

Fish



Tales...

*Fish Tales Fly Shop –
a place to share fish tales;
a place to make friends.*

The Adventures of "Team Fish Tales"

Not a lot of fishing adventures have taken place of late. Instead, we've been planning courses, planning this spring's trip to the North Country, looking at possible trips for next fall/winter, and taking stock of products so we're not caught unprepared when the rest of the city starts fishing again this Spring – which according to a couple of rodents isn't too far off.

We're getting a little smarter about some things around the store. Things we hope will benefit you – our customer. We've expanded our fly selection to include a second manufacturer. We're also labeling all flies in our boxes, so that novice and expert anglers alike will easily be able to identify just which fly they're picking out of the box.

We've brought in another series of Redington rods for anyone who wants to get into the sport – or add another economically-priced rod to your collection. The Redfly (\$125.00) doesn't come with a rod tube, but they do come with Redington's lifetime unconditional warranty.

We've committed to on-line advertising through Fly Fisherman's Virtual Fly Shop (www.flyshop.com). Look for us in the Western Canadian regional section, check out our water report under the professional water report section, or visit our web page directly at www.fishtales-flyshop.com.

As always, please feel free to share your thoughts or comments. And remember, spring is getting closer.

Fly Tying Courses

Introduction to Fly Tying:

Students start with the basics of fly tying before learning techniques for tying nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. In the 12.5 hours of instruction, students learn techniques for dubbing, ribbing, hackling, dry flies, etc. All introductory courses are "team-taught." Classes are limited to six students, which means lots of time and attention for everybody. Course Dates:

- Five Mondays beginning March 8 through to April 5.
Times: 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.. **Only one spot remaining in Monday's course.**
- Five Thursdays beginning March 11 through to April 8.
Times 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Intermediate Fly Tying:

Students will learn the skills necessary for parachute posts, spinning deer hair, hair wings, dubbing ropes, dealing with peacock, and using CDC. Students are responsible for supplying all of their own materials and equipment.

This course runs for two weeks on Wednesday and Thursday nights. February 17, 18 & 24, 25. Course cost \$80.00. Maximum 6 students. **Only two spots remaining.**

Classic Salmon Fly Tying:

This course is limited to **four** students who will learn a variety of **advanced** techniques. The course will focus on hair wings, spey flies, full feather wings and married wings. In addition, this course covers topics such as history and material selection. Chris Hagen will teach this course in conjunction with at least two guest lecturers. Students must provide thread and all necessary tools. Exotic or unusual tying materials are included in the course fee (\$150.00.) Classes will be held on four consecutive Sundays beginning on February 21.

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In Southland Crossing (northwest corner of Macleod Trail and Southland Drive.)

Visit our website @ www.fishtales-flyshop.com

Feature Fly: The Palomino Midge

Materials

- Hook: Daichii 1150 size 16-20 or Daichii 1100 size 16-22
Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 Red Uni-thread
Body: Micro Ultra Chenille (red or burgundy)
Wingcase: White Antron yarn
Thorax: Light gray Bordens hare-tron or Krystal dub or Rainy's No Dub



Tying instructions:

1. Place hook in vise
2. Attach thread at the 60% mark.
3. Tie in Micro Ultra chenille at 60% mark.
4. Tie in antron yarn so that it hangs over chenille body. This will be your wing case.
5. Dub hare-tron onto thread and wrap forward to just the 90% mark.
6. Fold antron yarn forward over thorax and tie down.
7. Snip antron; leaving a small tuft just past where you've tied it down.
8. Whip finish where you have tied off the antron wing case.
9. Head cement.

Last year, **Rich Bishop** showed me this fly on the Old Man river. He proceeded to hook and land many fish that afternoon on the palomino midge. I had often struggled with winter and early season rising fish but this pattern improved things considerably. It is fished on the surface but because of its design it will hang in the film. It is amazing how much this fly looks like an emerging midge. Tie one (or buy one) and take it down to the river on a warm winter day and you'll know what I mean. I apply floatant to this fly when I fish it. It is fished to rising fish although other people fish it deep. So, the next time you're on the river in the off-season and the fish are coming up try the palomino midge.... It might change your life. SXT

Feature Products/Services

Hoffman's ¼ Saddles – We can't figure out why nobody thought of this sooner. These pre-sized hackles are the perfect solution. You cut back on your financial outlay or plan to spend the same amount of money, but end up with a better selection of hackle.

"The Fly Tier's Benchside Reference" – Touted by some as the most complete fly tier's reference ever written. Author Gary Borger says "Every fly tyer, no matter how skilled, will find something new in this delightful and stimulating work."

Introductory and Intermediate Fly Fishing Courses – Watch at the store for information on our fly fishing course schedules. Introductory courses will be offered at least three weekends in May and we'll try to have one intermediate course before run off. Ask at the store for details....

Learn Ask Watch Seminars

Sundays 1-3 p.m.

First, Thanks to all of you who've stopped in for some Sunday seminars already this season. Chris and Seamus work hard to present information and techniques you can incorporate into your angling experiences. (Dave tries to fish on Sundays....)

We've got three more confirmed seminars this season. Watch the door for others later in the spring.

Sunday, March 21 – Learn about tying and fishing Bow River streamers. Find out when and how to fish the renowned Bow River Bugger, or faithful Clouser Minnow...

Sunday, April 11 - Join photographer Mike Sturk for a session on tips and techniques for

fishing photography.

Mike is a staff photographer for "The Calgary Herald." It's his black and white of a Bow River Brown that you see as you enter the store.

Sunday, April 18 – Join David for a discussion about the **predatory northern pike**. See new color combinations for flies, learn about where to find pike in the spring.

Store Hours

Sunday - 11 am to 4 pm

Monday to Wednesday

9 am to 7 pm

Thursday and Friday

9 am to 9 pm

Saturday 9 am to 6 pm

