
October 2001
Issue XIII

Fish Tales...

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

Fish Tales Winter Hours (effective October 8, 2001)

Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holidays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We'll be closed on Christmas Day (December 25), Boxing Day (December 26),
and New Year's Day (January 1, 2002.)

#420, 9737 Macleod Trail SW • Calgary, AB • T2J 0P6 • (403)640-1273
in Southland Crossing (northwest corner of Macleod Trail & Southland Drive)
Visit our website @ www.fishtales.ca • Email us at sales@fishtales.ca

Winter Fly Tying Courses

Introduction to Fly Tying – This five-week course starts with the basics of fly tying – tying the thread on the hook – and goes on to teach techniques for tying nymphs, streamers, and dries. During the 12 ½ hours of instruction students learn techniques for dubbing, ribbing, hackling dry flies, etc. All introductory courses are team-taught by **two** instructors to ensure lots of time and attention for everyone.

Course cost is **\$155.00**. Fees include an unbeatable fly tying kit containing all the tying material students need to complete the course flies plus plenty of extra to continue tying. Students are responsible for supplying their own tying tools and vise.

Round One – We have two classes scheduled before Christmas.

Class I – Monday nights beginning November 5 through December 3. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00.)

Class II – Wednesday nights beginning November 7 through December 5. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00)

Tentative Schedule for Winter 2002 (watch the website at www.fishtales.ca for updates.)

Round Two

Class I – Monday nights beginning January 21, 2002 through February 18, 2002. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00)

Class II – Thursday nights beginning January 24, 2002 through February 21, 2002. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00)

Round Three

Class I – Monday nights beginning March 4, 2002 through April 1, 2002. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00)

Class II – Thursday nights beginning March 7, 2002 through April 4, 2002. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30-10:00)



Ascension Bay, Mexico – April 2002

Only two spots remain for Fish Tales' premier saltwater excursion. Join us the week of Friday, April 26 through Friday, May 3, 2002 for six days of guided fishing at Let It Be Inn in Punta Allen, Mexico.

You're in "Grand Slam Country" when you're in Ascension Bay. Aside from extensive bonefish and permit flats, the area features sand and mangrove islands, and palm-lined backwaters and lagoons that are home to tarpon. This unique combination

means you're in for a terrific saltwater adventure. You'll also have great opportunities for snook, snapper, and barracuda.

Let It Be Inn caters to six anglers who fish two to a boat with an equal number of guides. This 1:1 ratio means a guide will accompany any angler who decides to wade.

The Inn features three double-occupancy cabanas that have full electricity, private bathroom/shower facilities, rod racks, and a shaded porch overlooking the beach. The main lodge

Intermediate Fly Tying Course – This course will introduce students to techniques not covered in our introductory course. 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 their own materials and equipment.

Course cost is **\$100.00**. This course is limited to **four** students who will receive 10 hours instruction.

Prerequisite: completion of an introductory course or proven ability to dub and hackle, plus an understanding of the importance of proportion.

Round One – We have one class scheduled before Christmas Tuesdays, November 13, 20, 27, and December 4. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30 – 10:00)

Round Two – Tuesdays, February 5, 12, 19, and Wednesday, February 20, 2002. (Start 7 p.m. End 9:30 – 10:00)

A third intermediate course (mid-to late March) will be offered if warranted.

Notes:

- All classes are subject to cancellation and/or rescheduling due to insufficient registration.
- A deposit is required at time of booking.
- Fish Tales courses offer students a casual and fun learning experience.

Anyone interested in registering for any of the classes listed above should contact the store at 640-1273. Class space is limited, so call early to ensure your first choice of dates.

is equipped with a full kitchen and dining area. Meals are prepared for you and combine North American style entrees with local favorites.

The trip cost is **\$1,895.00 US** plus your return flight to Cancun. A 50% deposit is required at the time of booking. If you're interested in additional information, please contact the store at 640-1273 or send an email to: sales@fishtales.ca

Check out an angler's recent Let It Be Inn trip report on our website at www.fishtales.ca (news/courses.)

\$ Fall Specials \$

Sage Rods – All in-stock Sage SP and SPL series rods are on sale at 25% off.

Back packer pontoon boat – Regular price \$440.00 on sale for \$299.95 (one only.) This boat is ideal for lakes.

T-shirt Sale – all in-stock T-shirts are on sale for a minimum of 25% off.

Kombi underwear – all in stock Kom-Tech max and Kom-Tech plus underwear is 25% off. Just what you'll need when the weather changes... Great for under breathable waders.

Roots Dubbing Machines – This unique tool makes it easy to create useful dubbing loops. On sale for only \$90.00 (two only.)

Fish Tales Demo Equipment – Blowout

- Used Sage 590 and 690 DS rods - \$75.00
- Used Redington rods 5/6wt - \$50.00

25% off the following:

- Select Fly Tying materials
- Select Books
- Angler's Expressions Giftware
- Cowboy Candlestick Holders

TUC-BRC Fall Splash 2001

Join the Bow River Chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada for it's 10th Annual Fall Splash on **November 22, 2001**. This popular fund-raising event is a great opportunity to swap fish stories and get together with friends who share common interests. You'll have opportunities to purchase goods in live and silent auctions, as well as chances at raffle draws for everything from rods to artwork. Dinner tickets are \$60 each and available at the store OR through the TUC office at 221-8360.

Fish Tales Website News

Coming soon.... We know some of you miss our feature flies in the newsletter, so we've decided to add a feature fly page to the website. We'll regularly post step-by-step instructions and photos for funky, functional, and exciting patterns. Watch for the first one in November.

ROD-BUILDING COURSE

We will be offering a rod-building course in February 2002. Watch for course dates and information on-line later this fall.

Watch for our salmon fishing report on the trips report page later this month.

Feature Products

Now Available – Select 2002 Calendars

- Fishing Dreams 2002
- Flats 2002
- The Art of Fly Fishing 2002
- Angler's 2002 Fly Fishing Calendar
- Women In Waders 2002

New Books and other Reference Materials:

- **The Fly Tier's Benchside Reference Manual CD Rom** – This favorite flytying book is now available for easy use on your computer.
- **Megalops: An Angler's Affair with Tarpon** by Tosh Brown. "Insightful and often humorous account of chasing the Silver King with a fly rod."
- **Nymph Fly-Tying Techniques** – Jim Schollmeyer takes a different approach to nymph patterns by focusing on how patterns have evolved from a handful of basic designs.
- **Matching Mayflies** – This book focuses on the most important order of aquatic insects for fly anglers. Learn to understand their four important stages – nymphs, emergers, duns, and spinners.
- **Hemingway on Fishing** – A collection of all of Hemingway's great writings about his fishing adventures – from trout in Michigan to marlin in the Gulf Stream.
- **Fish Fights: A Hall of Fame Quest** – This is the story of one man's quest to catch 10 record big game fish from the waters of South Florida & the Bahamas. (Recommended by Chris Hagen)
- **Cripples & Spinners** – Often the most important portions of a surface-feeding trout's diet, yet among the most neglected. Learn about why trout feed on these stages of insects.

Coming soon...

REDINGTON Barrierflex Chest and Waist-high Waders – Both styles come with a protective double knee, built in gravel guards, durable neoprene stocking feet, and vented wader bags. The chest waders have a waterproof internal chest pocket and detachable foam kneepads.

REDINGTON Kevlar High Boot – This durable lightweight felt-sole boot has protective Kevlar fabric on the upper.

SAGE SLT Series Fly Rods – Sage is proud to introduce it's new series of SLT rods and says "SLT rods will delight anglers who prefer a longer, more relaxed casting rhythm." Available in 0-through-8 weight.

SCOTT S³ Series Fly Rods – Scott is happy to introduce its newest series of rods. The S³'s, or SUPR-PLY rods, combine fast action and high-line speed for a "new school feel." Scott says the S³ series of rods is designed for the "most demanding fishing fiends." Available in 2-through-8 weight.

Fish Tales L.A.W.S. "Learn, Ask, and Watch Seminars,"

Sundays 1 to 3 pm

These two-hour sessions are a great opportunity to brush up on the latest tying materials and techniques, learn improved knot tying techniques, etc. Seminars are free and open to anyone who wants to attend. First ones in get first crack at chairs. Business carries on as usual, so if you're stopping in for some tying materials or a new book don't be deterred by attendees.

NEW FOR 2001/2002 – Whenever you attend a Sunday afternoon seminar, your name gets entered into a draw for a **GUIDED BOW RIVER FLOAT TRIP** during the 2002 season. The more seminars you attend the more often your name is entered into the draw.

Springs, Chum, Pinks, and Coho; How to catch them on the Coast... Sunday, October 28 – Most Fish Tales' staffers will have just returned from the annual trek for B.C.'s migrating salmon. Learn tips and techniques for tackling these species. You'll also learn what type of equipment you'll need to do battle with the big ones.

Winter Fishing Techniques – Sunday, November 4 – This tried-and-true seminar is a favorite. Learn tactics for winter fishing on the Bow. You'll get some essential information on fishing two-fly rigs, nymphs, and streamers as well as some tips on avoiding ice-ups or when it's best to stay behind the vise....

Winter Destination & Gear – Sunday, November 18 – Not sure what equipment you need for your upcoming saltwater trip? Dave will take you through the basics of selecting the right gear for a saltwater destination.

Favorite Winter Patterns – Sunday, November 25 – Not sure what to fish with, but still itchin' to get out? Join team Fish Tales for a step-by-step look at some of the hottest patterns for winter fishing

Rod Building – What you'll need... Sunday, December 2 – Join David for an afternoon full of information for the rod-building enthusiast. Dave will go through everything you'll need – product wise – to build your own rod. If you plan to build a rod this winter, now is the perfect time to put together the essentials for that project. Learn about threads, epoxy, blanks, and more during this seminar.

Focus on Dry Flies – Sunday, January 6 – Join Seamus as he demonstrates techniques and materials to use for dry flies. Topics he'll focus on include parachute posts, spinner wings, etc.

Quintessential Quickies – Sunday, January 13 – If you're not sure about tying flies, but think it might be fun to learn a few simple patterns this is the seminar for you. This seminar will focus on patterns that are simple and effective. Learn simple techniques and variations on standards like the San Juan Worm, Hares Ear, and Caddis.

Bow River Biology 101 – Sunday, January 20 – Join Dave for a discussion on native and non-native Bow River species, where and when they spawn, their favorite kinds of food, etc. Seminar will also discuss barbed vs. barbless hooks, and ways to land, handle, and release your catch with the least impact possible. (Possible guest speaker.)

Synthetics – Sunday, January 27 – Manufacturers come out with new fibers and new techniques for synthetics every year. Join Seamus as he explores some imaginative ways to use these man-made materials.

Saltwater Flats Patterns – Sunday, February 3 – Interested in learning more about the shallow saltwater environment and the flies you need to be successful? This seminar will focus on easy-to-tie patterns that are effective for bonefish, permit, snook, snapper, trevally, and even the mighty barracuda. It will also expand your tying repertoire by exploring crab and shrimp flies.

Caddis – Sunday, February 10 – They're everywhere you go on the Bow in mid-summer. Learn some of the simpler and more effective caddis patterns for dry fly fishing to rising snouts.

Minnow/Baitfish Patterns – Sunday, February 24 – This selection of flies represents one of the important food sources for larger fish. These patterns are suitable for use in fresh and saltwater situations, which makes this a dual-purpose seminar. The seminar will focus on flies like the Clouser minnow, Lefty's deceiver, and variations. You'll also learn how to entice water predators by adding eyes and epoxy heads to these patterns.

Nymph Fishing Tactics – Sunday, March 3 – If you feel like you need a refresher on nymphing tactics, this is the seminar for you. You'll learn what kind of water to look for, how to rig up your gear, and some of the most effective patterns for the Bow.

Cheaters – Sunday, March 10 – If you've ever wondered exactly how to use tube bodiz or whether you can substitute fishair for fur, this is the seminar for you.

Other seminar topics may include the following (no dates set for these ones yet.)

Bow River Sextet – Learn about six patterns that are effective on the famous river right in our back yard. We'll tell you three up front: Rubber Leg Squirrel Nymph, San Juan Worm, and CDC & Elk hair caddis. You have to attend the seminar to learn the other three.

Pike on the Fly – If you're planning a trip to nearby reservoirs or thinking about heading North, join David for a discussion on the predatory pike. He'll discuss various retrieval techniques, flies, etc. to use on your quest for the "waterwolf."