



*Stonefly Maidens Women's Fly Fishing Club*

## Why I Catch More Fish Than You—KNOT

*Jeffrey Sadler*

For those of you who are still laughing at the thought of me catching more fish than you, STOP reading here. This article isn't for you, it is for the many people I have observed that need a few hints on how to become better. I have come off the stream with a casual: "I caught \_\_\_ fish (fill in the number)" and people will say: "Hogwash". The problem is that they may need more of a chance to catch fish.

If your fly ain't in the water,  
You ain't gonna catch a lot of fish.  
Period.

Clearly this article is aimed at the beginning fly fisher, the old pros are still laughing to think I'm better than they are, and they should laugh.

I have actually seen a beginner

on a major destination trip in the water attempting to tie a knot and has a book open to learn how in one hand and a squiggly tippet in the other. While I absolutely applaud the effort, it's the timing that is rather weird. Learn to tie knots in the comfort of your living room, practice at home, at the clubhouse, on the plane to the Green River, but not (knot) on the stream.

So, you ask, how long should it take to tie on a new fly? 30 seconds, one half of a minute is more than enough time to reach in your vest, pull out a box, open it, select a fly, and tie it on. I didn't do this for a speed record and used a moderate sized fly (18) and standard 6x tippet.

There are a lot of factors that can

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### Meeting Information

- September 8, 2004,  
6:00 pm Social Hour  
7:00 pm Business Meeting and  
Speaker
- Iron Horse Restaurant  
6034 SE Milwaukie Ave  
Portland, Oregon  
(503) 232-1826
- Speaker: Henry Hoffman  
Raising Hackles—A personal  
history

## This Month with the Stonefly Maidens

This month Henry Hoffman is going to speak on Raising Hackles—A Personal History. Henry is a pioneer in the field of fly tying materials. He developed some of the most important genetic lines for fly tying hackles. Whiting Farms now owns Henry's genetic line and has continued to develop it and other lines. This well respected gentleman is from Warrenton, Oregon and is still an active fly tyer. You will learn a lot

about fly tying and feathers.

This month's fish-a-long is our annual extended fishing trip. We are heading over to the Steens Mountains area September 17-20, 2004. We will be staying a night at the French Glen Hotel and the rest of the time at the Steens Mountain Resort. We'll be fishing Krumbo Reservoir and the Donner and Blitzen River. This is shaping up to be a great girls trip. Look forward to next year's trip.

## Fly Lines

Late summer and early fall is a great time for fly fishing. The summer steelhead are heading up the rivers and the trout are getting ready for winter. It's time for me to check my steelhead box and make sure that I have the fly to catch my next steelhead. I should probably check to make sure I have a few October Caddis to catch some of those nice fat redsides in the Deschutes.

Last month's fish-a-long to East Lake was fun. Everyone caught a few fish, not as many as some days, but definitely more than others. The weather proved to be challenging.

### *Tilda Runner*

We had a couple of thunderstorms and a little rain and a gorgeous rainbow. We were able to catch fish on dries as well as wets. East Lake really is a pretty place to fish and camp. You should try it sometime. I'll guarantee you'll have fun.

I am really looking forward to seeing Henry Hoffman at this month's meeting. It will be really interesting to know more about how fly tying chicken feathers were developed. Even if you aren't a fly tyer, you'll learn something about the materials that go into the flies that you buy.



## Goings On

### Oregon FFF Events

September 17-19, 2004 Casting for Recovery – Big K Guest Ranch, Elkton, OR  
November 6, 2004 Northwest Flyfishers Tyer's Expo Glenn Otto Park Troutdale

### BOW



Steens Mountain Backcountry Adventure, September 1-12, Frenchglen, OR

A Day at the Range, September 18, Emerald Empire Gun Club, Eugene, OR

Fly Fishing the Crooked River, October 16, Cobble Rock Campground, Prineville, OR

Fly Fishing for Steelhead, October 30, Valley of the Rogue State Park near Grants Pass, OR

Rod Building Workshop, December 4, Suttle Lake Church Camp, Sisters, OR

Native American Basket Weaving, December 4, Suttle Lake Church Camp, Sisters, OR

Information on 2004 workshops is available at [www.dfw.state.or.us/outdoor\\_skills/bow.html](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/outdoor_skills/bow.html). If you would like to put your name on the mailing list to receive registration materials, please contact Nancy Smogor, Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Program Coordinator, at (503) 947-6016 or [nancy.e.smogor@state.or.us](mailto:nancy.e.smogor@state.or.us).

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increase the time but basically, no fly should take over a minute no matter what. I can replace a tippet section in the same time, about 30 seconds.

What I'm going to tell you is my method. Lots of folks don't like it, some hate it; a lot use it. The reason is simple, it takes less time away from fishing than anything else.

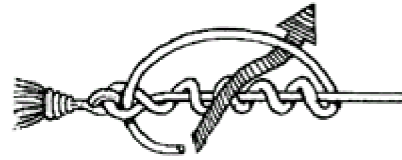
The ONLY knot I tie streamside is an improved clinch knot to attach flies to the end of my tippet. My leader has a perfection loop (tied at home) at the end. My tippets are pre-tied with a perfection loop (tied at home) and coiled in small envelopes and I can easily carry 2 dozen in a small business card folder.

Even the most complex two fly bottom weighted nymph rig is pre-tied and all I need to do is remove the pre-tied rig attach the loop to loop to my leader, tie on the two flies, attach a split shot and indicator and there you are, fishing. Clearly this takes more than a minute but not too many minutes. If you have to rig this on the stream from scratch, how many knots are required? (1) Perfection loop, (2) double surgeon's for the first fly, (3) double surgeon's for the second fly, (4) double surgeon's to keep the split shot on, (5) clinch knot for one fly, (6) clinch knot for the second fly, and (7) whatever method you use to attach the indicator. Phwew, that's a lot of knots.

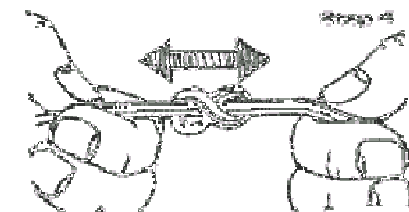
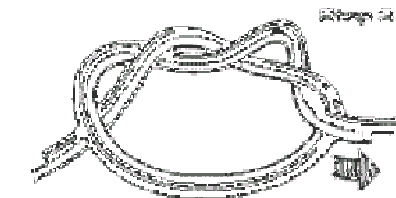
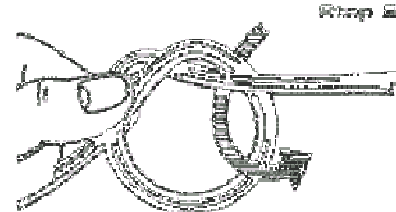
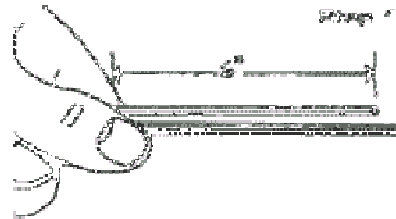
So, in a days fishing if we tie on 30 flies (not an unusually large number) and I take 30 seconds and you take two minutes, and we change 5 tippets and I take 30 seconds and you take two minutes, and if we change once from dries to nymphs and I take three minutes and you take ten, what happened?

The answer is my flies were drifting over trout for an hour more than yours were on that day and that is why I catch more fish than you do.

(by Jeffery Sadler of the Long Beach Casting Club courtesy of the FFF ClubWire Email Newswire.)



Improved Clinch Knot



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*Our mission is to create opportunities, encourage, educate, and mentor women's participation in the sport of fly fishing.*

*Our goal is to bring women together who share a love of fly fishing and the beauty of nature to create friendships and lasting memories.*

*Stonefly Maidens Women's Fly Fishing Club*

**An Oregon Council-Federation of Fly Fishers Member Club**

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**Calendar**

Date	Meeting	Fish-a-long Date	Location
September 8	Henry Hoffman Raising Hackles—A Personal History	September 17-20	Steens Outing; Donner & Blitzen River, Mann Lake; Krumbo Res. <u>women only</u>
October 13	Pete Pripke Sea-run Cutthroats	October 16	Nehalem River (sea run cutthroat trout) <u>women only</u>
November 10	Members Roundtable, Equipment Swap	None scheduled	
December 8	Christmas Party	None scheduled	