

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

Tuesday

September 22

At the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM


FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club
1000 Stewards member



**NO MARCH, APRIL
OR MAY MEETINGS**

The Dead Drift - April 2020

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

The Alpine Fly Fishers club has cancelled the monthly meetings thru May.

I guess it is time to hunker down and wait for the storm to pass. I am speaking about the coronavirus. As the world recoils from the threat and the actual spread of the Chinese virus, the impact on us has the potential to be severe. I hope everyone remains safe. It turned into a pandemic so now I think we will see a side of humanity that we have not had to view for over 100 years. I pray they will get a grip on this threat and we can all survive unharmed. I like to read novels and I have a wide range of genre, including dystopian stories and many of those are of pandemics that ravage the world. As I watch the news about the spread of this Chinese coronavirus, it mimics many of those books. But, this is real, not just a story.

Sounds like a good time to go to Montana and do some fishing. They just closed Quinn's Hot Springs Resort in Paradise, MT. That means my most favorite restaurant, The Harwood House, is closed for now. They hope to reopen soon. Even in Montana this Chinese coronavirus is hitting us.

After the speaker mishap from last month, Ron contacted me and suggested the club should own a set of the cables needed for these new super thin laptops. We had the adaptor for the Apple Mac but it only fits the 'older' Macs. So I went to Best Buy and asked about the cables we would need. Luckily they fit both Mac and PC laptops using the newer USB-C fittings. Great, thought I as I picked up the two needed. I must say they are very proud of their cables, very proud indeed. Over \$71 for two little cables. Oh well, we are now prepared for the newer style laptops.

- ◆ The Oregon Council cancelled the Fly Tyer Expo in Albany in March.
- ◆ The WA State Council cancelled the Fly Casting Expo on Mercer Island in May.
- ◆ North Idaho Fly Fishing Expo, March 20-21 Lewiston, Idaho has been cancelled.
- ◆ The North Idaho Fly Casters club has cancelled the March meeting.
- ◆ The FFI has cancelled the big Expo in Bozeman, MT that was to be held in July.
- ◆ **The Alpine Fly Fishers club has cancelled the monthly meetings thru May.**

We will revisit the situation at the end of May to make a determination about the June Picnic.

It saddened me to have to ask the Board of Directors for their opinion about having our monthly meetings or cancelling them. They wisely voted to cancel thru May. The majority of our members are in the high risk age group, so we do not want to chance a situation where some of us contract this virus. I enjoy our monthly meetings. Getting to visit with friends and meeting potential new members is something that I really do look forward to.

LOOP FLY ROD/REEL RAFFLE BOARD: Ok, no meetings until September except maybe our picnic. Doesn't mean you can't buy squares for the Loop fly rod & reel that Steve Egge bought as a fund raiser. Howard Inks and I have both purchased a number of squares but there are plenty more to sell. Email me for my home address and send me a check for as many squares as you want to buy at \$5 per square. You never know, you could be a winner!!!!

"As long as the fly is on the water there is hope". (A very wise old man once said.....yea, me!.....)

"Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink, I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but eternity remains." Henry David Thoreau

Good fishing.



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

April 2006

B&B ZINCK MINK

By Bob Bates



Ruth Zinck of Calgary, Alberta, Canada revealed the Zinck Mink at the 1989 FFF Conclave and in the Patterns of the Masters for that year. At the 40th Anniversary Conclave, 2005, she showed us how to tie the B&B Zinck Mink, an improved version of the older pattern. It should be obvious from the picture, but the B&B is for Bead and Beard. It is an easy pattern to tie.

As with so many fly patterns one thing builds on another. Don Moore from Ontario's Izaak Walton Club showed her a fly called Moore's Muskrat. When she added mahogany mink tails to her supplies she used them to tie a variation she called the Zinck Mink. It was a successful pattern, and either weighted or un-weighted it caught trout and whitefish in lakes and streams. So why not improve it a little? The improvements came with a bead head and a peacock sword beard. Ruth says that fish like the improvements.

It is the kind of fly that permits many different fishing techniques. Floating, sink tip or full sink fly lines may be used to fish different depths. In streams cast across, let it dead drift and then swing. An upstream cast would let the fly sink a little longer. In lakes let it sink to near the bottom or just over the weeds and vary the retrieve. It can even be mooched (trolled) from a belly boat, pontoon boat or regular boat. Keep experimenting with techniques until something works, and then keep it up until the fish decide they want something else.

Materials list:

Hook: Mustad 9671 sizes 10 –14

Bead: Gold 7/64- or 1/8-inch diameter

Tail: Mink guard hairs, mahogany or black

Body: Mink underfur, mahogany or black

Thorax: Mink underfur with guard hairs, mahogany or black

Beard: 3 - 5 peacock sword herls

Tying steps:

1. Smash down barb with smooth jaw pliers and slide bead on hook. If the hole on one side of the bead is smaller than the other make sure the smaller hole is toward the hook's eye.
2. Start thread near front of hook and wind thread rearward to the bend and then forward to mid shank on hook.
3. Cut a small bunch of mink hair from close to the skin. Pull out the guard hairs and save the underfur. Stack 10 to 15 guard hairs. Hold guard hairs on hook to make a tail that is one gapwidth beyond the bend. Trimming the hair at mid shank now is more efficient than doing it later. Secure tail fibers with thread, and wind thread over the tail fibers to bend of hook. Hold fibers on top of hook while the thread is wound rearward.

Continued on page 3 →



4. Dub underfur on thread. Remember roll the dubbing between the thumb and first finger in one direction only.
5. Wrap dubbed thread forward to mid shank. Taper the body a little larger toward mid shank.
6. Cut another bunch of mink hair. Remove a few of the guard hairs, mix the remaining underfur and guard hairs and make a shaggy dubbing noodle. Wrap thorax forward to bead. A shaggy thorax is ideal; you can make it more shaggy by brushing with a piece of the hook side of Velcro.
7. Take 3 to 5 of the peacock sword herls and even the tips with the curve in the same direction. Place them under the hook with the curve upward and tips about the hook point. Secure sword herls with two whip finishes right behind the bead. Do not use head cement. Ruth was told several years ago that the fish can “smell” the head cement and avoid the fly. Just in case it is true she doesn’t put head cement on any of her flies.

Closing comments: This is an easy fly to tie, so there is no excuse in not tying a bunch of them and going fishing. It will catch rainbow, brook, brown and cutthroat trout. There is enough sparkle and movement of the fibers as the fly goes through the water to make it look alive. Some insects look a bit like this non-descript pattern so fish will want to hit it before it gets away.

FISHING REPORTS

Since our club meetings have been eliminated for now, I think everyone would really like getting some fishing reports. So, when you go fishing, if you could send me a quick email with a report on where and how it fished, I will start placing them in the newsletter each month. Inquiring minds want to know :)

Stay tuned, the Fox & I should have one for the May newsletter. That is unless they totally shut down the state.....

Back of Beyond

Stephen Neal

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

A Walk in the Woods

The low tone of whirring mower blades slicing grass, carries through the walls of our home. We are suffering (humor) through a dry and sunny weather pattern. The need to get out and about is pretty darn powerful in this spring weather, and wet weather is predicted for next week. So even in this period of self-isolation people are out and about, I too admit that I went out yesterday. My grand-daughter and her boyfriend are in town visiting from Iowa. We had made plans to see the sights, Pikes Place Market, Space Needle, Air and Space Museum, Northwest Trek, the Zoo and a movie or two. Our plans changed.

To minimize contact with others and to take advantage of our sunny skies, I took them hiking along the Green river. It was a beautiful day in wildness. It's been too long since I've hiked with Cassie, so for me it was a treat to be out with her in the land, where earth, air and water come together. The river is running around 139 cubic feet per second, there is a breeze, barely perceivable. The temperature is 55, but in the sun we soon shed our jackets. Dalton hits every trail down to the river, some were benign, other were steep, with logs, rocks and vines, strategically nature placed to snare feet and tangle limbs on downward descents. As an agile 10-yearold he navigated those trials with grace and ease. I mentally sigh in admiration, with wistful thoughts of by gone days.



I follow him down about half of them, wisely choosing which to avoid. I only deny him two trails as too dangerous. He needs to conquer his own mountains; I do not wish to discourage his youthful sense of adventure. Between Dalton and I we haul a load of litter out of the wild for deposit into our waste bin at home. Nolan makes about half the side trails as well, but he is more interested in hanging out with his sister. It's been over a year since her last visit. The woods are thick, a cross country route through the forest would be very difficult. But you can see further into them in this season because the trees and lower shrubs have not regained their lost leaves as of yet. New buds are starting to show, Springs promise has arrived.

Even though I carry no rod with me, I study the water for fish and likely lies. The Green River in its day had a nice summer steelhead run. Too few steelhead return now. The fall salmon run is exciting to watch, seeing them fin along in shallow water, rooster tails of water spray raised behind them as they fin upriver to their spawning grounds in their quest to propagate. Their bright red sides announce that they are nearing the end of their life cycle. The river shows no signs of their presence at the moment, but that does not dissuade me from searching.

Continued on page 5 →

Cont. from page 4

Nolan and Dalton enjoy sharing all things that catch their eyes. A familiar refrain is Grampa look at this. I try and comply with all the request but fail now and then as I am also exploring and sharing. It is a mark of beauty of a place when all want to share what they have found.



As of our trip, the sword ferns are the only greenery in the undergrowth. The Red Alder tree's bark is more of a gray white than the white of the Alders on the Olympic Peninsula. I'm not sure why that is maybe it is the soil or some other variant of nature. The Berry vines are in their dormant phase, but their thorns are just a sticky as Dalton discovers in his forays to retrieve discarded aluminum cans. We are hiking in Kanaskat/Palmer State Park on the Green River. The Green River arises on the western slope of the Cascade Range. Its 65-mile run starts high on the slopes of Blowout Mountain and empties into Seattle's Elliot Bay through the Duwamish River. The River's course has changed over the years, as is to be expected in this land of flood, volcanic eruptions and uplifts. The Green used to flow into the White River but that changed due to a flood in 1906. The floods debris damn separated the rivers, the White went south to join the Puyallup River and now flows into Puget Sound through Commencement Bay in Tacoma, the Green continued North into Elliot Bay. Just before World War I, the City of Tacoma, Washington, filed for water rights on the Green River. Since 9/11, access to the upper river is heavily restricted, disappointing outdoor enthusiasts.

Today we let the beauty of the Green river wash over us, enjoyed the Sunshine and kept our distance from fellow hikers. The flow of the river washed away tension, the sun warmed our souls as we walked through the woods as a family. Thank you, Jonathan, Cassie, Nolan and Dalton for your company.

To my readers be safe and well and if the chance arises, go outside and absorb the beauty of our planet.

Stephen



"When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind – Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

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

~ *In The Past* ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 4 No. 6

June of 1976

Jim Higgins, Acting Editor



This ~ *In The Past* ~ article was published in 1976. The information it contains is 44 years out of date and is not accurate.

This is a historical document only.

Program: Peter Bisson, research biologist for Weyerhaeuser Co. will talk on stream research at the Kalama Spring Lab and food size selection by stream trout and its implications for fly fishermen.

Last Meeting: Due to the lack of a program it turned into one of our best social events of the year.

Creel Census: Bill Tracey has forwarded to me Jim Cummins' summary of the opening day results.

	<u>Rapjohn</u>	<u>Tanawax</u>	<u>Kapowsin</u>
Total Catch	1595	2094	1462
Catch per Hour	1.195	0.969	0.412
Average Trip Length	4.96	4.22	3.79
Estimate of Total Anglers	269	512	936

Spring Outing: Eight club members and two guests went to Dry Falls for the Spring Outing on May 15 & 16. The fish were cooperative Saturday and Sunday they became quite selective to the damsel hatch. A good time was had by all!

Fishing Desk: **Phil White** has the fishing desk for the month. Call him if you are looking for a fishing partner, etc.

Fly Pattern: Whitlock Stone: - Tied by Dave for the Oregon Deschutes but should be good in our heavy water streams.

- Hook: 8 3XL weighted
- Thread: Brown Monocord
- Tail: Red Squirrel
- Abdomen: Golden Seal or Polypropylene
- Rib: Gold Medium Tinsel
- Thorax: Gray Squirrel Body Hair
- Legs: Yellow Grizzley Hackle
- Wing Case: Turkey Primary Feather



Rivers being highlighted:

Deschutes River (the Washington one)



Green River (no not up here, down in southwest WA, a tributary of the North Fork of the Toutle River, a fly fishing only river.



Mashel River





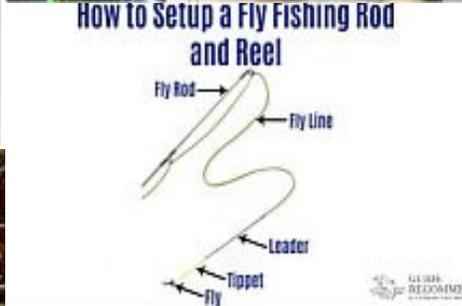
Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2020

June ?? (Picnic) July/August (no meetings);

September 22; October 27; November 24; December 15



<https://guiderecommended.com>



Our next general meeting will be September 22

FFI Fly Casting Fair

May 2, Luther Burbank Park, Mercer Island, WA

Fly casters of all Casting Fair at fair is hosted by conclude with Island Com- from the and reserve

fair will n o There will b e fees for

specific casting workshops the dinner banquet.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. several highlights.

- An all-day walk-in casting clinic
- Single-handed casting demonstrations by Molly and Don Simonson
- Spey casting workshop with Molly Semenik and Todd
- Workshops with Dave McCoy, Ryan Smith, Anil Tom Cammarata
- FFI's popular Casting Challenge course
- Banquet beginning at 5 p.m.
- Go to www.wscffi.org to register for

The program is public a soup to nuts learning the pick-demonstra- Wash- Gover- levels.

The day will S imonson . strate the art of

abilities can learn from the masters of the craft Saturday, May 2 at the Fly Luther Burbank Park off I-90 on Mercer Island, WA. The day-long the Washington Council of Fly Fishers International and will the council's annual banquet at 5 p.m. at the Mercer munity Center located in the park just steps casting field. To register for the fair space in workshops go to www.wscffi.org The be open to all at charge.

a n d

h a v e

S e m e n i k

S o m s e l
S r i v a s t a v a a n d

workshops and the banquet.

aimed at offering FFI members and the menu of casting information from up and lay-down to detailed workshops to spey tions on the water. Don Simonson, a director of the ington Council and member of FFI's Casting Board of nors, created an agenda to teach and inspire casters of all skill

feature single-handed casting demonstrations by Molly Semenik and Don Molly will demonstrate roll casts and switch casts at 11 a.m. Don will demonstrate the art of controlling the fly line at 3 p.m.

**Canceled
Due to the
coronavirus**

To be rescheduled

FFI Charter Club Benefits

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE & INDUSTRY PARTNER PROGRAMS

With FFI's Membership Incentive Program, for every 12 new FFI members your club recruits, your club receives \$75 towards the purchase of merchandise in our Industry Partner Program. Our industry leading partners provide products at discounts for club fundraisers, educational events, and member recruitment and encouragement in local projects.

CHARTER CLUB INSURANCE PROGRAM

FFI Insurance Program offers a significantly reduced premium on club insurance for FFI Charter Clubs. The master policy purchased by FFI provides Directors & Officers coverage of \$1M, Commercial General Liability of \$4M aggregate/ \$2M per occurrence, \$1M hired/ nonowned auto, and \$1M Umbrella liability. Open enrollment forms are sent with the annual report, but clubs can join any time during the year.

LEARNING CENTER

FFI's Education Committee has published learning modules for 4 major areas: Casting, Conservation, Fly Fishing Skills, and Fly Tying. Clubs can use the materials to teach and help your members enhance their skills. These comprehensive presentations will soon be accompanied by instructor/ teaching manuals. Try it out at one of your club meetings!

CONSERVATION & EDUCATION

FFI provides grants for conservation and education projects to councils, clubs and other organizations that are furthering the mission of the organization. Habitat restoration and education activities are a top priority for FFI. In addition, we offer scholarships for graduate students who are focusing on fisheries or conservation type degrees.

FFI also recognizes our members, through the Awards Program, for their work in conservation and education. Call FFI HQ for more information on grants and awards. Applications are due April 1 each year.

OTHER BENEFITS: No club fees / FFI HQ files club federal taxes / Inclusion in FFI's 501(c)3 (optional) / Legal advice from FFI's attorney / FFI HQ staff support / Access to Equipment Loan Program / Club mapped & listed on FFI website / Access to Speakers Bureau portal / Access to Newsletter Content / Access to Club Leader Report portal / Flyfisher magazine, E-news, & ClubWire / Local club list given to all new FFI members / FFI calendar & social media postings of your events

FEBRUARY 2020

Message From Patrick Berry

Many of you within the broader community of Fly Fishers International have been expressing curiosity about the latest happenings since I came on board in 2019.

One thing I can promise you: the inner engines of FFI may seem quiet for some of you from the outside, but the wheels are very much in motion as we drive toward what we believe will be a transformative new direction for the organization.

So, in addition to Flyfisher Magazine and our various other communications related to conservation, education, and community, members will be receiving The Dispatch every month to keep you apprised of exciting projects that are in the works here at FFI HQ.

Tight lines,

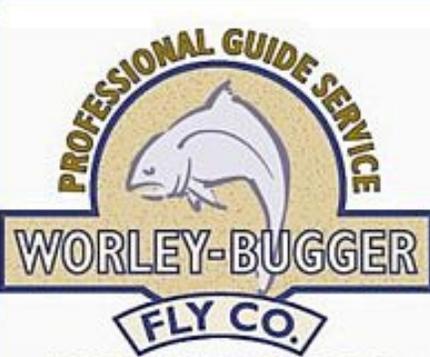
Patrick H. Berry
President & CEO

THE MEMBER BENEFITS & SERVICES PROJECT

When you sign up to become an FFI member, you do so for a variety of reasons— to support conservation, learn from our education programs, or just want to be part of the fly fishing community. Still, you want to know that you will receive benefits and services as an FFI member that appeals to you individually. And this is where we need your help.

TAKE THE SURVEY WIN A \$250 ORVIS GIFT CARD

Coming soon, you will see a survey put together in partnership with national leading expert Mark Duda at Responsive Management, who has worked with countless national fish, wildlife, and conservation organizations to improve the overall member experience. We want to help answer the question "what is FFI doing for me?"



1713 SOUTH CANYON ROAD
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
509-962-2033
worleybugger@fairpoint.net



CENTRAL WASHINGTON'S PREMIER FLY FISHING OUTFITTER, PRO-SHOP
AND PROFESSIONAL GUIDE SERVICE

Worley Bugger Fly Co.

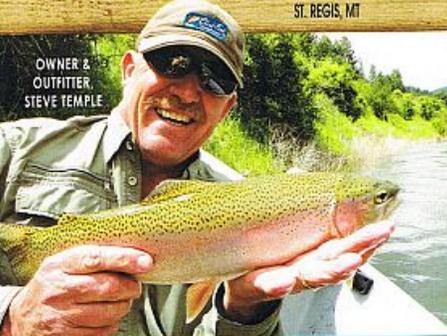
Steve Worley has some great guides and he has put together the best fly shop filled with a massive amount of fly tying materials and equipment. You really need to stop by the shop and check it out. Just take the Canyon Road exit off I-90 and turn north towards town, the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop is on the left or west side of the road. Open all year. Stop by and say Hi!

guided happiness!





MONTANA FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS
ST. REGIS, MT



OWNER & OUTFITTER, STEVE TEMPLE

www.ClarkForkTrout.com 406.382.0161

Clark Fork Trout

St. Regis, MT

Steve & Peggy Temple have their fly shop just on the north end of St. Regis, right across the street from the road down to the boat launch.

Check it out!!!

For a really good guided drift boat fishing trip, you should contact Clark Fork Trout.

"GUIDED FISHING ON THE CLARK FORK, BITTERROOT, MISSOURI AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS AND PROVIDING FLY FISHING CLASSES BY PEGGY TEMPLE."



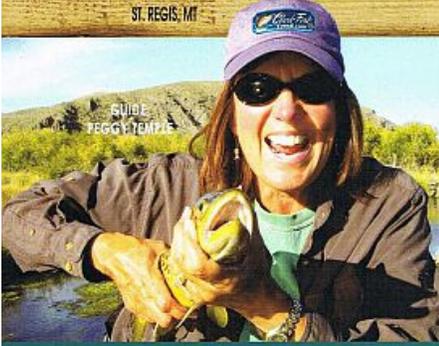
CLARK FORK TROUT, LLC

BUS: 406.382.0161 - HOME: 406.822.0922
715 Hwy. 135 - St. Regis, MT 59866
Outfitter Steve Temple #20878





MONTANA FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS
ST. REGIS, MT



GUIDE PEGGY TEMPLE

www.ClarkForkTrout.com 406.382.0161

Loop 'Q' Fly Rod Outfit



This is a Loop 'Q' series fly rod/reel kit.

It includes a 5 weight, 4 piece 'Q' fly rod,
'Q' 4/5 large arbor fly reel,
'Q' weight forward floating fly line
'Q' rod/reel case

(I am also including an additional fly line, a weight forward 5 weight)

Fly Rod/Reel raffle board - \$5 per square

Email me and I will give you my address so you can mail a check to me to purchase some squares for this great fly rod/reel combo.

April / May 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
"Here cometh April again, and as far as I can see the world hath more fools in it than ever." - Charles Lamb			April 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Club Meeting	29	30	"Just sitting quietly, doing nothing, Spring comes, and the grass grows by itself." - Zenrin poem	

"The year's at the spring, And day's at the morn; Morning's at seven; The hill-side's dew-pearled; The lark's on the wing; The snail's on the thorn; God's in his Heaven— All's right with the world!" - Robert Browning, The Year's at the Spring					May 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
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Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.org

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