

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

Will Be Tuesday

January 27

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM



The Dead Drift - January 2015

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

Welcome to 2015. Wow! Things change with the passage of time. One hundred years ago this month they made the first transcontinental telephone call between New York and San Francisco. One hundred years before that we won the Battle of New Orleans, the final major battle in the War of 1812. Too bad they didn't have telephones then, as the battle took place after the war had ended. Oh well. Fly fishing back two hundred years was rather primitive. Silk lines, bamboo rods if you had one, otherwise a sapling of some kind. One hundred years ago they were still using silk and bamboo. But in this last one hundred years we have progressed from bamboo to steel rods, fiberglass rods, and graphite rods. Now some are going back to bamboo and fiberglass and to sticks (Tenkara rods, not really sticks but same idea). Our lines and reels and other equipment have changed dramatically as well. I just hope that one hundred years from now there will still be fly fishers and waters available to them so they too can go out and truly enjoy the thrill of casting a fly onto the waters and having a fish slurp it.

We had a very nice December Fund Raiser Raffle meeting last month, thanks to all of you who donated items and to the many of you who bought tickets so we can continue on with the normal expenses like donations to certain charities and for our guest speakers. Thanks to Steve Egge for putting together the 'slide' show. The power point presentation is a very nice addition to our December meetings but I know more of you took pictures last year. So please, as you download your photos in 2015, bring me a copy or email them to me and I will collect them to give to Steve for next year. I would like to see everyone's smiling faces with scenic shots and some fish on the fly all showing on the big screen.

Speaking of donations, I think we should consider donating to the Youth Academy again and I would like us to consider also donating to Project Healing Waters and to Casting For Recovery. We can discuss this at our January meeting and take a vote on what we decide to do. We should have a good idea of our financial status by then.

Good fishing.



Larry

International Federation of Fly Fishers

Fly of the Month

~ CDC Parachute Emerger ~

January 2011

By

Bob Bates



Fly tiers from all over the world came to the 2010 FFF Fly Fishing Fair and Conclave in West Yellowstone, MT. During the Fair, Arno Laubscher from Nelspruit, South Africa tied a Klinkhammer variation. This variation uses CDC instead of dubbing for the thorax. When he goes fishing he ties it in colors to match the hatching insects. Arno owns Scientific Fly www.scientificfly.com.

The best time to use this pattern is when the insects are hatching. Cast a floating line, and let the fly float on the water surface. In moving water let it float drag free around boulders or current seams where the hatching insects are drifting or collecting. In still water let it sit on the surface for a while, and if fish are not interested move it a little to attract their attention. Like many good emerger patterns part of the fly is underwater where the fish can see it, and part is above the surface where you can see it. It looks like a helpless hatching insect. Arno said that trout and yellowfish eagerly take this pattern. I didn't know about "yellowfish" so I did an internet search using South Africa yellowfish. What I found makes me want to visit there. Although yellowfish are not recognized as game fish in South Africa they are increasingly recognized as a premier fly-fishing species. Their feeding behavior is between 80% and 100% characteristic of trout and grayling. All the trout flies (nymph, dry and streamer) can be used to catch yellowfish. It is, pound for pound, at least twice as strong as a trout (even three times as strong, some believe) and are commonly caught in the 6- to 10-pound range. With that, it is understandable that fly anglers contract incurable "yellow fever" on the first hook up. Match the color and size to your insects and this fly will work in the U.S., Canada and elsewhere. For Arno it works best when mayflies and caddis flies are hatching.

Materials List:

Hook: Grip 14723BL size 12 - 18

Thread: UNI-Thread, 8/0, Olive, match thread color to abdomen color.

Abdomen: Antron dubbing, medium olive

Post: Antron yarn, white.

Hackle: Brown

Thorax: CDC feather, Olive.

Tying Steps:

1. Attach thread a little behind the eye, and wind rearward around the bend.

2. Put dubbing on thread and wrap forward to about mid shank.

3. For the post use white Antron yarn, and use the entire yarn on the larger flies. Arno likes a thick post because it is more visible. A thick post is also helpful when it comes to wrapping the hackle. Secure the Antron, stand up the rear portion and wrap around the Antron yarn to post it. After posting trim away the front portion. Poly or other materials can be used for the post.



4. Take a brown hackle and tie it vertically against the post. When this is done the 8/0 olive thread is not needed any more so tie it off securely and trim.

5. Attach 17/0 UNI Thread and let hang behind the post. Untwist the thread so you can split it with a fine, very sharp needle, and then insert the barbs of an olive CDC feather into the split thread as shown below. It takes a little practice to split the thread and insert the CDC.

6. Trim the CDC at the shaft so you just have only barbs in the split thread. Keep tension on the thread as you hold the thread below the CDC. Spin the bobbin to put a twist in the thread. When you released the thread, the twist moves up the thread trapping the CDC barbs.

7. Wrap the CDC first in back of the post and then in front. If you don't have enough CDC to reach near the eye just repeat the process with the other side of the feather or another feather.

8. Wrap the hackle around the post with each wrap below the previous one. After a few wraps bring the hackle toward the eye and secure it. Pull the hackle up and back to prevent trapping the barbs then trim excess, whip finish behind the eye, and put on a little head cement. The final step is to trim the post to a reasonable height.

Closing comments: Now your assignment is to tie a few, and take them fishing.



Alpine Fly Fishers Meetings in 2015

January 27 — February 24 — March 24 — April 28 — May 26 — June 23 (picnic)

July & August (No Meetings)

September 22 — October 27 — November 24 — December 15

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

In Wildness is the Preservation of the World "Henry David Thoreau"

Christmas 2014

"Oh I believe there are angles among us; sent down to us from somewhere up above. They come to you and me in our darkest hours; to show us how to live, to teach us how to give, to guide us with the light of love."*

The near northern sides of evergreen trees hold skiffs of frozen snow, its bright snowy whiteness in sharp contrast to the gray white of the frost covering the blades of grass, fallen leaves and pine needles. T'is the evening of the year; deep cold grips the nights, gloves, hats, scarves and warm coats are necessities of external wear. Each evening reveals new lighted homes, dressed up in the finery of Christmas cheer. At night, smoke from home fires, that heat hearth and home, rise from ours and neighboring family's chimneys. Stars sparkle in the night sky, revealed by passing storm clouds. From my window all that I survey is peaceful and calm.

A pebble drops in water and circular ripples appear spreading outward touching other ripples from the past and those still not made. Sean Gallagher while teaching for the White River School district, used past ripples and started new ones. He with friends, acquaintances and students created a Salmon mural and life cycle stream on the grounds of Mountain Meadow School as a teaching tool. In my trips to the school, for my grandson's activities and events I noticed a salmon mural on the walls of the auditorium/gym. Bright colored salmon swimming along the wall and around the cornice of the building caught my eye. Unfortunately for me in my haste to get to my grandson's indoor soccer games I did not look down, and missed the Salmon stream. I do remember reflecting at that moment on, how important salmon were to the Northwest and here was another representation of their importance displayed on a school wall. Unknown to me at the time Sean's ripples had made contact with mine.

This last October Sean and I met on a Steelhead fishing trip to Oregon's Deschutes River. Over Scotch and a meal, Sean asked where my grandsons went to school. When I mentioned Mountain Meadow, Sean told me about his participation in the creation of the mural and the artificial stream near its base, depicting the life cycle of salmon and their influence on life in the Northwest. My newer ripple crossed his earlier one; we agreed to meet at Mountain Meadows to share our ripples with my grandsons.

Yesterday afternoon clothed in warm outerwear, I arraigned a small gathering at Mountain Meadows School Sean, Darren, Colin, and Connor and I met to share ripples and start new ones. Each fish in the mural was created from a cast of one of four salmon harvested from a native fish hatchery; each fish was embellished with Native American symbols used to tell and record stories. Each salmon tells a story, known now only to the student that created the fish. The artificial stream represents the life cycle of salmon and all of the other lives that touch or are touched by salmon. Fish, fowl, plant and animal are represented in the stream; Native American history embellishes this story. The salmon cycle of life in fact depicts us all; it is there, in this small ripple on the grounds of a place of learning.

This small ripple, this circle of life portrayal touches the entire world not only in its story, but in its connection to the physical world as well. This artificial stream's flow is gathered by a drain that flows into a mountain meadow creek. The creek is habitat for spawning salmon; the creek feeds a river that flows into Puget Sound that becomes the Pacific Ocean. The Ocean feeds moisture heavy clouds, which returns the moisture as rain; the rain fills the artificial stream to enrich the river and encourages the Salmon to return. Circles of life within circles of life. My grandsons are now part of the circular ripples that Sean started years ago, their newer ripples will spread out to touch other ripples that are still unknown. There is much peace in my soul knowing that they will pass it forward also. "Oh I believe there are angles among us."

This is the season, when peace on earth becomes more than just a fervent wish; it is part and parcel of the Christmas Celebration. It is the spoken and unspoken wish in every greeting, handshake and nod. When the lamb, lies down with the lion, when the whispered remembered words become song and

Continued on Page 5

Silent Night stills the battlefield chaos. When our egos take second place to our hearts, when compassion supplants intellect and greed, and hate gives way to understanding, then peace becomes more than a wish, it approaches reality. We feel it in our souls and it manifests itself in our walk and the carriage of our body. Smiles come more readily to our face and laughter crosses our lips and breaks out in belly bursting grace.

Silent Night, Holy Night, all is calm, all is bright, in winter the earth stills, deciduas trees, stand stark and grey, deep waters run cold, clear and full of meaning, quite deepens, and the smallest sound become deafening. You can hear a heart beat from a million miles, and through a crust of snow you can feel the earth breath.

We need the stillness that winter bestows, to let the hustle and bustle go, to stop trying to bend life to our goals and ideas, to again listen to the earth and sky to embrace the life road laid out in front of us and walk the path we were meant to. Circles within circles may the Salmon always run and may Christmas bestow it message of peace on your heart. "Oh I believe there are angles among us."

PS: Three days after our school outing, over dinner I asked my six year old grandsons where the rain went that fell on the school? Darren answered "The Drain". When I asked where does the water go that goes down the drain? He answered "The Sea". And when I asked who uses that water? He answered "The Salmon". Ripples touching ripples. Peace on Earth and Good will to men.

Merry Christmas

Stephen and Terry Neal

*Alabama

"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after" Henry David Thoreau

January Speaker of the Month Sean Gallagher

Our very own Sean Gallagher is the author of the book "Wild Steelhead" covering over 50 years of Steelhead fishing. This should be a great presentation.

A Fly Fishing Quote:

"Poets talk about "spots of time", but it is really the fishermen who experience eternity compressed into a moment. No one can tell what a spot of time is until suddenly the whole world is a fish and the fish is gone."

~ by Norman Mclean / 1902 - 1990 ~



Alpine Fly Fishers Fly Tying Session Bonney Lake Library

January 15 - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (The Third Thursday)

February 19 - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (The Third Thursday)

Bonney Lake Library

18501 90th St E. Bonney Lake, WA 98391

From the west, get on Hwy 410, go up Elhi Hill into Bonney Lake. At the top of the hill make a left at the light onto the Sumner-Buckley Hwy. Then make at right at the next light which is Main St. (about 1 block away) and turn left onto 90th st. It is on the right hand side after the Municipal Building.

From the east, go west on Hwy 410, make a right at Main St. (across from the Chevron station) and turn right onto 90th at the Municipal Building.

The below ad is appearing in some Amato publications.

2015 WA Fly Fishing Fair

Tying
Casting
Demos



Free Seminars
Workshops

Friday & Saturday May 1-2, 2015
Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg, WA
www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

The below ad is appearing in the Northwest Fly Fishing magazine.

2015 Washington Fly Fishing Fair
Have fun and sharpen your fly fishing skills.
Free fly tying for the kids on Saturday!
Slated for May 1-2



**WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL
FLYING
THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS**

Ellensburg, gateway to the Yakima River, will host the 9th Annual Washington Fly Fishing Fair on May 1 and 2. The event features fly-tying demonstrations, casting classes, seminars on myriad topics, vendor displays, and even a nine-hole casting course that will allow you to test your skills and hone your techniques. In addition, private lessons with a certified casting instructor will be available for a fee. The WSCIFFF Awards Banquet takes place Friday night. The Fly Fishing Fair takes place at the Kittitas Valley Event Center in the Fairgrounds.

For more info visit www.washingtoncouncilfff.org



Alpine Fly Fishers
Next Meeting
January 27, 2015



2015 WSCIFFF FLY FISHING FAIR
May 1 - 2, 2015
Friday & Saturday
Ellensburg, WA



2015 IFFF FLY FISHING FAIR
August 11 - 15, 2015
Bend, Oregon




Northwest Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo
www.nwffpo.com

March 13 - 14, 2015
Albany, Oregon
Linn County Expo Center



The Washington State Council will have booths at the following shows:

Washington State Sportsmen Show in Pasco. **January 16 - 18, 2015**

Washington Sportsmen's Show in Puyallup. **January 21- 25, 2015**

At the Puyallup show we have casting demonstrations and you can get some one on one casting instruction from IFFF certified casting and master certified casting instructors.

The Fly Fishing Show in Lynwood. **February 14 & 15, 2015.**




IFFF
- 20 15 -
INTERNATIONAL FLY FISHING FAIR
FAIR
AUGUST 11 - 15, 2015
BEND - OREGON
Save the Date
50th ANNIVERSARY
RIVERHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER - BEND, OR
WWW.FEDFLYFISHERS.ORG - 503.333.8348

January / February 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><i>"Come, ye cold winds, at January's call, On whistling wings, and with white flakes bestrew the earth." ~ John Ruskin 1819 - 1900 ~</i></p>				1 January	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 AFF Fly Tying Session	16 WA Sports Show, Pasco	17 WA Sports Show, Pasco
18 WA Sports Show, Pasco	19	20	21 WA Sports Show, Puyallup	22 WA Sports Show, Puyallup	23 WA Sports Show, Puyallup	24 WA Sports Show, Puyallup
25 WA Sports Show, Puyallup	26	27 Club Meeting	28	29	30	31
1 February	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	9	10	11	12	13	14 Fly Fishing Show, Lynwood
15 Fly Fishing Show, Lynwood	16	17	18	19 AFF Fly Tying Session	20	21
22	23	24 Club Meeting	25	26	27	28

*"The day is ending, the night is descending, the marsh is frozen, the river dead.
Through clouds like ashes the red sun flashes on village windows that glimmer red....."
~ 'Afternoon in February' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 1807 - 1882 ~*

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If you have an email address allow us to send this newsletter via the internet. If your email address has changed recently, please share your new address.

Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.org

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