

## Masahito Sato

I am a freelance writer and a correspondent from a Japanese publisher. I've lived in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for 10 years.

It doesn't matter if I can fly-fish. I like to fish Sunfish with 3 weight rod. I like to fish striper with 10 weight rod. I like to fish trout on a dry fly, a wet fly, a nymph, or a streamer. I'm not a dry fly purist. Even I'm not a trout fishing purist. Even I'm not a fly fishing purist.

As a writer and a tyer, I've met many well-known fly fishermen like Jack Gartside, Dick Talleur, Bob Popovics, Poul Jorgensen, Harrison Steeves, Dave Skoke, Joe Humphreys, Joan Wulff, Bill Catherwood, and so forth. All are wonderful and great fishermen. It is hard to resist their effects on me. Among them, Jack influences me a lot. I can not count for how much I learned and I am still learning from them.

Before I came to US, I had been just a amateur fly tyer. I've never thought I would be a professional fly tyer. So why did I become a pro tyer in US? I didn't think I wanted to be like when I had been in Japan. However the chance came to me suddenly.

I had a plan to introduce the HMH tube fly tying kits to a Japanese fly fishing magazine. When I sent e-mail to John Albright, asking if I could write an article of HMH tube fly tying kits on the Japanese magazine, he immediately sent me the kits. At the same time, I received an e-mail from him that said I did not have to send it back, and I could use it for myself. As soon as I got the kits, I tied several tube flies. I took some photos with the kits and sent them to Japan for my article. The tube fly tying kits are still in my hands.

I was interested in not only the tools, tubing, but also the Video included in the kits. I was amazed with many tube flies for saltwater fishing that were introduced in the Video. By watching the Video, I thought that it was valuable for my fly fishing life to use the tube flies. I tied some original patterns on tubes and showed them to John at the

Wilmington show in Massachusetts. He was glad to receive my flies and displayed them on the table. That was the moment to be a professional fly tyer. Thanks, John. Everything started when I met you.

Now Pacific Fly Group sells my flies commercially. I attend Fly Tying Symposium, Marlborough show, and The Bear's Den show annually. I'm also a member of Whiting Farms Pro Team and a member of United Fly Tyer.