

# Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on

Tuesday

April 27, 2010

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup



**A P R I L                      2 0 1 0**

**N E W S L E T T E R**

## In this issue:

### Page 2

*FFF*

*Fly Of The Month  
Kaufmann's Stimulator*

### Page 3

*Fly of Month Cont.*

*Casting Lessons*

*Key Dates in Future*

### Page 4

*Events at the WSC*

*Fly Fishing Fair*

*Fly Casting Lessons*

### Page 5

*WSCFFF Fly Fishing*

*Fair Flyer*

### Page 6

*FFF Fly Fishing Fair*

*Poster*

### Page 7

*AFF Outings*

*Quote of the Month*

### Page 9

*Calendar*

*Mailing Address*

*Club*

*Board of Directors*

## Presidents Line

*By Larry Gibbs*

As you know, we are officially a FFF Charter Club, the second one in the state. That means that we are in essence a new club which means we need to nominate board members. We grandfathered in the existing nine board of directors as an interim BOD but now we have to vote to make it all official.

So, who wants to be president? Now please, do not overwhelm my email system with all your applications and do not pound on my door demanding to hand carry your application for nomination to me. Common sense must prevail. At our March club meeting I asked for nominations. We will vote on those nominations at the April meeting.

Some of us drove on down to Albany, Oregon in March for the annual Northwest Fly Tyers Expo. I believe that this was the best show yet, at least for me it was. I had the most fun I have ever had. I won some great items in the raffles, bid on a few items in the silent auctions and won them. I took four classes that were all interesting and informative. I was able to meet and sit down and talk with people I work with on the national FFF event committee. I was also able to meet and talk with old friends that I haven't seen in a year, since the last event

In just a little over 5 weeks, we are having a similar event in Ellensburg, the Washington Fly Fishing Fair. April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>.

→ 😊 PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF IT!! 😊 ←

This Washington Fly Fishing Fair is the biggest and best (IMHO) fly fishing event in our state. You owe it to yourself to drive over and spend a couple days or at least one day at this great show. Besides, you will get a chance to sit down and talk with some of your fellow AFF members, like the Fox and PJ and myself. Now what could be better? Throw in the added bonus of being able to do some fishing on the Yakima River or one of the lakes around Ellensburg and how can you resist not attending the Washington Fly Fishing Fair?

Speaking of fishing on the Yakima River, I hope you enjoyed David Williams' presentation about fly fishing the lower Yakima River for Smallmouth Bass, that is something I have done several times and I really enjoyed it.

Good fishing.



Larry

# FFF Fly of the Month

April, 2000- The Stimulator

## Kaufmann's Stimulator

A great all-around attractor fly. This photograph of the Stimulator was provided courtesy of its originator, Randall Kaufmann.

By Jim Abbs



While the April Fly of the month is nationally heralded, it is almost worshiped in the American West. That is not to say that it is not used elsewhere for it has an international following and is reported to be very effective from New Zealand to the mountains of Sweden. However, aside from these reasons for describing Randall Kaufmann's Stimulator and how to tie it, I have personal endearing memories toward this fly. From the time I started fishing western waters in the early 1980's this fly has been a great producer, first on rolling, roaring Rock Creek in Western Montana, and following that on a couple dozen medium sized and large western rivers, including the Wenatchee, Yakima, and Methow in Washington State, the Clark Fork, Yellowstone, Gallatin, Bitterroot, and Blackfoot in Montana and even the Tongue in Wyoming. This fly is truly an attractor for all occasions and can be fished in sizes from 4 to 16, with features of both stoneflies and caddis, but also working as a hopper.

What makes the Stimulator so effective? Many fly originators have elaborate theories. Randall Kaufmann is perhaps more honest than most in stating outright that he doesn't know why the Stimulator is so effective. He even raises a possibility that is not mentioned by most fly designers who want to mimic nature with new looking patterns: "The Stimulator may be just different enough that fish do not remember having an earlier encounter with it and mistake it for real food."

Randall Kaufmann is unusually honest in another way as well. He readily admits that the Stimulator is not unique, but is kind of a composite of "parts" from other effective flies. In the 21st century, there are very few things that are truly brand new. In fact, genius is often in the ability to synthesize, rather than create.

So why does the stimulator work? Well, I think one particular insight deserves a direct quote: "By tying the fly wide (spreading out its tail and wing) and tall with the wing spread upward, the fly "creates the illusion of bulk and the blurred or fluttering image of wing movement. Palmered hackle adds to this illusion, and it should be stiff and tapered, smaller at the tail area. These features, along with fishing them when they are in good condition ensures "they react to tiny individual currents, portraying a bouyant, animated natural insect." (Randall Kaufmann, Tying Dry Flies, 1992).

If you are going somewhere out west (or to New Zealand or Sweden) and are not familiar with the Stimulator, try it this year. It is very easy to tie and by varying color combinations and sizes, it offers almost a full fly box of variety.

[Go to Page 3](#) —————>

## FFF Fly of the Month Continued: The Kaufmann Stimulator

### **MATERIALS**

**Hook:** 2X OR 3X Long Dry Fly, TMC 200R, Mustad 79580, Size 6-16

**Thread:** Orange, 3/0 or 6/0

**Tail:** Elk (Deer Body Hair is called for by some tyers)

**Abdomen:** Yellow/orange dubbing

**Rib:** Brown or grizzly hackle, palmer style, smaller than hook size

**Thorax:** Orange Dubbing

**Hackle:** Grizzly over thorax, dry fly style

**Wing:** Elk

### **TYING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Tie in clump of elk hair for the tail, with a length extending beyond the bend of the hook about 1 ½ times the hook gape. Some tiers tie the butt ends of the elk hair on the hook shank as an underbody.
2. Tie in brown or grizzly hackle for palmer rib and dub a tapered yellow-orange body forward to about 2/3rds the length of the shank.
3. Wrap the hackle forward, palmer style over the abdomen. Tie off and tie in the wing of elk hair such that the end of the wing is even with the bend of the hook.
4. Tie in second hackle and dub the thorax forward to a few mm behind the hook eye.
5. Wrap the hackle forward, dry fly style and tie off.
6. Whip finish and go fishing.

## **Casting Lessons Available**

Fly Casting Lessons -- Monday Evenings -- Starting March 29, 2010 6:30 pm to dusk  
Lake Meridian Park in Kent --- Five Sessions for \$40

FFF certificated casting instructors Jim Higgins & Pat Blackwell

For beginning & intermediate casters. Some fly rods available for use during classes reserve yours at registration. Eye protection required for all students and instructors - glasses / sunglasses OK

To register or for info contact John Fiskum of the Kent Sr. Activity Center 253-856-5163  
email [jfiskum@ci.kent.wa.us](mailto:jfiskum@ci.kent.wa.us)

## **Key Dates In The Future**

**April 27 — Club Meeting at Puerto Vallarta**

**April 30/May 1– WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair in  
Ellensburg, WA**

**August 26/28 FFF Fly Fishing Fair in West  
Yellowstone, MT**

**Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA April 30 & May 1, 2010**

**Welcome To The 2010**

## **Washington Fly Fishing Fair**

**Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers**

**Ellensburg, WA    April 30-May 1, 2010**

**Friday: 11:00 am- 5:00 pm**

**Saturday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm**

### **FLY TYING CLASSES**

- “Spinning Hair” Vicki Eagle Elk
- "Student's Choice" Bob Bates
- “Dubbing Demystified” Michael T. Williams
- “Steelhead Tube Flies” Jack Cook
- “Umbrella Flies” Bob Bates
- “Tying Realistic Flies” Karen Royer
- “Bass Poppers” Sam Matalone
- “ Mayfly Cripples – The Quigley Hackle Stacker” Vern Jeremica

### **FLY CASTING CLASSES**

Free Casting Clinic

"Beginning Casting For Women" Taught by Women Lead Instructor: Judy Graham

"Federation Fly Fishing Course, Friendly Competition" Lead Instructors: Don Simonson and Kip Keener

"Spey Casting Class on Yakima" Lead Instructor: Aaron Reimer

"Intermediate Casting For Women" Taught by Women Lead Instructor: Judy Graham

"Casting in Wind Conditions" Lead Instructor: Don Simonson

"Spey Casting Class on Yakima" Lead Instructor: Aaron Reimer

Drift Boat Handling and Safety On The Water At Red's Fly Shop

"Introduction to Fly Fishing" At Red's Fly Shop

### **FLY TYERS**

We should have over 100 fly tyers tying at 62 different tying tables throughout the two days of this great event.

### **AUCTION / RAFFLE**

I have some great items for our auctions and raffles. Things like a two day drift on the Clark Fork River in Montana. A two day drift on the Clearwater River in Idaho. Two different drifts on the Yakima River in Ellensburg. How about a pontoon boat? How about some great fly plates?

We have fly boxes with some really nice selections of flies. Fly rod and reel combinations. Fly rods. Tying materials and equipment and tools. Fly fishing equipment. Embroidered ‘T’ shirts. Fly fishing clothing. Wine baskets, fly lines, Sage rod/reel cases, many tying and fishing books, gear bags and much, much more!!!!!!

### **Fly Casting Lessons**

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**FFF certificated casting instructors Jim Higgins & Pat Blackwell**

For beginning & intermediate casters. Some fly rods available for use during classes reserve yours at registration. Eye protection required for all students and instructors - glasses / sunglasses OK

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email [jfiskum@ci.kent.wa.us](mailto:jfiskum@ci.kent.wa.us)

## Awards Banquet & Auction

Saturday evening will be our annual Awards Banquet and Auction. The banquet will be catered by Rodeo City Bar-B-Q from Ellensburg. Following dinner there will be the announcement of the candidates for the open Board positions followed by the presentation of the Council's 2010 Awards. The awards presentation will be followed by both a silent and live auction. Tickets for the banquet are \$30 and can be purchased online at our website.

## Registration

### More information

More information, including the status of classes, schedule, and costs can be found on our website: <http://washingtoncouncilfff.org> by following the links for the Fly Fishing Fair. Registration can also be completed from the website. If you have additional questions contact Carl Johnson at 425-308-6161

## Lodging & Camping

Group rates have been arranged at the Best Western Lincoln Inn and Suites - 509-925-4244, Quality Inn and conference Center 509-925-9800, and the Super 8 Motel - 509-962-6888. In addition Camping is available at the Kittitas County Event Center (home of the Fair). More information and camping reservations can be made on our website.

## Fly Tying

Over one hundred fly tiers from throughout the Northwest, including our featured tier Skip Morris, are expected to demonstrate their skills Friday and Saturday. Currently we expect four Buz Buszek Memorial Award recipients. The Buszek award is the national Federation of Fly Fisher's highest fly tying award. Scheduled to appear are Al Beatty (1999), Bruce Staples (2001), Henry Hoffman (2008) and John Newbury (2009).



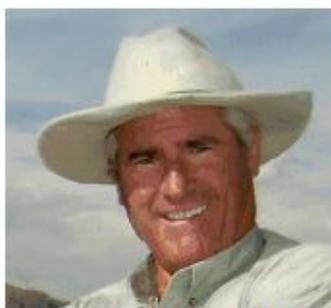
### Fly Tying Classes

A number of fly tying classes will be offered including: **Spinning Hair** with Vicki Eagle Elk, **Student's Choice** with Bob Bates, **Dubbing Demystified** with Michael T. Williams, **Steelhead Tube Flies** with Jack Cook, **Umbrella Flies** with Bob Bates, **Tying Realistic Flies** with Karen Royer, **Favorite Steelhead Flies** with John M. Newbury, **Tying the Erv Emerger** with John M. Newbury, **Bass Poppers** with Sam Matalone, and **Mayfly Cripples - The Quigley Hackle Stacker** with Vern Jeremica.

Free kids fly tying on Saturday. Bring the family!



Featured fly tier Skip Morris



Featured fly caster Brian O'Keefe

<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

## Fly Casting

The Fly Casting events will be held at Veterans Memorial Park adjoining the fairgrounds. There are a number of casting demonstrations scheduled, including FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor Brian O'Keefe. There will be an **Emergency Casting Clinic** where you can walk in and get a short lesson.

The new FFF Fly Casting Course will be available for those who want to play on Friday or Saturday. All you need to do to try the course is show up with or without your rod. There will also be a **Friendly Competition on the FFF Fly Casting Course** Saturday morning. Sign up for the competition is available the web page.



### Fly Casting Classes

There will be a number of casting classes offered including: **Beginning Casting For Women** with Judy Graham, **Spey Casting Class on the Yakima** with Aaron Reimer, **Intermediate Casting For Women** with Judy Graham, and **Casting in Wind Conditions** with Don Simonson.



April 30

May 1

2010

# WASHINGTON FLY FISHING FAIR



Kittitas County Event Center  
(Fairgrounds)  
Ellensburg, WA

April 30<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

May 1<sup>st</sup> 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Admission \$5.00 for both days

FREE for FFF members and youth under 16  
<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

## Other Classes

In addition there will be two other classes offered by Red's Fly Shop at their place in the Yakima canyon. The **Drift Boat Handling and Safety on the Water** class. This 2 hour class covers river safety, basic rowing, entry/exit, defensive rowing, anchoring, and more. This class is designed for both boat owners and those curious about rowing rivers. Waders are recommended, but not required.

The **Introduction to Fly Fishing** class is geared towards people that have never fly fished a single day in their life. It will have a little casting but will essentially be a "how to get started, where to go, what to throw" type class.

As both of these classes will spend part of the time outside, dress for outdoor weather.

## Seminars

There will be a number of **free seminars** throughout Friday and Saturday. Presenters scheduled to participate include Skip Morris, Brian O'Keefe, Tom Schreier, Preston Singletary, Lee Davidson, and David P. Williams. Subjects will include: entomology, how to fish lakes, bull trout, carp, smallmouth bass, and fishing the South Fork Snake River in Idaho.

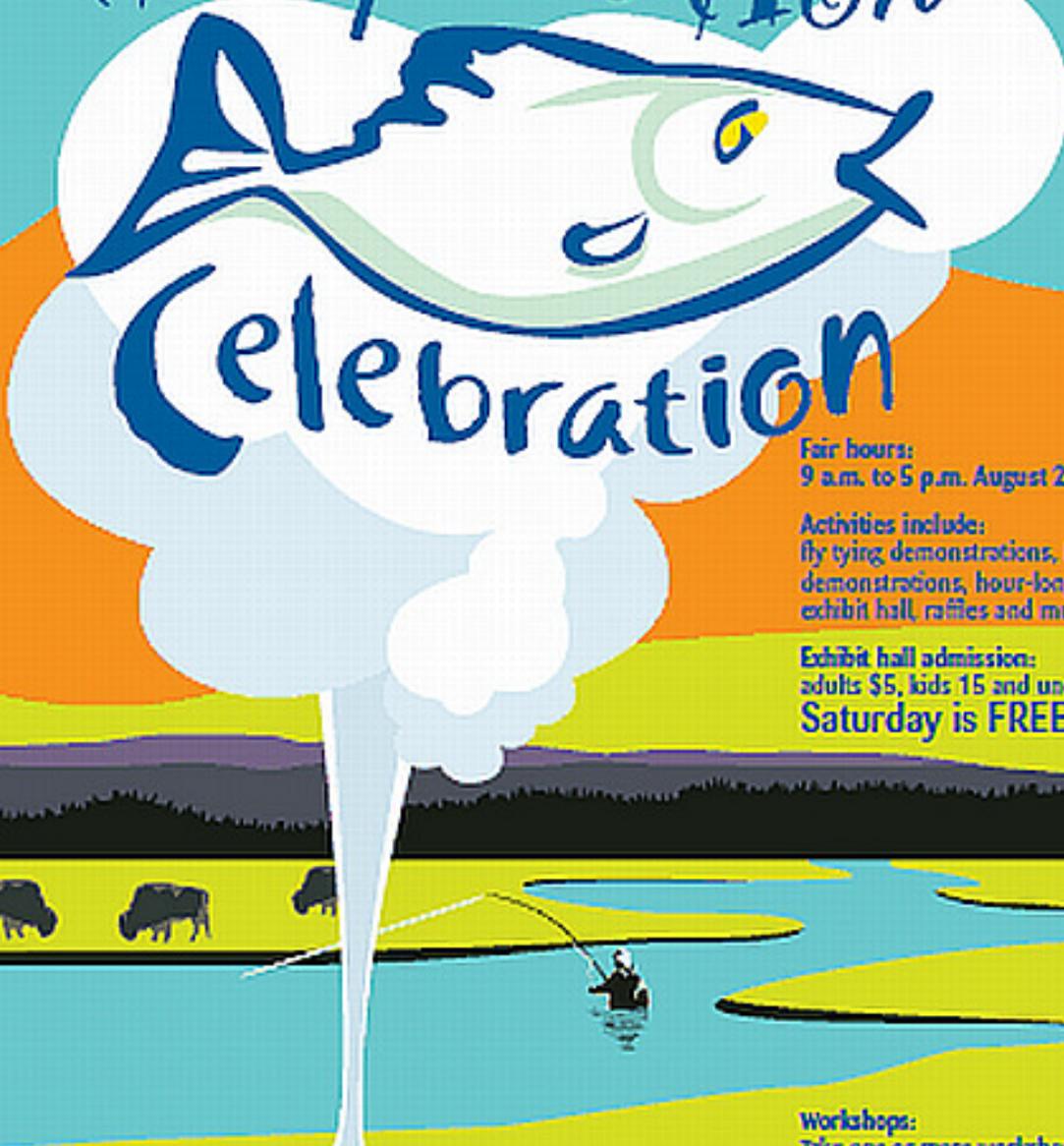
For More information on Seminars, including subject and schedule, please visit our website.

<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

# The National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave 2010



## Education Inspiration



## Celebration

**Fair hours:**  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 26-28

**Activities include:**  
fly tying demonstrations, fly casting demonstrations, hour-long seminars, exhibit hall, raffles and much more!

**Exhibit hall admission:**  
adults \$5, kids 15 and under free  
**Saturday is FREE for all**

Holiday Inn at **West  
Yellowstone**

Montana

August 26-28, 2010

**Workshops:**  
Take one or more workshops on tying, casting, on the water, and non-angling. Fees for workshops vary. It is requested to sign up in advance, however numerous walk-up workshops will be offered on-site. Workshops are offered August 24-28. See the on-line schedule for more details.

Visit us at:

[FederationConclave.org](http://FederationConclave.org)

## AFF 2010 Club Outings

*By Bob Alston*

1. **Lenice / Nunnally Lake** trip April 29, 30 and May 1, 2 ( Thr,Fr,Sat, Sun) : A chance to fish 2 premier early trout lakes in Eastern Wa. You need a pontoon or float tube and 4-6 wt rods. Lodging: At the Pink Lady (Mike Velke's property) on the Columbia River 5 minutes from the lakes (which are 15 minutes below Vantage). Bring a sleeping bag. Flies: buggers, Hale Bop, Chronomoids and nymphs, with a few dry flies. Great combo trip: the WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair is this weekend so combine the two for fishing as well as education. Current members attending: Alston, Egge, Velke, Fravel. Time to the lakes from Puyallup: 2.5 hours.

2. **John Day River** Float trip: A 70 mile float unguided 6 days, 5 nights for small mouth bass, all on dry fly. Some white water experience preferred. Need a cat or raft 9 feet long minimum. Time: July 3, 2010 leave, put in July 4th ( no fireworks allowed). 5-6 wt rods. Currently filled (13 people), but you could put your name down as alternate. See Bob Alston or Steve Egge for further details. We do all our own cooking, cleanup, etc. Cost: just the food and shuttle.

3. Is anyone up for **Chupaka Lake** near Tonasket? A great lake for fly guys only, recently rehabilitated, with excellent reports. Pat Blackwell knows this lake

4. Also, **Isaak's Ranch** in Eastern Wa would be a fun outing before end of May. A pay lake with large trout. Could probably get a discount if enough members went.. See Red's Fly shop for info. Limited availability. Usual cost is \$225. Max 10 per day on the lake. BIG FISH

5. **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. You 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. You will have a chance to meet him this April 30/May 1 at the WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair. Larry would need even numbers of people to go along with him, either 2 or 4 or 6 or 8. Big Browns, big Rainbows and big Cuttbows, 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.

## Quote Of The Month



**A Good Mayfly Day**  
If the all-ruling Power please  
We live to see another *May*,  
We'll recompence an Age of these  
Foul days in one fine fishing day :  
  
We then shall have a day or two,  
Perhaps a week, wherein to try,  
What the best Master's hand can do  
With the most deadly killing Flie.



*To my dear and most worthy Friend, Mr. Isaac Walton*  
*By Charles Cotton, 1689*  
*As taken from A Summer On The Test by John Waller Hills — 1924*

## **About Being A Charter Club**

### **Charter Clubs:**

A Charter Club is one in which all club members join as individual members of the Federation of Fly Fishers. No annual club dues are collected from our Charter Clubs and they fall under the FFF's 501(c)(3) status. Both established clubs and brand new clubs can join under this club category.

### **Requirements:**

- 1) All club members join the FFF or are already FFF members.
- 2) Provide your club roster and list of new officers annually to FFF Headquarters.
- 3) Provide financial statements to enable the FFF to incorporate the information on to their group Federal tax return.

### **Benefits For Charter Clubs:**

501(c)(3) Status - Classified as a subsidiary of the FFF and would fall under the FFF's established 501(c)(3) umbrella.

Legal Support - Receive free legal support by the FFF's legal counsel.

Conservation Grants - May apply annually for grants from the FFF for conservation projects. Contact FFF Conservation department for information and application procedures. Available at a low cost are Catch & Release booklets (freshwater and saltwater). Also available for purchase are the Whitlock Vibert Boxes for club conservation activities.

Education - Check with our FFF Education department for current offers available. Items are offered at low or discounted cost to our Charter Clubs. Some items that have been donated to the FFF for educational purposes are announced in the FFF ClubWire (e-mail newsletter) and also the Flyfisher magazine. Below is a list of previous and current offerings to our clubs.

Rod & Reel Loaner Program

Tying Equipment Loaner Program

Float Tubes

Fly Lines

Tying Materials

Hooks

Fly Casting Instructors Handbook

Flyfisher Magazine - The club's FFF contact person will receive the FFF's quarterly magazine. The club will also be added to the FFF Council's newsletter list to receive more localized news on special events and projects.

FFF Councils - Regional Councils provide support and advice, in addition to a network of clubs, retail shops and individual members to address problems common to an entire area.

FFF Web Site - Each club is listed with a link to the clubs web site if they provide that information. Individuals can join the FFF as well as locate an FFF club to join by searching this web page.

ClubWire - This is a monthly e-mail newsletter put together specifically for our club newsletter editors. However, any of the club officers may request to be added to the e-mail list by contacting ClubWire Editor. The ClubWire provides news items, humorous articles, book and DVD reviews, FFF conservation reports and FFF announcements on promotions and current happenings. All items may be re-printed as long as they give proper credit for each article.

Savings - Clubs may purchase FFF merchandise and educational booklets at wholesale prices for resale. Contact our Merchandise department for specific costs on any of the merchandise seen in our shopping area of the the web site.

Awards - Clubs and their members are eligible for Regional and National FFF awards, given annually in recognition of outstanding conservation and education efforts. FFF Awards List

# April / May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				April 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	27 Club Meeting	28	29	30 WA Fly Fishing Fair	

Get the idea? Come to Ellensburg and enjoy the Washington Fly Fishing Fair

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Club Meeting	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**Alpine Fly Fishers**  
**PO Box 1103**  
**Milton, WA 98354**

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](http://www.alpineflyfishers.org)

### **Board Of Directors:**

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
First Vice President:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	253-568-7965
Secretary:	Howard Inks	253-881-1885
Ghilly:	Joe Fitzpatrick	253-405-7356
Outings Coord:	Bob Alston	253-848-6884
Programs Coord:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683
Librarian:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Webmaster:	Steve Egge	253-841-1093