features WDFW's Sea Run Cutthroat Programs.

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Learn about March's Indoor-Outing.

The Leader's Line

By President Wayne Dixon Sr.



Erin Go Bragh!



Happy Spring! March is a special month for all of us at South Sound Fly Fishers as it is packed full of fun, education and food. Did I mention the salmon fry will be emerging in the waters around the Puget sound and starting their outmigration, as this happens the sea run cutthroat will be eager to cash in on a free meal. This is a great time to explore one of our most awesome and underutilized fishery; according to Officer Haws of WDFW. I ran into him while fishing at Burfoot Park and he was more than happy to give me the inside scoop on where and when to catch Sea Runs and Coho in the Sound.

Another reason I am excited about March is that we started our Monday night classes at the Olympia Community Center with Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Department and the response was fantastic. We had 24 individuals sign up for the “Introduction to Fly Fishing” class and our club couldn’t be more thrilled. This is a great partnership that we have established and I want to thank the education committee for their fantastic support and commitment to this effort. Vice President Randy Allen along with Ben Dennis and Dave Field have put together a great program. We included a casting class that took place on Saturday morning down at Heritage Park by Capitol Lake.

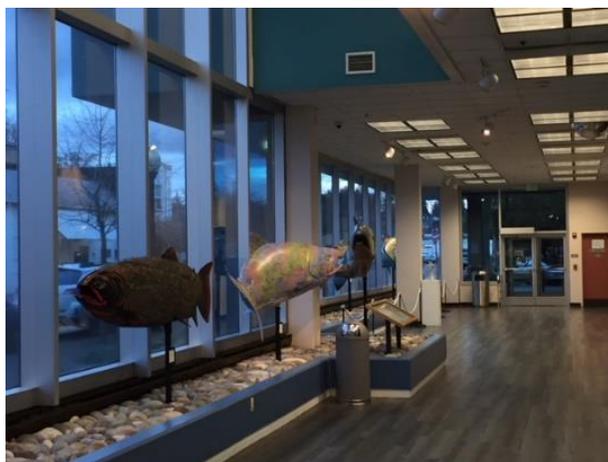
Remember our Club pot luck, fly tying, casting and entomology class with be on Saturday March 24th 9am -3pm. Bring friends and family!

Jim McCallister is also organizing an Intro to fly tying session in the coming months that will be a social fundraising event and will include people from other clubs as guest judges and a small/modest competition for the students who sign up for the class. Times and dates to be determined but it looks like a September time frame.

If fishing for Steelhead is your gig, make sure you get out to the local rivers as the action is heating up. The set up I use is a #8-6 stonefly nymph and a small egg tied like a hopper dropper, this is very effective and productive. You can usually find me at the Skookumchuck or the Cowlitz.

Fishing, Fun, Education can all be found this month at your friendly South Sound Fly Fishers club. We encourage you to get out and participate, socialize and enjoy! Happy St Patrick’s Day and tight lines everybody. See you at the Club Meeting!

Wayne



Olympia Center Salmon

Photo by Wayne Dix

The March Club Program

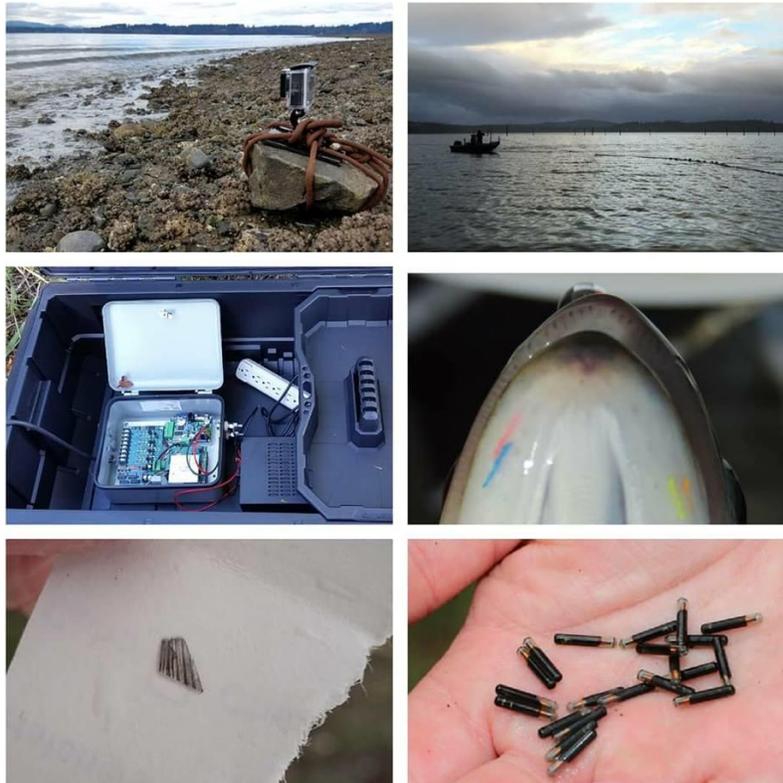
By Gene Rivers, Program Chair

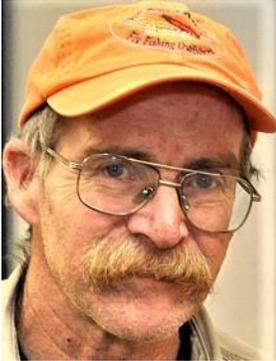
Tuesday, March 20th the South Sound Fly Fishers will welcome WDFW biologists who are performing the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition studies and will describe some of their work and how to submit Voluntary Trip Reports on coastal cutthroat in Marine Area 13. The scientists will share how to report your catch, how to identify hitchhiking parasites that are attacking salmonids in Puget Sound and how the information is being used to study the life cycle of our beloved sea run cutthroat for the first time.

The meeting begins at 7:00pm at the North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station), 5046 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia, WA, 98506.

This will be a fascinating program about these beautiful fish.

Gene





Hello Fellow Fly Fishers,

On **Saturday March 24th** we will hold our famous alternative outing known as the SSFF Indoor-Outing. Is is a Potluck, Fly Tying/fly Swap, Entomology session and Casting Clinic. This is our version of “mini-Ellensburg” to get folks together, swap flies and tips with one another and socialize.

Entomology sessions taught again by President Wayne

Casting sessions on the back lawn (weather permitting) with Randy Allen and Ben Dennis

Fly tying all day

And, of course bring something to share for the potluck

This event provides members a chance to learn more about fly tying and casting. Randy Allen and Ben Dennis offer casting on the back lawn (as weather permits). Wayne Dixon will provide his “fly fishers Entomology” class twice during the day. His first class is at 10 :00am and repeats at 1:00pm.

The class members of the “Introduction to Fly Fishing” being staged by the SSFF Education Committee and the City of Olympia are invited to this event. If you see some new faces this year, please welcome them to this club event.

The noon meal is pot-luck. SSFF is famous for pot-lucks, so come and enjoy good food and comradery as you see flies being tied and learn more about fly casting and entomology.

We’ll see you March 24th at the fire house.

February Back Cast

The SSFF outing on February 24th was at Sunnyside Beach just a few minutes away in Steilacoom. We had everything in our favor: no wind, no precipitation, no wave action, excellent tidal flow, but-darn it, no fish.

Most of the eight club members were new to fishing in the Sound. Although they didn't hook fish they learned some good pointers.

I had scouted the beach the prior weekend and the fish that were there had obviously moved on. Such as it is when fishing the Sound. The club members had a good time and enjoyed getting together in the salt air and sunshine.

The Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo

Mike Clancy, my Grand-Daughter Reya and I attended the Annual Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo in Albany Oregon, this last weekend. This is really a fun event. They host about 200 fly tiers and fifty exhibitors at the Linn County Expo Center in downtown Albany.

There are fly casting clinics and education classes sprinkled throughout the day. Well-known authors are in attendance to do book signings and talk about their favorite aspect of the sport.

This event attracts thousands of fly fishers from all over the western states and Canada and this annual event is well worth putting on your fishing calendar for next year.

Up Coming Outings

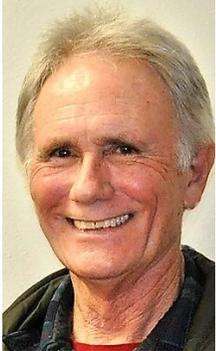
We are talking with the outing folks of Puget Sound Fly Fishers about having a combined Dryside outing at Blue lake and Park Lake on the weekend of May 19th and 20th. We are working out the details and will pass them along to you shortly.

Tight lines as always,

Jim

THE SOAPBOX

BY Don Freeman Conservation and Political chair



Greetings South Sound Fly Fishers,

Lots of things are in the works on the conservation front and I will to report to you in the next issue of the “Garden Hackle.”

Best regards,

Don



Where it was First Recorded

Astaes River Brown Trout

Education

By Randy Allen



Greetings Fly Fishers,

SSFF in partnership with the City of Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Department kicked off a four-night class, *Introduction to Fly Fishing*. The class at the Olympia Center attracted 24 students eager to learn about topics such as the history of fly fishing, fly-fishing gear and equipment, entomology, reading the water in rivers and streams, special aspects of lake and saltwater fishing, fish identification, where to find fish, basic fly casting, outdoor savvy, water safety, and conservation activities.

On the first night the class enthusiastically indicated their interest in learning to cast. Responding to the class, Saturday March 10th, Ben Dennis and Randy Allen held casting lessons at Capital Lake Park. We also encouraged students to attend the March 20 general meeting; please welcome those student-guests that night. We also invited their participation in Jim McAllister's March 24 Indoor-Outing where they will be exposed to fly-tying, more casting, entomology, good pot-luck food, and socializing with experienced fly fishers in a relaxed, instructional setting.

Dave Field is our class development person with the City. Dave is joined in instructing the course by Ben Dennis, Wayne Dixon, and Randy Allen. Together they have built a 150 page PowerPoint course.

It was several years ago when our respected members John Woods and Mel Hurd teamed to develop and present *The Art of Fly Fishing*. Their earlier classes deserves mentioning because this legacy training book provided our current team much insight to the wealth of topics. Details taught by John and Mel left little to be desired and provided insight to topics that might have gone unmentioned had the current team not reviewed their prior work.

Congratulations to the Education team - we'll learn more next month when their class is concluded.

Ben Dennis works with student casters



Photo by Wayne Dixon Sr.

Randy Allen demonstrates a proper casting stroke



Photo by Wayne Dixon Sr.

Tight lines,

Randy

Fundraising

By John Sabo Fundraising Chair



Greetings,

-SSFF Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction

Once every two years the club hosts The South Sound Fly Fishers' Family Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction to raise the funds needed for the club's conservation and service projects for the next two years.

The next SSFF Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction will be on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Black Lake Grange Hall, on Black Lake Boulevard, next to the fire station. The dinner will be at 6:00 and the auction will start at 7:00. It will be a live-only auction and all funds raised will go to the club's conservation and service projects.

The family pot-luck is always a success, with an abundance of hot-dishes, salads and desserts. The club will supply plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks, bottled water, coffee, and tea. However, we need two large (not huge) coolers (no ice – we have cold packs), two heavy duty (not long) extension cords, and two power strips (with circuit breakers). We also need two banquet size coffee makers (one for coffee, and the other for hot water for tea). If you can supply any of these items, please see me at the raffle table, or email chrisonquince@comcast.net.

We have pledges for items like guided fishing trips, gourmet dinners and fun fishing activities. We hope to auction donations of “experiences and adventures” (fishing trips, gourmet dinners, etc.), and valuable items like rods, reels and gift cards, art, and fishing supplies. See me at the raffle table for your donation form. We can only accept cash or checks at the auction. Sorry, we cannot take credit cards, Apple Pay or bit coin.

South Sound Fly Fishers PROCUREMENT FORM

April 21, 2018

Auction

Thank you for procuring an item for the auction! Please complete everything above the dotted line. Remember that the quality and quantity of detail you provide on this form will directly affect its sale at auction, so be thorough in your description. *If you have questions regarding how to fill out the form or what information to include, please contact John Sabo or Dave Field.*

When you have completed this form, please email to:

John Sabo

2933 Quince St. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-943-6853

chrisonquince@comcast.net

OR

Dave Field

2000 42nd Ave. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-352-0167

d_w_field@hotmail.com

Procurer (You!):

Phone:

Email:

What is the item? (ONE ITEM PER FORM PLEASE!):

Below, please describe the item **in detail**. If fishing trip, please specify a date or the available time window, what you will provide and what the bidder must bring such as a floating device, waders, rod weight, fly-line type, flies, lunch/beverages, etc. Also please indicate fly fishing skill level (beginner, intermediate, advanced) if this is important to the success of the trip. If you are donating a physical auction item, please provide a full description such as size, type, model year and indicate if it is new or gently used.

ESTIMATED VALUE:

Please give or deliver physical items or gift certificates to John or Dave no later than Friday, March 30, 2018

FOR PROCESSING ONLY (DO NOT COMPLETE):

Item received/stored at (location):

Item to be delivered on (date):

CONTROL NUMBER

Club Raffle News

This month the raffle was able to give the club \$100 of “profit” to help pay for the club’s expenses. Thank you, to all the club members who participate in the raffle at each meeting and all the members who donate raffle items. Remember, we will continue to have interesting and useful raffle items at every meeting, so stop by before the meeting and get your tickets. We also have some empty fly boxes to fill for the raffle, please see me at the raffle table.

SSFF Patches

Official SSFF Patches are available at the Raffle Table for only \$5. These can be placed on a cap, shirt, jacket, or fly fishing vest to show your membership in the club.

SSFF Stickers

Official SSFF Stickers are available at the Raffle Table for only \$10. These can be placed on your boat, truck, auto, motorcycle, skateboard, or virtually any hard smooth surface to show your membership in the club.

Tight lines,

John



Photo by Howard Nanto

SSFF Treasurer

Jim Maus Treasurer



SSFF 2018 Dues are Due!

It's that time of year again. If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2018 dues by the end of March. Yearly dues of \$40.00 are payable on January 1st. Dues may be given in cash or check to the club Treasurer Jim Maus at the monthly membership meetings or checks can be mailed directly to South Sound Fly Fishers, PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507. Thank you!

[See New Fly Fishers International \(FFI\) Website](#)

The FFI has recently revamped its website and it's absolutely stunning. If you haven't visited the new site yet, do yourself a favor and go take a look at it. Here's the link: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>



Photo Courtesy of FFI

Here are the up-coming Northwest events to put on your calendar:

May 2018

May 4-5, 2018 - Washington State Council Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg WA, Please join us at the Washington Council's 12th annual Fly Fishing Fair. The 2018 Fair will be held in Ellensburg, WA on May 4th and 5th, 2018 (Friday and Saturday) at the Kittitas Valley Event Center (Fair Grounds) in Ellensburg, WA. You may register beginning Jan 15, 2018 on our website (<http://wscffi.org/>). The Volunteer Dinner (it's free and open to all volunteers) will be held on Thursday, May 3rd. The Social hour with no host bar opens at 5 PM, Dinner will start at 6 PM. The Council's annual Award Banquet and Auction (the Council's major fundraiser) will be held on Friday, May 4th. The no host bar will open at 5 PM, Dinner will begin at 6 PM. The Live Auction will follow Dinner. Reservations can be made and tickets can be purchased (for \$40) on our website after January 15th, 2018. Discounted Motel and Hotel options are listed on our web site (<http://wscffi.org/>), please note that you must call (no online) your chosen hotel directly and mention the WA Fly Fishing Fair to get the discount price (listed for each hotel on our website) which is good through April 1, 2018.

August 2018

August 6-11, 2018 - 2018 FFI Annual International Fly Fishing Fair in Boise ID, Boise Centre, Century Link Arena and The Grove Hotel. Watch for more details in the coming months. The show will feature Vendors, Gear Sales, lots of Kid Activities, Free Classes and Demonstrations, Live Music and lots of family fun. The Fair will feature: FFI Learning Center classes and workshops on Fly Tying, Fly Fishing Skills, Fly Casting, and Conservation; a Women's Extravaganza featuring Women's Outreach activities, Women's Fly Tying Workshops, and Women's Fly Fishing Workshops; a Conservation Keynote Address and Discussion with this year's FFI Leopold Award winner; Fishing Demonstrations, a 2-Day Youth Fly Fishing Camp, numerous Meal Events, Fly Tying Demonstrations, Auctions and Raffles, Fly Casting Demonstrations, and much more.

Tight thread,

Jim

Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy-2018



The deadline for the 2018 Academy is closing in - April 15, 2018 is the deadline for the Academy. Those that apply and are accepted, will be notified by the middle of May. The Academy this year is again the last full week of June 24-30, 2018. The Academy is held on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Applicants need to write an essay explaining why “they” would like to attend. They also will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor, science teacher or responsible person. The applicant, boy or girl, 12-16, should not be 17 at the start of the Academy. Cost is \$300 and there are sponsorships available. No one will be turned away because of lack of money.

The support from the fly fishing community again this year is nothing short of spectacular. Applications are coming from all over the State. In the past years, we have been supported by over 50 volunteers. We will need volunteers again this year as guides to take the kids fishing in the morning and evenings. We will be fishing a local pond and the Deschutes Rivers in Thurston County. The Academy will be a life experience for these youth, they are the future of our sport of fly fishing.

The Academy has a Facebook page loaded with pictures from past years and our website www.nwycffa.com You may download the application off the website or call Mike Clancy @253-278-0061, Jim Brosio @ 360-943-9947 or Tom Van Gelder @253-261-8890.

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for the future. FDR



Stream Side Samples



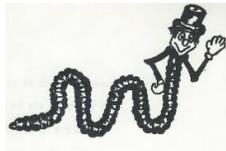
Club Bulletin Board

Meeting Night Activities Doors will be open at 5:30pm and Don Alexander will use the club's camera and projector on the big screen to demonstrate how he ties some of his favorite patterns. Members gain by watching a demonstration by an experienced tier before the start of club meetings.

Help Sea Run Cutthroat Trout. Volunteers are needed by the WDFW Coastal Cutthroat Trout Program. Learn about these iconic fish as you work to help further their recovery. Click on the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition on the club website to learn about these native fish. If you would like to help--Call Bill Young at 360-426-8416. Bill has been a volunteer studying these fish and their habitat for over ten years. Leave a message if Bill is out doing a redd count on a local stream.

Please...Do not park in the Fire Station's emergency vehicle driveway during SSFF meetings. If the designated parking spaces in front of the fire Station are full, please use the parking areas behind the building.

Support our First Responders!



Willy Worm says thank you for keeping the emergency vehicle driveway clear of cars and trucks during all of SSFF activities!

Fly of the Month

BALINDERRY OLIVE



Published by Bob Bates

Federation of Fly Fishers - Washington Council

OPENING COMMENTS

Dick Nicklas was tying this interesting pattern at the 2012 FFF Fly Fishing Fair in Spokane, Washington. It is a variation of an old Irish lough (lake) fly.

Dick told us that two materials for the fly originally tied by master fly fisher T. J. Hanna are difficult to find legally: thinly dubbed olive seal for body and red swan mixed with bronze mallard for wing fibers. His substitutions are olive thread body with a close woven chartreuse wire rib and mixed bronze mallard and red dyed golden pheasant tippets for wing.

The story is that it a great lake fly but can also be used in streams. So it is fished wet with a floating, sink tip or full sinking line depending on water depth. Let the fly sink and then start a retrieve. Start near the bottom and if you hook weeds then shorten the sink time. It is usually a searching technique trying to find where the fish are hiding or feeding. If you see channels in the weeds, then by all means cast your line along the channel and begin a slow retrieve. If the water is clear fish the hole by casting across it and begin a retrieve that is fast enough that the fly does not catch weeds. It is great fun if you don't see anything, then suddenly have the line tighten and you are into a fight.

MATERIALS LIST

Hook: DiRiki 740 size 10 2xl

Thread: 6/0 olive

Tail: Golden pheasant tippetts.

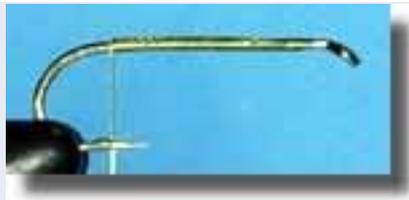
Rib: Brassy size, ultra, chartreuse

Thorax: Any dubbing, yellow-green, olive

Hackle: Hen saddle, tan

Wing: Bronze mallard and red dyed golden pheasant tippetts

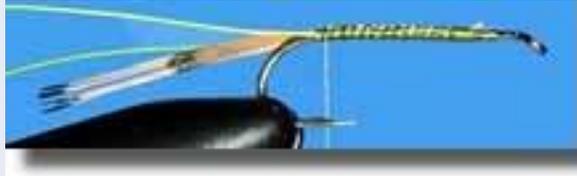
TYING STEPS



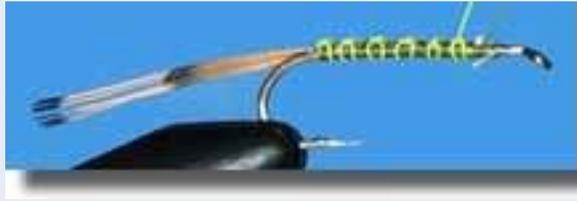
Start thread near eye and wind to rear.



Tie on golden pheasant fibers for a tail. The Irish tradition on this particular fly is to make the tail the same length as the body even on this 2X long hook. Tie with open wraps to where the front of body will be. Body will be about two-thirds of the hook shank long.



Tie in wire for rib (3-4-inch long) Tie in one length of wire on the near side (will be top of fly which ends up in the right hand) and one length wire on the far side of hook (will be the bottom of the fly, ends up in left hand). Pull wires parallel to hook shank and wrap loosely over them to back of body. Adjust the wires to make sure they are on the sides of the hook.



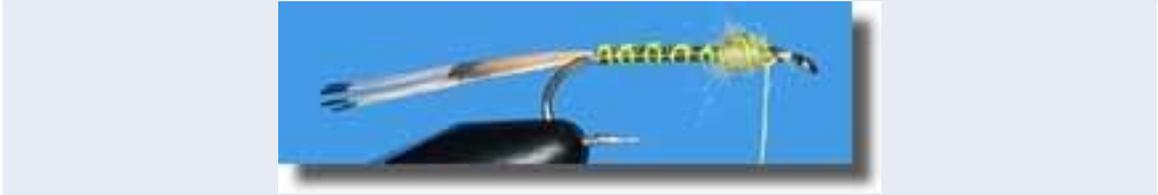
Secure wires by winding forward with close wraps. Thread will be the body so it should be fairly neat. Make a three turn whip finish and cut thread. Now start weaving process. Near side wire in right hand and far side wire in left hand. Over the top with the right hand and hold wire below the level of the hook.

Move the left hand wire over the right hand wire under the eye of the hook to a



position across from the right hand. Bring the right hand across the top in front of the left hand. Move the left hand wire over the right hand wire in front of and under the hook eye. Bring the left hand back to be across from the right hand. Keep doing that evenly spaced weaving to front of body. With wire you can turn it loose and it will stay in place. (Other materials like chenille or yarn will not.) Reattach the tying thread, secure the wire, trim the far side wire and leave the nearside wire in place. Remember to cut the wire with an old pair of scissors or the back part of your regular scissors. (Keep the tip sharp to trim feathers.)

Dub a small thorax to keep the hackles spread out. Doesn't have to be pretty. Twist your fingers in one direction. Wrap forward a little. Note that there is still empty hook shank behind the eye.



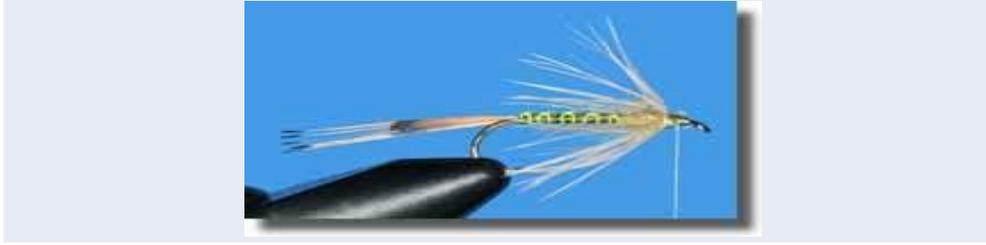
Use the left over piece of wire to spiral a little rib over the thorax. Secure wire, pull it back, wind thread over the loop to guarantee it is secure and trim excess.



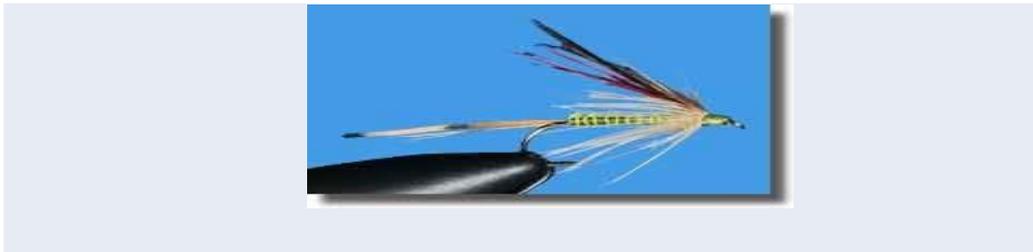
Prepare a hen saddle by trimming some of the barbs at the butt end. The hackle barbs should be long enough to reach the back of the body.



Fold the hackle by stoking the barbs and shaft toward hackle tip with regular scissors. Do not use serrated blade scissors.



Wrap the hackle in front of the thorax. The folding helps it lay down better. If necessary you might hold the barbs back as you wrap. Secure and trim excess.



Tie in wing of red dyed golden pheasant and bronze mallard fibers. The wing extends to about the midpoint of the tail. Use the picture above as a guide. Trim butts and make a neat whip finish. Add a little head cement if necessary.

Some tiers find it easier to weave with the hook eye pointed toward themselves or away from themselves. With chenille, ultra chenille or yarn I always point the hook away from myself because it is easier to pull the material toward me to tighten the weave. With this wire weave you are holding the wire tight but not pulling it toward the point. Tie some of these and test them in your favorite lake or stream. Below is a photo of the Balinderry River in Ireland.



www.iknms.com - mooyms

Thank you FFI for sharing this pattern!



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS - 2018

Officers, Directors, Chairs and Club Information

President: Wayne Dixon Sr. wkdixon@gmail.com

Vice President: Randy Allen randyandcarol2@gmail.com

Secretary: Mark Brownell brownellmi@outlook.com

Treasurer: Jim Maus jimmaus@comcast.net

Past President: Gene Rivers acu4pets@hotmail.com

Director at Large: Ben Dennis flyrodbranch@comcast.net

Conservation: Don Freeman donfreeman74@gmail.com

Education: Max Doerge mdoerge@live.com

Fundraising: John Sabo chrisonquince@comcast.net

Membership: Vacant (Randy Allen Acting) randyandcarol2@gmail.com

Outings: Jim McAllister Jimspacmule@msn.com

Programs: Gene Rivers acu4pets@hotmail.com

The Garden Hackle: Dave Field d_w_field@hotmail.com

Web-Master: Jordan Larsen larsenoutdoorproductions@gmail.com

WSCFFF Representative: Mike Clancy mtclancy@comcast.net

WEB SITE: www.southsoundflyfishers.org

USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia, WA 98507

Club Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month except December. Doors open at 5:30PM with the meeting starting at 7:00pm. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month starting at 6:00 pm. All regularly scheduled meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Station, 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia WA. USA.

APRIL 8, 2018 will be the deadline for the next edition of the Garden Hackle.