

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday

September 28, 2010

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup



Charter
Club



The Dead Drift – September 2010

In this issue:

Page 2

FFF
Fly Of The Month
Red Headed Stepchild

Page 3

Fly of Month Cont.
Key Dates in Future

Page 4

AFF Outings
Quote of the Month
Volunteers

Page 5

Adams Dry Fly
The Adams Family

Page 6

Calendar
Editor Information
New Mailing Address
Club's Board
of Directors

Presidents Line

By Larry Gibbs

September already, this year is really flying by, must mean I am having too much fun as your president.

I am sitting here in my motel room in St. Regis, Montana, waiting for tomorrow morning. I will be drifting the river for two days with Brooks Sanford, owner of the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle Fly Shop, catching what I hope will be many healthy trout. This is my time to unwind.. I spent the last week of August at the national FFF Fly Fishing Fair/Conclave in West Yellowstone, Montana. While I was extremely busy being the auction coordinator, I still managed to have lots and lots of fun.

One item I was very proud to take to West Yellowstone was a Sage Z-Axis 6 wt rod that Tyler Speir and I donated. I bought the blank and Tyler created the masterpiece. He did a fantastic job in building this rod, making it a one of a kind fly rod. I wish I could have shown it to all of you at our September meeting but that was not to be. I had this rod in the Live Auction and everyone who saw it loved it, in fact, the bidding for this masterpiece got hot and heavy and the rod sold for **\$1000**. How about that!! Way to go Tyler, you created a great rod.

If you have never gone to one of these, you owe it to yourself to do just that. You can start out on a slightly smaller scale by attending our WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg this next April 29 & 30, 2011. We may be smaller than the national event but we still have lots of fun things for everyone to do. You will see an article in this newsletter about volunteers. Well, the same holds true for the Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. Without the support of our club members we would not be able to have such great events.

We will have a guest speaker at our October meeting but I thought that for our September meeting we would sit around in a group and tell everyone of our summer exploits while using the rod and fly and any other great adventures you may have had. We all enjoy a good story.

I guess it is time to put this newsletter to bed and send it to Steve so you can read it. I have to clean my fly lines and stretch them out, getting ready for a great day of fishing.

See you all at the meeting later this month.

Good fishing.

Larry

FFF

Fly of the Month

Red Headed Stepchild

September 2006 FFF Fly of the month

By Bob Bates

RED HEADED STEPCHILD

By Bob Bates



Ellen Clark from Ft. Washakie, Wyoming demonstrated this simple, effective fly at the 2006 FFF Conclave in Bozeman, MT. She fishes it using a floating line and an indicator. Depending on stream depth and condition a little weight can be added to the leader. One of the usual guidelines for stream fishing is to make the indicator to fly distance twice as long as the water depth being fished. Strike if the indicator does anything strange like stop, move sideways, move upstream or sink. I might be a snag, but it could be the fish of a lifetime. It looks like it would be a pretty good stillwater chironomid pattern also. Adjust the leader so the fly hangs near the bottom or just above the weeds. Usually the indicator will go down when you are watching an eagle or pouring a cup of coffee. These pictures were taken as she tied the fly.

Materials & Equipment:

Hook: Daiichi 1130, Tiemco TMC 2487, sizes 14 to 18

Thread: Red, 6/0

Body: Hare's ear and Antron or beaver and Antron, gray/tan

Hackle: Gray Indian hen neck, partridge, or grouse

Head: Red thread

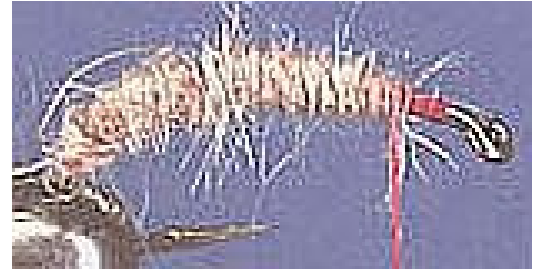
Step 1: If you want a barbless fly smash down the barb with smooth jaw pliers before you tie the fly. Line the hook to make a heavy thread base.



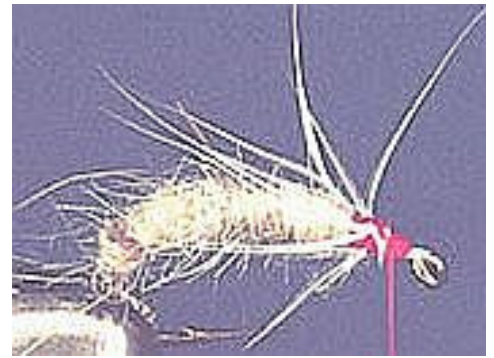
Continued on Page 3 →

FFF Fly of the Month Continued from Page 2

Step 2: Put a small amount of dubbing on the thread at one time. Roll it in one direction between the thumb and first finger to make the dubbing noodle. A little dubbing wax on the thread might be needed to make the dubbing stick. Wrap the body starting well around the bend and moving forward to within about two eye lengths of the eye.



Step 3: Strip off the fuzzy fibers. Attach hackle by the butt and take only one turn, secure and trim excess. Wind thread rearward over barbs to make them point backward over body.



Step 4: Build up the head a little, and complete with two whip finishes. Apply a liberal coat of head cement.



There is a lot of movement in the fibers as the fly moves through the water. That is what makes this simple fly catch a lot of fish. Try this pattern in your waters, and you might be surprised.

AFF 2010 Club Outings

By Bob Alston

1. **Montana and the Clark Fork River.** This spring, summer and fall Larry Gibbs will be going to St. Regis, Montana to do drifts on the Clark Fork River. He will announce the dates at the AFF club meetings and if anyone is interested in coming along, please let him know. We may be able to stay at a house right on the river or if that is not available, then we will stay at the Super 8 Motel in St. Regis. You will use the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle shop for guided drift boat trips. This is owned by Brooks Sanford. Larry would need even numbers of people to go along with him, either 2 or 4 or 6 or 8. Big Browns, Rainbows, Cutthroats and Cuttbows and some large Whitefish, that is what the Clark Fork produces. Most of these drifts will be for two days of drifts but a third day is always an option.

2. **Lone Lake on Whidbey Island.** This will be a winter fishing trip in November, December or January. The best way to fish is to use red San Juan Worms just 6 inches off the bottom. Steve Egge has graciously offered his cabin as a place to stay if he is available to go and if you want to make this an overnigher. This will be a Saturday and or Sunday trip. Due to the traffic through Seattle and up to Everett, the weekend is the best time to fish this lake. You drive to Mukilteo on Saturday morning, take the ferry to Whidbey Island and head for the lake. You can then either head back that afternoon, taking the ferry back to Mukilteo or stay the night at Steve's cabin and fish again on Sunday, then head back Sunday afternoon. The fishing is usually fairly good, sometimes hot, sometimes cold.

3. **Yakima River.** You can wade fish in the lower Canyon or go on drift boat floats had have the best chance of getting into some good fish. I use the Worley Bugger Fly Co. as my guide service when I fish the Yakima. Decent fishing in the summer, good fishing in the fall and winter and early spring.

Quote Of The Month

The Last Cast

THE ANGLER'S APOLOGY

*Just one cast more! how many a year
Beside how many a pool and stream,
Beneath the falling leaves and sere,
I've sighed, reeled up, and dreamed my dream!*

By Andrew Lang — 1844—1912



As taken from A Summer On The Test by John Waller Hills — 1924

Volunteers — The Backbone Of Our Organizations

By Larry Gibbs, Auction Coordinator for the FFF and WSCFFF

I am sitting here in St. Regis, Montana, waiting to go fishing for the next two days on the Clark Fork River. For the past nine days I have been in West Yellowstone, Montana at the FFF Fly Fishing Fair/Conclave. Fishing the Clark Fork with Brooks Sanford of the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle fly shop is how I unwind after spending over a week of 18 to 20 hour days being the auction coordinator.

I would not be able to do this work without the much needed and appreciated help from other volunteers. I was blessed with some fantastic volunteers from North America. They came from Canada, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Montana, Missouri, and I am sure I missed some states, but they came to volunteer to help me out to put on a great auction and raffle and to help out the FFF so we could have a great Conclave. Because of them we were able to have a successful fund raising event. I would not be able to do this if we didn't have volunteers.

Again, THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Adams Dry Fly

By Gene Rea

— Taken from the Pikes Peak Flyfishers Newsletter —

From the FFF July/August 2010 ClubWire

The venerable Adams is one of those American fly patterns that can trace its origins all the way back to 1922, originated by Len Halladay of Michigan at the request of his close friend Charles Adams.

Where the Pheasant Tail represents the nymphal stage of the Baetis, the Adams generally represents the adult (dun) stage of the BWO. The wonderful thing about the Adams is that it can also be used to represent other adult species of insects such as midges...it is that versatile. Other variations of the Adams include egg-bearing females, trailing-shuck emergers, thorax ties, and CDC-hackled Adams. Not too shabby for a fly that it is thought was originally tied to imitate a caddis.

The original version tied by Len Halladay had a down wing. There are two methods presently used in the tying of the Adams, the traditional style with the hackle perpendicular to the hook shank and the parachute style with the hackle parallel to the hook shank wrapped around a wing-post. The method you choose is dependent upon your personal preference, but I am an advocate of the parachute style for the following, and probably the most compelling reason... it presents a more natural profile of the actual insect in the surface film.

With the traditional style the fly actually rides above the surface film of the water. The fly makes minimal contact with the surface film as the hackle and the tail support the weight of the fly on the surface. I believe the fish sees a more distorted picture of the fly. With the parachute method the fly actually lays flush with the surface film presenting more of a natural appearance to the fish. The horizontal hackle (legs), tail and abdomen of the fly are supported in the surface film. What the fish sees is the same silhouette as presented by the natural and I believe this makes it more appealing to the fish and more effective than the traditional style.

The traditional style has its advantages too. I think it is more practical when fishing in rougher water such as riffles because it tends to be a little more buoyant and it is easier to see in the rougher water. Since the fish doesn't get as good of a look at the fly as they do in calmer water it makes no difference that it doesn't lay flush in the film. But, in calmer water, you would do well to go with the parachute. On those days when the fish are rising to midge dries you can use a parachute Adams in sizes #20 - #26 with light 6X to 7X tippet and do very well on them. When the fish are feeding on the surface you can throw a #20 - #22 parachute Adams with a smaller emerger dropped off the bend that rides just under the surface film. I call this double jeopardy... regardless of whether the fish are on dries or emergers you have it covered.

One of my favorite combinations when drifting a big river like the Gunnison or the Colorado is to drop a #18 Hi-Vis Parachute Adams off of a #10/12 Stimulator or Hopper and throw that rig right up against the bank while you drift...it is non-stop action, no kidding! Look for gentle sipping of the Adams as opposed to the vicious attacks on the Stimulator or Hopper.

As always...remember to de-barb your hooks! You will be helping the fish, and it will be a lot easier to remove that fly from your ear-lobe or cheek when there is no barb. Tight Lines!

The Adams Family



Adams



Para-Adams



Hi-Vis Adams



AdamsPara-Wulff



Female Adams



Adams-Irresistible



Wet Adams

The Wet Adams was taken from: www.flyshack.com

All the other Adams variations were taken from: www.riverbum.com

September / October

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			September 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Clark Fork River, MT	18 Clark Fork River, MT
19 Clark Fork River, MT	20 Clark Fork River, MT	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Club Meeting	29	30		
					October 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Club Meeting	27	28	29	30
31	Alpine Fly Fishers' 'The Dead Drift' is Published monthly by the Alpine Fly Fishers Club Larry Gibbs, Editor 253-863-4910 flytier015@msn.com					

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Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.org

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