

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting
Will Be Tuesday

May 24

We will be meeting at the
Puerto Vallarta
215 15th St. SE
Puyallup at 6 PM



The Dead Drift - May 2016

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

You may notice that the Fly of the Month is a hopper variation. Yes, it is a little early for hoppers but only by a couple of months or so. A fly like this can be tied in a smaller size and represent a number of bugs. Picture a bee like insect with colors of yellow and black, or a beetle in mostly black, or just some juicy bug that a fish simply just 'has to have' tied in various shades of brown.

That is the nice thing about fly tying, you can introduce your own colors and variations to fit your needs or your whims. If you fish it in the right conditions, it just may catch fish. I have seen red grasshoppers in real life, but never pink ones. And yet, a huge pink Chernobyl can be a very good fly in the late summer during hopper time.

How many nymphs are blue or purple? Not many I suspect, yet a bead head Batman was one of two very successful flies on the Kootenai last summer. I have been told that a blue Superman caught a number of fish on the Clark Fork. I have tied a number of red or pink San Juan Worms, but I have also tied blue ones and purple ones and there are times on the Yakima that they can be very effective.

You just never know. So, check out the established patterns but don't be afraid to create some variations on a theme. You may stumble upon the 'secret fly'.

Gene has an outing on some great lakes over in eastern WA this month, see page 8 for more details. In the past, I have fished some of those lakes and found them to be great for warm water species. Bass and perch and those hard hitting Bluegills are really a kick on a light rod.

The Fly Fishing Expo in Coeur d'Alene is in mid-May. This will be a good show to attend if you are anywhere near Idaho around that time, or just take a nice drive over there to check out the show and do some fishing. It really isn't that far. I know fishing in Idaho is rather good, but I always seem to just drive through the state to get to Montana. One of these years I will have to stop and actually fish Idaho.

Speaking of traveling, when you are in or are passing through Ellensburg, stop off at the Worley Bugger Fly Co. Steve is adding a lot of 'walls' to hang tons of fly tying materials and all kinds of 'neat stuff' for fly fishing. He has a huge selection, I am sure the it is the best selection in E'Burg, and it is well worth your time to stop by and check it out. The shop is just north of I-90 at the Canyon Road exit.

I hope you enjoyed Marc Williamson's presentation on fishing the Fall River. Looks like an interesting river to wade fish.

PLEASE NOTE: The June picnic will again be at Stephen & Terry Neal's house (thank you Stephen & Terry) and will be on the **21st** which is the **3rd Tuesday of June**.

Good fishing.



Larry

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month

May 2012

B/C HOPPER

Published by Bob Bates

Federation of Fly Fishers - Washington Council



Opening Comments:

It is getting to that time of the year when we should think about grass hoppers. Then we will be ready when the hopper feast, for the fish, comes on. Tom Mead from Idaho Falls, ID was ahead of the game when he demonstrated this pattern at the 19th East Idaho Fly Tying Exposition, Idaho Falls April 20-21, 2012.

Many people say the best time to use hoppers is when there is a strong warm wind blowing. Some of the flying hoppers are blown into the water where the fish can eat them. Also, I have read that sometimes a hopper will get tired as it tries to fly across a body of water and drop into it. What happens when the hopper lands. Usually it hits with a splash which can attract a fish or two. So forget about the delicate dry fly cast, and put your hopper down with a noisy splash. Now it becomes important to imitate the actions of the hapless hopper. Sometimes they struggle, so wiggle the rod to make the hopper move. Sometimes they do nothing, so a drag free drift is in order. However, one hopper that I saw on the South Fork of the Snake River has me puzzled. It did a frog kick toward shore.

Try several techniques: One person hooked a nice brown with a dead drifting hopper along a small cut bank on the Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park. I am sure a dozen or more anglers walked along that cut bank each day. Another friend who fished small creeks had a different approach. He would wade or walk one bank and throw his hopper across the creek and land it on the opposite bank. Then he would hop it into the water.

Materials list:

Hook: Daiiriki 730 size 6

Thread: Black 3/0 Uni thread

Binder strip: A strip of scrap foam, 1/8th inch wide.

Body: Foam, 2mm thick, Orange

Legs: Round rubber, medium, tan

Underwing: Web wing from the fly shop and Crystal Flash

Wing: Elk natural

Collar: Deer hair, black

Indicator: McFlylon, pink

Tying Steps:

Step 1: Start the thread at the eye and wind rearward to the bend.



Step 2: Put some Zap-A-Gap on the thread winds, and secure the binder strip. Tie it down loosely as you wind from the bend of the hook to the front. Then cinch it down tightly and wind back to the bend. Run the thread to the front of the binder strip and half hitch or whip finish.



Continued on Page 3 →

Step 3: The main body foam is about 2 and 1/2 times the length of the hook, and width equal to the gape of the hook. Take hook out of vise and measure it the length of the shank. Poke the point through and slide the foam up to where the front will be. Pull the lower piece of foam back and get a visual as to where the end of the body is. Poke the point of the hook through foam again. Put hook back into vise.



Step 4: Put Zap-A-Gap on binder strip and both inside edges of the foam. Fold it over and glue the two parts together. You will probably get the glue on your fingers. The main thing is to keep moving your fingers. From time to time take them completely off the foam. Zap- A-Gap or other superglues can bind you to the fly.



Step 5: Take thread from hook shank over the top of the foam to the far side, and make a segment with two or so thread winds perpendicular to the hook. Move the thread from the first segment over the top of the foam to where the next segment will be. Repeat two or so winds to make the second segment. Repeat for the third segment. Move the thread over the top of the third segment to where the second segment was formed. Make one thread wind there and move thread over the top of the foam to where the first segment was formed.



Step 6:

Now a little trimming is in order. With a razor blade trim the points in front where the foam was folded back. Be careful to avoid cutting the thread. Carefully with a razor blade trim the back of the foam. Start at top above the back of the hook and trim downward as shown above. With scissors or razor trim the back corners of the foam tapering the body a little. See Step 8 picture.

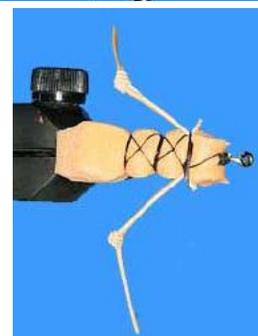


Step 7:

Remove three strands of rubber together and put an overhand knot in them. Sometimes you get a right leg and other times you get a left leg, so tie a bunch. Put the knot just past the rear segment. (The thread should be where the first segment was formed.) Put onethread wind to hold one leg while you get the other one ready. Tie on the second leg. Pull on thread to lock in legs. Trim excess rubber in front.



Step 8: Top view of Step 7.

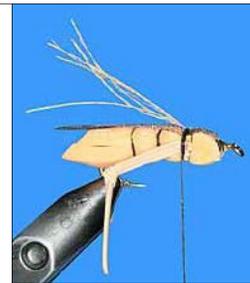


Step 9:

Tie a gray web wing on this orange body fly. Make the width about 1 and 1/2 times the gape of the hook so it rolls over on the sides. Have the length about to the rear end of the body. Tie it on top of the hook at the segment where the legs were tied in.



Step 10: Choose two or three strands of Crystal Flash, double over thread and secure. Make them longer than the body.



Step 11: Select a bunch of elk. Yearling is especially good. Clean out under fur and stack. Clean it a second time to make sure it is clean. Put bunch on top and hold with a loose wind, then a tighter one and then the tightest one the thread permits. Wind thread through the butts but hang onto the bunch so it doesn't spin. Then trim all the butts. Go back over the butts again with thread.



Step 12: Move thread forward and build up a thread base behind the eye. Leave thread at front of body. Stack and clean deer hair for collar. Measure the deer hair to 3/4ths shank length, then hold it tightly by the tips and cut excess with sharp scissors. Slide cut ends over the eye making sure it is around hook. Put one loose thread wind over deer hair. Tighten a little, then put another tighter wind around and finally the tightest wind. Get the hair bound in tightly between the body and the eye. Leave the thread at front of body. Tom says to finess the hair back as evenly as possible. Then put thread winds around deer hair to form bullet head and collar.



Step 13: Take two pieces of rubber about 1 1/2 inches long and loosely tie them on top of the hook. Pull one set of legs to the far side of the hook and pull the other legs to the near side of hook. Put a couple of tight thread winds to set the legs. This makes them flair outward.



Step 14: Tie on the indicator piece. Put on a couple half hitches, and then clip off the collar hair under the fly to expose the body. Use a Sharpe or other waterproof pen and mark up the legs. Just put dots or lines on them. There are three pieces of rubber on each rear leg. Pick one that points down and cut off the other two. For the last step, put a drop of superglue on top to lock the thread in.



Closing Comments:

Tom ties this in colors other than orange: Yellow body with a yellow deer hair collar and tan body with a natural deer collar. These are the most productive colors for him in southern Idaho and portions of Montana. Some people tie a green body hopper, so check your hoppers and tie to match them. I found Flyon in my local fly shop. It had the shop label on it, but it looks and feels the same as what Tom used on the hopper.

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

Heart Beat of Life

Our living room windows are open to the night; a light storm driven wind rattles and vibrates the venetian blinds. Thunder, its sound and depth muted by distance, rumbles like a subwoofer; it is a counter point to the light show in the billowy clouded southern night sky. Each flash illuminates and freezes the spinning windmill blades. I'm setting in the cheap seats with a million dollar view. Less than a month into spring and we are already experiencing day time temps exceeding 80 degrees Fahrenheit. With the high day time temps and that cool mass of the Pacific and Puget Sound to the west, we are experiencing a summer thunder storm. Truly life is wonderful. As I sit here letting the beauty wash over me my mind floats out among the stars and back to earth and the Salish Sea.

Just under 40 years ago, a pin prick in time, a small step was taken by mankind into the expanding universe. The Voyager Space Probes were launched into our planetary system to reach for the stars. I grew up in the early age of space exploration; mankind was taking baby steps into the vast unknown. Our journey to the stars fired my imagination and I followed each advance and setback as an avid spectator. Like the beat of a butterfly's wing that changes the world, my life was touched by the advances of science and discovery. In 1976 a beautiful ball of energy came into my life, Terry and I had a baby girl, we gave her the name Andrea Nicole, we called her Nicole which we promptly shortened to Co, we were cuckoo for CoCo, to steal a line from a popular ad at that time.



Our bi-centennial Girl came into our lives at the same time that a planetary alignment would allow for a grand tour of Jupiter-Saturn - Pluto and Jupiter - Uranus - Neptune, with gravitational assists. This alignment occurs once every 175 years, an auspicious time for our daughter and space exploration. In August and September of 1977 Voyager II and I were launched from Cape Canaveral. Our little girls' life, measures the time that the Voyager Space craft's have been exploring the universe. While they flew by and explored Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune and Saturn's moon Titan. Our daughter has gone from toddler to bicycles, cars and design school. In 2012 Voyager I entered interstellar space and Voyager II is in the heliosheath - the outermost layer of the heliosphere, where the solar wind is compressed by the interstellar medium. During those years, Nicole forged her own path in life, married and is in the midst of raising four boys; her boys orbit around her like our earth rotates around the sun.

There is much wonder, beauty and sciences built into the Voyager Program and you owe it to yourself to explore the wealth of knowledge available in mankind's journey to the stars. That is a path to walk that I will leave to you. With a few keystrokes and a web browser you can go into the cosmos and visit our solar system and the stars. In all the wonder and science packed into the Voyager's program and mission story, there is one item that most intrigues me. It is a very small part on the Golden Record a massage in a bottle launched into the cosmic ocean.

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The contents of the Golden Record were selected for NASA by a committee chaired by Carl Sagan of Cornell University. The committee assembled 115 images and a diversity of natural sounds; examples are surf, wind and thunder, birds, whales, and other animals. To this they added musical selections from diverse cultures and eras, and spoken greetings from Earth-people in fifty-five languages, and printed messages from President Carter and U.N. Secretary General Waldheim. That one thing included on this message to the stars that resonates the most with me, is the beating of our human heart.

From conception to birth it fills us, it comforts us, and it connects us. Doctors use it to gauge our health. It calms a distraught child. It brings us peace and the feeling of safety while nestled in our parents loving arms. When lovers entwine heart to heart it is our connection to each other. Two hearts beat as one is a universal language that needs no translation, our heart beat is life. To hold ones heart in your hand. The heart symbol is the universal sign for love and caring. When I hold my wife, daughter, son and grandchildren close and feel their hearts beat, the cares and worries of life are put in perspective. Knowing that the human heart beat has been sent out to the stars gives me hope for humanity. To know us, you need to listen to our hearts.

That to me is monumental; the wisdom of those individuals entrusted with communicating the knowing of us to the stars is truly wondrous. As Carl Sagan has noted "The spacecraft will be encountered and the record played only if there are advanced space-faring civilizations in interstellar space. But the launching of this bottle into the cosmic ocean says something very hopeful about life on this planet." Yes the beat of the Butterflies wings have set in motion mankind's journey to the stars. Our lives are intertwined with the exploration of the Voyager Probes. The heart beat recorded on the record represents all of mankind but for me it is the heart beat of my children and grand children and they are traveling to the stars.

Last week a dear friend loaned me his beach home; thank you Donna and Steve. Terry would be down in California visiting our son and his family so she could not go, but my daughter and the twins could make it. So on Wednesday night we took the Ferry to Whidbey Island and some much needed beach time. We explored a small part of the Salish Sea.



The Salish Sea is a geographical area named after the coastal Native Americans whom called this area home. The Salish Sea extends from the north end of the Strait of Georgia and Desolation Sound to the south end of the Puget Sound and west to the mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, including the inland marine waters of southern British Columbia, Canada and northern Washington, USA.

These independently named bodies of water form a single estuarine ecosystem.

The Salish Sea is linked to the Pacific Ocean primarily via the Strait of Juan de Fuca and is enclosed by Vancouver Island and the Olympic Peninsula. In addition to the Gulf and San Juan Islands the watershed contains the lower Fraser River Delta and the Puget Lowlands as well as the Hood Canal, the Tacoma Narrows and Deception Pass. Over 7 million people live within the drainage basin of the Salish. In addition to the human population, the ecosystem is home to over 200 different species of fish, over 100 different species of bird, 20 different species of marine mammal and over 3,000 different species of invertebrates.

Nicole, Darren, Colin and I spent two days walking a few of its beaches and towns as we tried to assimilate its beauty and wonder into our souls. Each journey has many wonderful moments here are two that made me smile with my whole being, as I sit here watching the lightning storm through our living room window, thinking of stars and heart beats.

On the second morning of our adventure, I was sitting in the corner of the beach house reading and listening to music, when I noticed Colin's stealthy approach. When I voiced my notice he hopped over the back of the couch, still at some distance from me, as we talked he sidled ever closer till he was curled up in my lap. Darren had also approached stealthily but once noticed his approach was a little more direct; he came up and sat across from us on the window bench before crawling onto my lap. The three of us cuddled together sharing our heart beats. I can only say that it was the most wonderful feeling in the world to be held and to hold my grandsons'.



On our last evening together the boys put on bathing suits and played in the beach mud and water. Sand castles were built, holes were dug and mayhem was inflicted on Saratoga Strait. My daughter and I sat amongst the drift wood barricade watching her boys be boys. To say that the twins have a deep connection is just a bit of an understatement. Amongst the Saratoga Strait mayhem they agreed to have a mud fight; they built fortifications to stand behind as they slug mud in each other's direction. When they discovered that they were too far apart to make mud contact they both agreed to stand in front of their fortifications, when this proved to be still too far for positive contact they moved closer together. When the mud finally made contact their laughter and giggles reached to the stars. Nicole and I safe from the fray, belly laughed together to watch the joy that bubbled from the boys and their mud covered bodies. When all the mudslinging was completed, outside showers were called for and the laughter continued throughout the clean up. I sure do love my boys.

When life throws a curve this line seems to pop into my mind. "Watch them when they start to twist and hold on tight, with a leather fist." Good advice for the rodeo of life. The unexpected is what most often shows up on this path of life we walk. This article is dedicated to Patrica and Jeff Trafican, they are both retired teachers having dedicated their lives to the highest calling of man, that is to serve other men. They have guided a lot of the youth of Fresno on the path of learning, exploration and discovery. But right now the path they walk is a difficult one. My wish for them "may the path you walk lead from darkness to the light. Know that you are loved, respected and all of our payers and thoughts walk beside you and know that the Human Heart Beat is on a journey to the stars.

“Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after”

Henry David Thoreau



The Fly Fishing Enthusiast's Online Magazine

'The Fraternity of Fly Fishers'

I've always loved hardware stores, something about being dragged along with my dad when I was a kid when he needed to pick up something; absolutely fascinating places in the 'old days,' Disney-level entertainment today.

So there I was waiting for my husband Trav to pick up whatever he needed and I'm just looking around to see what's new at the Lowe's store in Bozeman Montana. And pow – there it is! The perfect answer to Montana's cold. Especially if one is a fly fisher who thinks fishing in the winter is even a possibility. That probably isn't going to be even a possibility for me personally since I've given up on winter in Montana and instead opt out of it entirely by living for six months of the year in sunny Arizona. (and yes it really is)

There was the day however, and a lot of them, when I and my late husband JC thought plodding, running, jumping, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing were all wonderful things to do in the Montana winter. Of course, we were a lot younger then. We hunted for nearly everything that was legal to shoot, and fished everything that wasn't frozen solid. Oops, sorry I forgot about ice fishing, and yes we did that too. All without the benefit of the marvelous discovery I saw at Lowes.

I've probably kept you in suspense too long already, so here it is: a heated, battery operated polyester/spandex jacket! Yes, I know there have been heated booties for ice fishing (or whatever you wished) but not a jacket. They had one showing in a box and it was very nice; black and lined, it reminded me of a black Chota jacket I have – or the older Simms one that I've had for a number of years, but that one isn't lined.

This one is made by Kobalt which is the 'house name' for Lowes products. It comes in four sizes including XX-Large, offers 3 temperature settings and EZ on-off and a quick warm up feature. Did I mention water resistant, and with four pockets? It also comes with its own Lithium-ion battery and charger included in its price. This sure looks like a winner to me. The price is also very fair at \$69.98.

I think if I was manufacturing fishing clothing I would sure be interested in taking a look at this one. I could make a lot of fly fishers very happy – and warm! I don't personally know from experience how long it will keep you warm, but if I was still living here during cold weather I would surely find out.

Just a heads up and something else to watch for; a new series of articles by Tom Travis. Tom lives here in Livingston in the summer and, as some of you know, is a very well-known and respected guide/outfitter. He guides on the Yellowstone and other major waters as well as the local Spring Creeks and Yellowstone Park waters. He 'winters' in Sebastian, Florida, and does some serious writing for other magazines over the winter as well as working on something entirely new for us – a series of Chronicles, including Spring Creek, Fresh Water and Saltwater too. He showed up here last night with several very large fly boxes full of flies he has been working on for these series; really neat stuff, including body-less streamers and soft-tube flies for salt and fresh water.

As long as I'm giving Tom a plug here, I will mention I have recently been re-reading the book Fly fishing the YELLOWSTONE River An Anglers' Guide which he wrote in conjunction with Rod Walinchus. (Rod also lives and guides these days in Florida.) Published back in 1995 by Pruett Publishing, the book never received the kind of attention it deserved in my opinion because the following two years after publication were the big floods on the Yellowstone and the 'dog,' as it is sometimes called here, wasn't much in anyone's mind as a premier place to fish.

The book is still around, look for it, ISBNB 0-87108-861-4. It truly is a terrific guide and includes the Yellowstone in the park and all the sections of the river to Billings. There are tons of detailed drawings of the flies you need along with instruction on how and where to fish them. Do not forget the 'why' is in there too.

If you want a fast primer on the dog, start at page 301 which begins a chapter called "The Best of the River".

"We are often asked where and when we fish over the course of the season. What follows is a month-by-month account of where we would fish if we had our druthers for an average year. Obviously, there are many variables, such as water flows, weather patterns, and so on, that are different from year to year and will affect our choices. We will offer our opinions of the best places to fish over the course of what could be called an average year. Some months offer a wide range of opportunities, so we will offer only our mutually agreed upon first two choices. Yes, we have had some minor discussions, and we each have reluctantly compromised on occasion in an attempt to offer you accurate selections....."

Thus begins twelve monthly selections for your fishing pleasure. Delightful stuff!

At this point it should be spring in most places, and you, providing you aren't recovering from some physical problem, should have your fly boxes stuffed to the breaking point. The reels should be full of cleaned lines, and a nice selection of leaders ready to tie on at the first notice of an interested nose poking up from your favorite stream.

Get out there and fish! ~ LadyFisher

Evergreen Reservoir Campout

Date: Tues – Thurs, May 10-12th, 2016

Time: All day

Contact Name: Gene Jackson

Contact information: gene33124@yahoo.com, 206-618-8989

Outing Description: Dry camping on the Evergreen Reservoir shores. For those that don't want to camp, Quincy is the closest city to the reservoir. I plan on heading over on Tuesday morning and will have camp setup in time to fish the afternoon/evening hatch! I plan to fish several of the lakes around Evergreen Reservoir including Stan Coffin Lake, Burke Lake, and Quincy Lake. If I can find another willing soul, I would like to hike down and try Dusty Lake. It is about a ¼ mile hike but that is supposed to be where the big trout hang out. I will likely spend Thursday night (for the evening hatch on Burke Lake) and head out on Friday morning.

Who is invited: Alpine Fly Fishers members and their guests. Please shoot me an email if you are interested in attending.

Associated Special Events: I plan on having a pot luck dinner on Wednesday evening.

Type of fishing available: Bank fishing, non-combustible motor boats, and motorized boats

Target Fish: Bass, Trout, and Walleye

Other Fish: Carp, Tiger Musky, & Black Crappie

Special Requirements: WA Discover Pass or WDFW Vehicle Access Pass is required.

Directions: Off of I-90, Eastbound, take Exit 149. Turn left on WA-281. After 3.6 miles, turn left onto Road 3 NW. Follow that road for 2.5 miles to Evergreen Reservoir (just past Burke Lake). This is the WDFW water access site, Evergreen East.

Grant County: Lake Acreage: 247.5 / Elevation: 1,204 feet / Warmwater emphasis / Two-Pole Fishing Allowed / WDFW Water Access Sites: •Evergreen East (WDFW) or •Evergreen Res. Southwest (WDFW)





The Fly Fishing Enthusiast's Online Magazine
'The Fraternity of Fly Fishers'

There are several of us at AFF who belong to FAOL. It is a great site for fly fishers, lots of helpful information and many fly tying recipes and articles about all aspects of fly fishing and fly fishing gear. Check it out.

www.flyanglersonline.com

A Fly Fishing Quote:

“And finally, I fish not because I regard fishing as being terribly important, but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant, and not nearly so much fun.”

~ John Volker ~

Alpine Fly Fishers Meetings in 2016

May 24

June 21 (picnic) (Please note: This is the **3rd** Tuesday of June, not the 4th!!!)

July & August (No Meetings)

September 27 — October 25 — November 22 — December 13

Club Fundraiser — New Fly Rod Raffle / Reel Board!!!

Your Choice! Pick One of Three Fly Rods

I have three (3) brand new St. Croix fly rods. **The winner of this next fly rod raffle board will have their pick of one of the three fly rods.** The fly rods are:

St. Croix Avid – 9 foot, 4 weight, 4 piece. (moderate action)

St. Croix Avid – 9 foot, 7 weight, 4 piece. (moderate action)

St. Croix Imperial - 10 foot, 6 weight, 4 piece. (fast action)

The reel won with one of the above rods will be matched in size to the rod.

The Avid Series: Moderate-action rods featuring IPC® technology, they load progressively down the blank, making them ideal for protecting light tippets. Their beautiful pearl green finish makes them equally as pleasing to the eye. (Quote from St. Croix website).

Imperial Series: Handcrafted at our factory in Park Falls, Wisconsin, its dynamic blend of two graphite materials provides a light-weight and fast-action rod built for a variety of fishing environments. (Quote from the St. Croix website).

This will be a 60 square fly rod raffle board with each square selling for \$5.

A winner will be picked when the board sells out. **At the April meeting, we sold 39 of the 60 squares, that is 65% of the board! If we don't sell out the board at the May meeting, I bet we will at the June 21st picnic!! Then someone will have another great rod to fish with during the summer.**

2016 NWYCFFAcademy — Request For Assistance

I am happy to report that we are going to have another Academy again this year with 20 boys and girls. I am also happy to report that all of our instructors from the past years are going to return, and we are blessed to have some of the best in our area. What we will need now is support from the fly fishing community to help the kids at the River and Ponds. The ponds that we are going to fish are in Elma and Graham. We lost our ponds in Nisqually. Folks that are willing to make sure the kids are safe and help with their fishing. If you would like to help, please call Jim Brosio @ 360-943-9947, Tom VanGelder @253-261-8890 or Mike Clancy @253-278-0061. The fishing is in the early morning and in the evening after dinner starting Monday evening. The event is June 19-25 at The Gwinwood Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Mike Clancy, Co-Director

IFFF Youth Fly Fishing Camp 2016

Livingston, Montana

August 2 & 3, 2016

By Mike Clancy

Do you know of any youth that are interested in learning about fly fishing? If you do, then plan on signing them up for the annual International Fly Fishing Fair Youth Camp. We are excited to be in Livingston, MT. for our 51th anniversary and have the opportunity to teach youth about our sport of fly fishing!

This year's Youth Camp will be an exciting two-day program, full of learning, fun, and fishing. It is designed for ages 8 -17 and will offer a wide variety of angling and aquatic education topics. The first day classroom portion of the Youth Camp will be held at the high school in Livingston, the casting will be conducted on the school grounds. We have reserved a pond and a shelter for the fishing day of the camp.

Folks interested in volunteering for this event, please go to the Fly Fishing Fair tab at our website www.fedflyfishers.org to sign up. Volunteers will be needed to insure the youth are safe and having fun. A number of the youth will be new to fly fishing and guidance will be appreciated.

The camp will begin both days at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 pm, with a lunch break (lunch included) around noon. Anyone with special dietary needs please attend to those individually. Please make mention of any food allergy or diet restrictions when registering.

Instructional topics will include entomology, fly tying, equipment and accessories, explanation of the balanced system, angler ethics, fishing safety, abeyance to regulations, catch and release, fly casting and last but not least, FISHING! I am a registered Fly Fishing Merit Badge counselor with the Pacific Harbors Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Any scouts interested in obtaining credit for requirements, please bring your own blue card and I'd be happy to sign off those that are earned.

Be prepared for inclement weather. Rain may not prevent continuing the program, but should high winds or lightening be present, we may have to make alternative arrangements. Participants need to bring a good hat/cap, sunglasses, sun screen, safety glasses for eye protection and a water bottle, along with any rescue medications needed. Be sure to indicate any health issues or concerns also when registering. I appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility to adapt to whatever conditions exist. I'm sure we'll have a great time and a good experience.

Class will be limited to the first 20 registrants for each day. All youth 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Plans for transportation are being looked into, kids will ride via private vehicles to the fishing. Everyone will be notified of transportation plans prior to the camp.

If anyone has any questions of me in the meantime, feel free to email me at mtclancy39@comcast.net or call my cell phone 253-278-0061. I'm looking forward to meeting our participants and another great IFFF Youth Camp experience.

Tight Lines

Mike Clancy, Life Member IFFF

Member WSCIFFF Council

Co-Director, NWYCFF Academy

Approval of Hatchery Programs

On Friday, after a rigorous multi-year approval process, NOAA Fisheries announced their approval of five early winter steelhead hatchery programs in the Puget Sound area. This will allow the release of over a half million juvenile hatchery steelhead into the Dungeness, Nooksack, Stillaguamish, Skykomish and Snoqualmie Rivers, most of which have already been released. The approval process included input from scientists, biologists and other experts, as well as extensive input from the public. Not surprisingly, more than 1,700 letters of support have been submitted to our federal agencies during this process.

We are pleased to see the long awaited approval of these hatchery programs. Washington State has been a leader in implementing hatchery reform and selective fishing practices to help conserve wild salmonid populations, while sustaining the economic, social, and conservation benefits of recreational fishing. We will now turn our attention to supporting the approval of 62 Mitchell Act hatchery programs on the Columbia River, which are the most recent target of yet another anti-hatchery lawsuit. Unfortunately, these lawsuits aren't based on conservation, but rather on procedural loopholes. We will provide additional updates on this lawsuit over the coming months.

Important Changes Coming to the IFFF

April 5 - An Important Date!

Effective April 5 important changes are coming to the IFFF. They include a launch of the new IFFF website, a new version of the electronic Flyfisher and changes to the membership categories. Please read the following information carefully.

At our Board of Directors meeting in Bend, Oregon several important Federation initiatives were unanimously approved. Some of those initiatives included simplifying operational processes, making sure we cover our operational costs and improving service to members.

Over the last several months, a committee of the Board of Directors (BOD) and Council Presidents diligently studied ways to simplify membership categories while improving service. That membership committee was led by Tom Gadacz and included myself, Burr Tupper, Carl Johnson, Bob Shirley and Rhonda Sellers as staff support. Subsequently the recommendations of the committee were approved at the January BOD meeting.

We believe these recommendations, implemented over the next few years, will result in operational cost savings and a net revenue increase to the Federation. Most importantly, the recommendations will ultimately result in improved service to our membership.

The changes are significant. We have reduced the number of membership categories from 17 to 7 and general memberships will include the primary member, spouse or cohabitating partner and children under 18 years of age. Lifetime memberships may include a spouse or cohabitating partner. All Federation members, domestic and international will pay the same \$35 membership fee. Senior members will still get a discounted rate of \$25 and students 22 and younger will pay \$20. The membership category simplification will include an upgraded, electronic copy of the Flyfisher magazine.

The IFFF staff has been working hard to not only update the website, but also reformat the Flyfisher magazine to make it easily accessible and readable on tablet and mobile phone devices. A printed copy of the Flyfisher will remain available to all domestic members for a subscription rate of \$10 per year to cover printing and mailing costs. International members who want a paper copy of the magazine can subscribe for \$20 per year. All members will be given the opportunity to subscribe to the printed magazine during their regular renewal cycle. If you are a lifetime member, you will still receive a printed copy of the magazine unless you opt for an electronic copy. We will continue to provide paper copies of the magazine to all Councils and clubs for special-event distribution.

In the spirit of conservation, I want to reduce the amount of paper I consume and believe this is an important goal for the Federation to strive toward. Therefore I choose the electronic copy even though I'm a lifetime member and was entitled to a paper copy.

There are a few other important changes. We all celebrate our veterans' service to our country! The Federation will now offer a significant discount to ALL veterans who served honorably. The new subscription rate for all veterans will be \$25. The Federation will continue to support annual, free electronic subscriptions for special outreach programs offered to disabled veterans. We thank all veterans for their service and want them to know it!

Lifetime members will now be allowed to include their spouse or cohabitating partner in the membership category. The lifetime membership fee will now be \$1000. For a \$1500 contribution, lifetime members will receive a custom fly rod of their choosing!

We are very happy to announce the Federation has reinstated the affiliate club category. Already, we've received interest from a number of clubs who left the Federation when the affiliate club category was dropped several years ago. A new fee schedule has been developed for new affiliate clubs. The goal here is to broaden our reach and encourage relationships with those who love to fly fish!

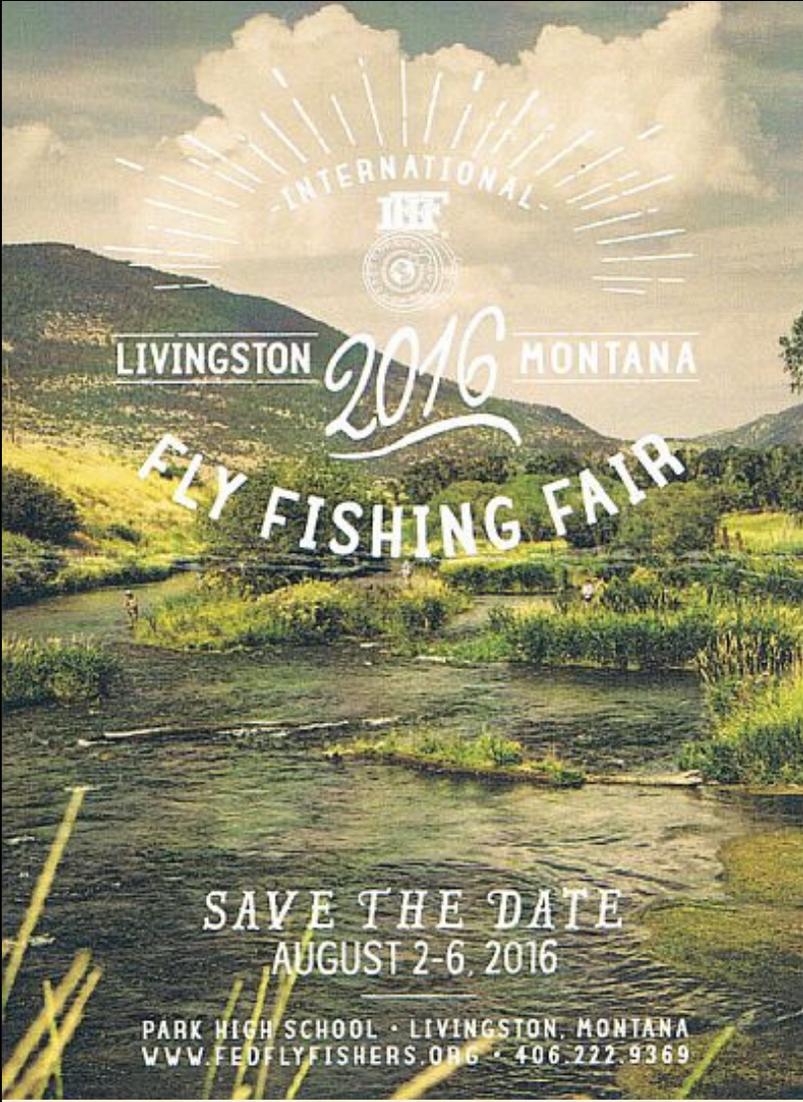
The most important issue we must address is improving service to our membership. A common refrain when I reach out to clubs and councils is the question "what is the Federation doing for me?" This is an important question and we believe The Fly Fishing Academy will be a step toward improving the depth and quality of service to our members. We have several members working very hard in developing the Academy with Molly Semenik leading this effort. Molly and her team have developed a business plan and have committees defining curriculum in four areas - fly tying, fly casting, conservation and fly fishing skills. The goal is to develop a world-class curriculum and training, including instructors' guides, all easily accessible to instructors around the world.

Additionally, the Federation will regularly provide news articles for all councils to distribute to clubs for their newsletters, websites and Facebook pages. We also want to develop a "speakers' bureau" that clubs can access to identify qualified fly fishing or conservation presenters for club meetings. Again, the idea is to develop an easily accessible, electronic system where local clubs can identify a range of possible speakers for club meetings. We will also be taking steps to provide more assistance to Council-sponsored, fly-fishing events.

Change is not always easy but we think these are very exciting times for the Federation. We certainly appreciate your support as we move forward. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you have other ideas on how to improve service to the membership.

Sincerely,

Len Zickler, Spokesman IFFF Chairman of the Board Committee



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Western Rocky Mountain Council of the I.F.F.F. Presents
 2016 Coeur d'Alene, ID
Fly Fishing Expo
 FREE ADMISSION
 May 13th & 14th at the Best Western, Coeur d'Alene
 Friday 10am - 5pm • Saturday 8am - 4pm

Western Rocky Mountain Council's
2016 Coeur d'Alene
Fly Fishing Expo
May 13 & 14

May / June 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 May	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Evergreen Reservoir Campout	11 Evergreen Reservoir Campout	12 Evergreen Reservoir Campout	13 FF Expo CdA	14 FF Expo CdA
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Club Meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	"It was such a spring day as breathes into a man an ineffable yearning, a painful sweetness, a longing that makes him stand motionless, looking at the leaves or grass, and fling out his arms to embrace he knows not what." - John Galsworthy			

So mellow the gentle breath of June day breeze, The birds rejoicing on the leafy trees, And dappled trout in pool bed of the stream, bask in the sun their spotted skins a gleam."
Francis Duggan, June

			1 June	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Club Picnic	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	"Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June." - Al Bernstein	

Alpine Fly Fishers' 'The Dead Drift' is Published monthly by the Alpine Fly Fishers Club
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