FLY OF THE MONTH

Chris Broomell taught these two midge patterns for the Lower Owens in March 2004 and 2005, at the Ontario Fly Fishing Show. (chris@goldcoastflies.com) Notes and picture by Lucky Ketcham, San Diego Fly Fishers, revised August 26, 2006.

Owens River Midge Larva – a simple effective fly for the Lower Owens River

Hook: TMC 2487 Light wire scud hook size 16 or 18
Thread: None
Rib: Ultra fine gold wire
Body: Very fine olive or tan dubbing.

Smash the barb and mount the light wire scud hook in the vice. Behind the eye of the hook attach a three inch strand of ultra fine gold wire. Just wrap the wire on the bare hook behind the eye to the bend. Select an almost invisible amount of light olive very fine dubbing and sparsely apply to the wire. Wrap the gold wire and dubbing to the eye of the hook and trim wire. No head cement is necessary. The gold wire should show through the fine dubbing. Fish this fly bouncing along the bottom or as a dropper.

Bead Head Owens River Midge Pupa by Chris Broomell

Hook: TMC 2487 Light wire scud hook size 16 or 18
Thread: Danville 6/0 black or yellow/gold (You must be able to flatten the thread)
(Bodies can be red, black, grey, tan, cream and yellow.)
Head: Size #14 gun metal Japanese glass bead. (very small beads)
Collar: Natural or black ostrich herl, 4 or 5 wraps
Thorax: Size #'14 bright red Japanese glass bead. Chris original said they were #15's
Shuck or gill: Short piece of UV tan crystal flash
Body: Black or Yellow thread flattened
Rib: Spun black or yellow thread, spiral wrapped.

Directions: Remove the barb of a light wire scud hook. Thread first a gun metal grey small bead and then a red very small bead on the hook. Move the grey bead to the eye and make a small jam knot behind the bead. Attach the ostrich herl and make 4 or 5 wraps of herl. Wrap two tight wraps of thread and trim excess ostrich herl. Make a very small whip finish and cut off the thread. Slide the red bead up as close as possible to the ostrich and thread. Push it with your finger nail. If you put too much thread on the whip finish it will not look right. (Use less thread on your next fly.) Pick a small amount of UV tan crystal flash, one or two fibers. Attach it right behind the red glass bead to prevent lumps in the

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thread. Pull it fairly tight and flatten the Danville black or yellow gold thread before making a smooth wrap of thread to the back bend of the hook. Keep the crystal flash tight and on top of the hook. Trim the shuck or gill about two hook eyes beyond the end of the thread body. Spin the thread bobbin to make a tight thread rib. Wrap the tight thread forward in a loose spiral, leaving about a hook diameter between each wrap. Whip finish behind the red bead and trim off the thread.

Note the second year I watched Chris tie this fly he attached the ostrich herl after the fly was nearly finished. He pressed his fingernail between the red and black beads to separate them slightly. He re-attached the thread with a thin timber hitch to reduce bulk. He attached the ostrich herl and made three wraps and then made a small whip finish between the beads.

This midge can be tied with different colored thread bodies: red, black, grey, tan, cream and yellow. The head also can be tied with different colored glass beads. It looked very nice with a silver lined crystal head with the red second bead. Chris said he has also used the gun metal head with a blue second bead and has caught fish. He has not tried it with a green second bead yet.

I revised this recipe because Bob Stafford found a source for the very small size 14 glass beads. "Michael Crosby" WesternFlyfishers@msn.com The very small beads are also available at Bob Marriott's.

Fly Fishing Book Display At The Rancho San Diego Library

San Diego Flyfishers have been donating books to the city and county libraries for a number of years. We do this so we don't need a library of our own and it's a service to the community. Our latest collection will be displayed at the RANCHO SAN DIEGO LIBRARY November 1-21. It will feature our two club member authors - **Jim Tenuto** BLOOD ATONEMENT and **Richard Louv** FLY FISHING FOR SHARKS: AN AMERICAN JOURNEY

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Bob Miller

JACK DENNIS HERE ON DECEMBER 3RD AND 4TH

Mark your calendars! Jack Dennis, noted fly tying expert will visit SDFF on December 3rd and 4th. He will be conducting a fly tying class on December 3rd. This is a once in a life time opportunity. Details to follow. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful opportunity!