

FLY OF THE MONTH

Fluttering Salmonfly - Stonefly

SDF Intermediate Fly Tying Class - 2006, notes by Lucky Ketcham

Hook:	Tiemco 100 or Mustad 94840, size 4 to 10
Thread:	Black or Orange 3/0 or 6/0 (use 6/0 on smaller sizes)
Body:	Orange yarn or yellow yarn, use a coarse poly yarn like Aunt Lydia's
Underwing:	Pearl or Rainbow Krystalflash
Wing:	Moose Body Hair or light elk, long and straight.
Hackle:	Black or Red/Brown long saddle hackles
Antenna:	Optional - two stripped brown hackle stems



This is the second Stone Fly in our intermediate fly tying class. It is a large dry fly on a tied on a shorter standard hook. One technique that is introduced is the twisted yarn extended body. The fly has a sparse flat wing tied near the bend of the hook and leaves the front half of the hook for lots of hackle to make it float. It is fished drag free or with a skittering motion over the surface of the water.

Smash the barb and mount the hook in the vise. Attach the thread in the middle of the hook shank to mark the position of the wing and wrap a thread base to the bend. Take two six or seven inch long strands of a coarse polyester yarn. If you do not have a pistol grip clamp, take the hook out of the vise and clamp down one end of the strands of yarn. Begin twisting the yarn clockwise into a tight rope. When the yarn is really tight, pinch the strand in the middle with your left hand and pull to the side, while releasing the tension slightly. The yarn should wrap on to itself forming a nice extended body abdomen. You can

use one strand of yarn on the smaller patterns and up to three on the largest. A variegated body can be made by using yellow and orange strands of yarn.

The length of the extended abdomen can be about 2 to 2 ½ inches on the Salmon Fly. Hold the loose ends of the yarn to keep it from un-raveling and place on the top of the shank at the bend. Secure the abdomen with seven tight wraps of thread. Trim off the butts and cover with a few more wraps of thread to make a base for the wing. Cut three or four strands of Pearl Krystalflash about 6 inches long. Let the thread hang at the bend of the hook. Grab the flash by the ends with both hands. Place the middle of the flash against the hanging thread and push back and pull up. Bring the flash up and over the hook shank to your side. This is a technique to simply catch the materials. Make three tight wraps to secure and position three strands to your side. Grab the front half of the flash and pull them over the hook shank to the rear of the far side. Secure with three tight

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wraps. Remember on dry flies to keep the number of thread wraps to a minimum. Thread is weight that will sink your flies. Trim the flash $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the end of abdomen.

Select some dark or dark and white moose body hair or elk hair. The wing should be fairly sparse with only about 30 hairs. (The pictures have more, so that is okay too.) Thread control is used to keep the flat wing from flaring too much. Clean out any under fur and stack the moose hair. Pull out any blunt or broken hairs. Hold up the bundle parallel to the hook to size. The long straight hairs should be from the middle of the hook shank to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the abdomen. Pinch the butt ends with your left hand and position over the thread base above the barb. Make two soft pinch wraps to control the fibers and keep on top make two more soft wraps before advancing the thread and beginning some tight securing wraps. Secure the butt ends with very tight wraps while pulling back on the wing to keep it on top of the hook shank. Make a half hitch and add a small drop of head cement to the thread. Select and prepare two long red or black stiff

rooster hackles. Gently stroke the barbs down to separate. Remove any webby fluff at the base. Size the barbs to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hook gaps long. A little longer than standard is okay on this big fly. You will need a long hackle. On this intermediate fly we will learn to wrap two hackles at once. Wrap a thread base to the eye of the hook and back up on shoulder of the wing. Nest the two hackles and position so that the concave dull sides are facing forward and attach the stems to shoulder of the wing. The hackles need to be wrapped concave side forward to pull the fly up out of the water on the retrieve. Pull up on the hackle and attach both tips to the hackle pliers. Wrap both hackles at the same time in touching turns. Wrap as many turns as you can and secure the tips behind the eye. On larger patterns you might have to secure half way and add another hackle on the shank. This fly has more hackle than most other dry flies. Make a small thread head, trim off the hackle tips. If you want to add two stripped red hackle stems for antennae, attach them at this point and then whip finish under and in front of the antennae. Apply a small drop of thin head cement to the thread wraps.



SDFF at Day at the Docks 2007

This years Day on the Docks was a well attended event with SDFF members demonstrating a variety of salt water flies to a varied group of adults and kids.

Paul Woolery was producing a very attractive clouser tied on a safety pin handing them out to kids, including one for this kid.

Other skilled SDFF members tying at the event included **Shelly Wagner, CT Reinhart, Lucky Ketchum, Lee McElravy and Louis Zimm**. Shelly was tying some surf candy flies, Louis

was tying small clouser minnows, and Lucky had some life size giant squid flies and some crab flies that looked edible.

The staff of the San Diego Sports Fishing Council worked hard to put on a great family event with many informative seminars of salt water tactics and gear.

I always come away from this event learning something new which is always a good thing.



Hope to see you all at next years event.

To your next hook-up,
Jim Castelluzzo

