

2019 SOWBUG ROUNDUP TYING CLASSES

Contact Ron Beasley at rkbeasley@suddenlink.net or call 870-580-0043 (second choice) to register for these classes or register with me at Sowbug if space is still available. Be sure to read the information on a class you register for to determine what materials and tools you must bring. There is no charge for these classes, but you must register.



Thursday, March 28, 2019, 1 PM

Jack Harford Soft Hackle Flies for Trout and Bluegill This class is limited to 10 tiers.

Jack Plans to demonstrate and have the class tie the Green Tail Caddis, the Soft Hackle Pheasant Tail, and the Arkansas Red Ass (also known as the Arkansas Red Tail).

Jack Harford is a member of the IFFF and the Indianapolis Fly Casters (IFC) and a two time Everett Drake Fly Tyer of the Year award by the IFC. He contributes regularly to several Fly Fishing and Tying social media groups and has taught several Project Healing Waters tying classes. He is a regular tier at Sowbug, Heartland Fly Fishing Festival, and the Indianapolis/Kentuckiana/Ft. Wayne Fly Shows. He taught a popular class on tying Foam Flies at the 2018 Sowbug Roundup. Jack is editor of the Armchair Angler and has had articles published in the Tenkara Angler magazine.

Friday, March 29, 2019, 9 AM

John Shaner Tying Traditional Soft Hackle (Spider) Wet Flies This class is limited to 15 attendees.

Note: John Shaner will be tying as Featured Tier on Thursday PM, March 28th.

Part 1. Tying Traditional Soft Hackle (Spider) Wet Flies

In this class I will discuss the development and design theory of traditional Soft Hackle (Spider) wet flies. We will cover the selection of materials, including hackles, threads, body materials, and hooks. Beginning with the demonstration of dressing a simple Spider fly, we will progress on to variations such as Dubbed Body Spiders, Thorax Body Spiders, and Soft Hackle Dry flies. I will demonstrate methods of blending dubbing fur, especially the Water Blending method. I will also briefly discuss important patterns and their use.

Part 2 Soft Hackle (Spider) Wet Flies: Ancient Flies in a Modern Context

Through a Power Point presentation we will discuss the history and development of Soft Hackle (Spider) Wet Flies and how the areas where they originated influenced their style and characteristics. From there, we will move on to the history and use of Soft Hackle Wet Flies in North America and how they have influenced anglers on this side of the Atlantic. We will see examples of traditional and contemporary Soft Hackle Wet Flies as dressed by various anglers and how their styles differ. I will also present a number of fly styles based on the Soft Hackle style but adapted to differing regions and waters. Lastly, we will discuss tackle and the various techniques used to fish these flies in various waters and conditions.

John Shaner grew up in the Finger Lakes region of New York State and was fishing the Catskill Rivers as soon as he could drive. Over the years he has fished for trout across the United States and lived in West Yellowstone, MT for a number of years. In addition to many well known U.S. rivers, he has fished the Itchen, Eden and Eamont rivers in England. He also has fished the Bahamas, Belize, and Florida for saltwater species. He has studied many different fly dressing techniques and has sat at the elbow of a number of famous fly tiers. Catskill style dry flies were his first interest, but in the past 20 years his focus has been on British wet flies. He has developed a profound interest in “Spiders”, or as Americans call them, “Soft Hackles”, and enjoys tying and fishing these simple, elegant, and deadly flies. While he does like to experiment with new patterns, he is a traditionalist in his use of materials and seldom incorporates synthetics into his flies, preferring to use natural silk, fur, and feathers. Another of his passions is collecting classic fly tackle and angling books. His “library” is primarily focused on books detailing the development of trout flies and tying techniques but branches into most other aspects of fly fishing as well, especially the history of the sport. He has been in the fly fishing business since 1985 and has managed fly shops, guided, and worked as a sales representative for The Orvis Co. and Cortland Line. Since 2008 He has been associated with Hardy of Alnwick, England. Currently, He holds the position of Accounts Manager, Eastern Fly Fishing Business, for Pure Fishing, the parent company of Hardy, Fenwick, Pflueger, and Hodgman. He is a member of The Anglers’ Club of New York, The Fly Fishers’ Club of London, The Theodore Gordon Fly Fishers, The Fly Fishers’ Club of Harrisburg, The IFFF, and TU, as well as a Trustee of the Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum. Currently he lives in southern New York State, just a few minutes from the Beaverkill and West Branch of the Delaware River.

Friday, March 29, 2019, 1 PM

David Boyer Hackle Stackers

This class is limited to 10 tiers.

The class will focus on Bob Quigley's Hackle Stacker technique to form an alternate to a parachute. The hackle stacker can be used on dries, cripples and emergers. We will tie three versions, the Standard Hackle Stacker as an alternate to a parachute, a hi-viz version of his 'Splitsville Caddis' and the 'Film Critic' a mayfly emerger pattern. Learn how this simple technique can be used on your flies to great effect.

Dave Boyer has been tying about 13 years and developed an affinity for woven and small flies. While living in Southern California he was in charge of the Long Beach Casting Club's Beginning Fly Tying Classes, 17 weeks of classes over the winter. He was also the lead and one of the major instructors for teaching intermediate and advanced tying on Wednesday nights at the Long Beach Tying Forum. He has tied at the FFI Fairs, Sowbug Roundup, the East Idaho Fly Tying Expo in addition to various local events throughout the Southwest, Southern and Texas Councils. He is a member of the North Arkansas Fly Fishers and still maintains membership with the Long Beach Casting Club. In addition, he is a life member of FFI and the FFI Fly Tying Group. He currently sits on the BOD for FFI.

Saturday, March 30, 2019, 9 AM

Larry Wegmann Classic Streamers

This class is limited to eight tiers.



A class in tying Classic streamers will include choosing materials, tying techniques and alternatives to expensive feathers. Participants should bring a rotary vise, tools, 8/0 black and white threads. Also bring clear fingernail polish or head cement. Hackle, floss, hooks and ribbing will be provided. The streamer you will tie is suitable for fishing smallmouth bass or trout. Tips on tying streamers to catch fishermen, as in the photo, will be covered.

Larry Wegmann is the past president of the Southern Council of IFF, Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers, and Missouri Trout Fishermen of Springfield. He teaches a fly fishing class at Missouri State University. He has published an article on scuds in American Angler. He has recently researched the life histories of midges and sowbugs to improve fly designs. He was won the Sowbug streamer fly tying contest three times.

