

# Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on

**September 22, 2009**

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup

**A u g u s t 2 0 0 9 / N E W S L E T T E R**

## In this issue:

### Page 2

*Quote of the Month*

*Education News*

*Five Rivers*

*Sweepstakes*

*Continues*

*Conservation News*

*What would you like?*

### Page 3

*Fly Of The Month*

*Flying Ant*

### Page 4

*FFF's*

*Fly Tying Group*

### Page 5

*Calendar*

*New Mailing Address*

*Club Officers*

## Presidents Line

*By Larry Gibbs*

Our Alpine Fly Fishers fall fly tying sessions are going to be starting up again next month on Monday, September the 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a 'Featured Fly' each month, with written instructions and our TV playing a step by step slide show on how to tie the fly. See the July newsletter for a list of materials you will need to bring if you want to tie that fly. It is 'The Sucker Punch' fly.

The meeting room at the Sumner library is a busy place. So I suspect we will bounce around to different days this fall. For instance, our October session will be on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup>. That may not be so bad as it may give people a chance to attend a session who normally couldn't if we had them on the same night of the week each month.

Let me know what you think of that. If you want, I will try to get the day of the week each month, but I can't guarantee it, otherwise I can bounce the day of the week around a bit.

Our sore legged mountain wilderness fly fishers should be back from their ride up into the clouds. I can't wait to hear the stories of their exploits at our September meeting. In fact, that got me to thinking....

Our guest speakers at our September meeting will be ourselves. A way to tell everyone about our great exploits in pursuit of the fins. Maybe Steve can put all of the wilderness pictures on his computer and show them to us with his power point system??????

I can have the TV set up and do a slide show of the FFF Conclave and maybe some great shots of the Clark Fork River fishing trip Bill Fox and I and Al Hess (of PSF) are doing on August 4 & 5. We can also have some shots from the September 17th & 18th Clark Fork trip that some of us are taking.

**There is plenty of room for more people for both of those trips . Contact Bill Fox or myself if you are interested.**

You will notice our Fly of the Month is from the archives of the FFF website in their Fly Tying section. They have over eleven years of contributions of fly patterns to choose from, that should keep us busy for a while.

I hope your summer is as great as you want it to be.

See you on September 22 at our next meeting.

Larry



## Quote Of The Month

“I threw a pronounced curve cast and this time when I imparted the minute twitch to the line, the fly moved a sudden inch straight upstream. Then, as it dropped back into a dead drift, it disappeared into the mouth of the best trout of the evening.”

Leonard M. Wright Jr. *Fishing the Dry Fly As A Living Insect* (1972)

## Education News

### New training program available to FFF Councils and Clubs

Angling and aquatic education programs are cornerstones of our mission that preserve our fly fishing resources for generations to come. Youth education programs are on the rise and are very important to the future of fly fishing and the waters we fish.

There is a new program available for FFF councils or clubs who want to start youth fly fishing education programs. Matt Wilhelm, FFF Education Coordinator, has developed a training seminar for FFF councils or clubs to train volunteer educators how to install successful youth education programs.

A pilot program that started with the Great Lakes Council (GLC) at their annual fly fishing expo/conclave in Roscommon, Michigan has been very successful. Twelve representatives from different clubs from across the GLC attended, participated in and observed a full-day youth fly fishing camp.

If your council or club is interested in having Matt visit, please contact him at 406-222-9369 ext 103. Travel and lodging cost must be covered by the council or club.

## Five Rivers Sweepstakes Continues

The Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been EXTENDED! You still have a chance to win a trip to Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT and a chance at the grand prize - a trip to Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile.

We will draw winners once 4000 tickets have sold. You can find more information on the sweepstakes here, or purchase tickets online.

Tickets are also available through your FFF club or council.

See Larry Gibbs to purchase some tickets.

## Conservation News Take the BassCatch Challenge!

A major focus of FFF conservation programs is to recognize and protect our native fisheries. Black bass are native fish that face decline and threats throughout their range. Our BassCatch program encourages anglers to catch and release sub-species of black bass to promote their conservation. The challenge comes in seeking these fish out - they are found in unique habitats in the south, southwest and southeast United States. Some of the black bass sub-species include: Guadalupe bass, Suwannee bass and Redeye bass. To learn more about this program or to participate, visit our website.

## What would you like?

What would you like to see in the newsletter? Let me know if you would like to see certain types of articles or subject titles that would interest you.

Just send me an email if there is anything that you would want in the newsletter.

flytier015@msn.com

# Fly of the Month

## Flying Ant

By Gary Barnes

From the FFF Fly Of The Month Archives:

December 2005

For step by step photos:

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4478>

### Materials & Equipment:

**Hook:** Mustad 3906, sizes 14-18

**Thread:** Uni, Iron gray, 8/0

**Body:** Foam, black, 1mm, razor thin, by 1/8-inch wide

**Wing:** Hi viz white or tan, can use Antron or Z-lon

**Hackle:** Whiting saddle, black



### Comments:

By Bob Bates

Gary Barnes, Rigby, ID has been tying this pattern, and using it successfully, for over two years. The fish on the Henry's Fork of the Snake R. love it. This includes fish on Harriman Ranch, and any fly that can catch fish on the Ranch has to be good. It also works on the South Fork of the Snake R., in lakes and all over Montana. He showed us how to tie it at the FFF 40th Anniversary Conclave in Livingston, MT, August 2005. Among other things, Gary ties custom flies. The pictures were taken as he demonstrated tying the fly at the Conclave.

There are times when fish are clearly rising to surface insects, but you can't tell what is happening. First look carefully at the water surface and you might see spent wing ants floating in the surface film. Or you might as I did wait for another clue. I was fishing a lake when fish started rising all over. I couldn't figure out what was going on until I heard a "clunk" on the side of my aluminum boat. There was a black carpenter ant trying to crawl up the side. I put on a black fly of the right size and immediately started catching fish. I always have had wet ant patterns in my fly box, but since then I also have some floating patterns.

It is estimated that there are over 3,000 species of ants. However, imitating all of them is not necessary. Sizes range from the 8 or 10 carpenter ants to miniscule size 24s. Find out what ants are like in your area. Late summer and fall when the ants are flying around is a great time to search for ant eating fish. Try ant patterns in streams even if fish are not rising. Most ants are black but there are cinnamon, reddish and red abdomen colored species. It is not too surprising that fish will key on hapless flying ants that fall helplessly into the water. Also according to some they have tart or spicy taste. (Not from my research.) More information on ants can be found in Jim Abbs' article in the old FFF Fly of the Month Website.

# Federation of Fly Fishers

## Fly Tying Group

Who Are We?



The FFF Fly Tying Group was started by the FFF leadership at the 2007 Conclave in Livingston. It is a group of, by, and for fly tiers. The goals of the group are to develop fly tying at the local, regional, council, national, and international levels. For more information on how the Group was started and the members of the 2007 Board of Governors, see the article in the Autumn Flyfisher, a copy of which is available here. Also, browse around this site and you will find a number of items of interest. The minutes of our founding meeting, our first meeting, and the 2008 Board meeting are posted online.

You will notice from our minutes that we all are very much against certification of tiers, which would destroy the individuality that makes tying so interesting and enjoyable. No, this Group is NOT certification in disguise, and our minutes prove it. Casting may be able to be enhanced by certification, but in our opinion, tying cannot be improved by certification. We feel that certification would go a long way toward destroying by it.

You can support the Fly Tying Group by joining (see Membership, below), becoming active in our programs (see Projects, below), or making a donation to the Dick Nelson Fly Tying Teaching Memorial Fund. Join us for our annual BBQ at Conclave, called the Tiers' & Liars' BBQ.

### Membership:

Membership is open to any FFF member who is interested in fly tying. There are no other criteria for membership! So if you have fly tying in your blood, please join. The cost is \$20 year, in addition to your FFF membership.

### Projects of the Fly Tying Group

The Fly Tying Group is involved in many projects. 2008 is only the second year of our existence and project development is still in its early stages.

- ◆ Fly Tying Instructor's Resource, chaired by Jim Ferguson; also: Don Van Buren
- ◆ How to be a Better Demonstration Fly Tier and Teacher, chaired by David Nelson
- ◆ Annual Meeting Committee, chaired by Gene Kaczmarek
- ◆ Tying with Disabilities, chaired by Anthony Hipps
- ◆ Tying for Seniors, chaired by Henrika Prescott (yet to be posted)
- ◆ Design Strategy and Construction of Museum-grade Fly Plates, chaired by Steve Jensen.
- ◆ Fly Plate Construction Using Entry-level Equipment, chaired by Judy Lehmborg (yet to be posted)
- ◆ Youth Fly Tying, chaired by Sr. Carol Anne Corley (yet to be posted)
- ◆ International Fly Tiers at Conclave, chaired by Hans Weilenmann (yet to be posted)
- ◆ The History of Famous Flies and Fly Tiers, chaired by Bob Jacklin (yet to be posted)
- ◆ Feathers: A History of Hackle and Where the Feathers Come from on a Bird, chaired by Henry Hoffman (yet to be posted)
- ◆ Advanced Fly Tying Techniques, chaired by Bob Bates (yet to be posted)
- ◆ Seniors Fly Tying, chaired by Henrika Prescott

Editors Note: I joined this group a couple of years ago. If you would like to join just go to the FFF website at [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) then click on Fly Tying (just to the right of the FFF Logo). This will open the Fly Tyers Group site.

# August/September 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<b>August 1 FFF Conclave Ends</b>
2	3	4 Clark Fork River in St. Regis, MT.	5 Clark Fork River in St. Regis, MT.	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 No Club Meeting See September 22	26	27	28	29
30	31	<b>Sept. 1</b>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 AFF Fly Tying Session Summer Library	15	16	17 Clark Fork River in St. Regis, MT.	18 Clark Fork River in St. Regis, MT.	19
20	21	22 AFF Meeting At Puerto Vallarta, Puy.	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## NOTICE:

Our New Mailing Address

**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).

## Club Officers:

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
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 Jacobs	360-897-8733
Programs Coord:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683
Librarian:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Webmaster:	Steve Egge	253-841-1093