

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting
Tuesday

To Be Announced

At the
Puerto Vallarta
215 15th St. SE
Puyallup at 6 PM


FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club
1000 Stewards member



The Dead Drift - August 2020

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

Mini Newsletter & Flies on the Web

A couple weeks ago you all received the first issue of the Mini Drift, a mini-newsletter that I will be sending out about half way between our main newsletters. In both I will be announcing the winners of the "Flies on the Web" from the previous two+ week period.

Our second "Flies on the Web" closed on **July 18**. (However, I was on a fishing trip to Montana, so plucking winners out of the hat and mailing the flies had to wait until I got back. And the winners were: **Steve Egge / Arlene Christy / Kevin Gill**

SPECIAL NOTICE: I decided to extend the winners of "Flies on the Web" chances in winning something else at the end of the year. I will place the winning names into a 'hat' and at the end of the year and I will draw a winner for what I would consider to be a very nice prize. So, if you enter the "Flies on the Web" every two weeks, you may win a dozen flies every now and then, and at the end of the year you may win an even better prize. **The more you enter the more you could win!**

Just take a second to reply to my email I send out with either the regular newsletter attached or with the mini-newsletter attached. There will be no 'carry-overs' from the previous drawing. So, respond to each of the emails that announce the newest "Flies on the Web" drawing Your name will be tossed in the hat for drawing winners of that session. It never hurts to have an extra dozen flies :-)

July came and is leaving us rapidly. 2020 is almost over. Wow, time does march on. As we adjust to our 'new normal', remember to reflect back on how life was before this COVID-19 virus. It wasn't really that many months ago. Yet now, our lives have changed. We have adjusted our usual routine to accommodate the restrictions placed on us by this virus. Just think, what if we have to continue these adjustments? But, we will accept it and we will still be able to exist. The rivers will still flow and the fish will be there waiting for a tempting fly.

The state decided to not have the September WA State Fair (Puyallup) this year because of the COVID 19 concerns. That is a major statement about the projected impact that this virus will have on us.

Our club is still balancing on the fence, Yea or Nay for our September meeting. That decision will be made shortly. If you have any thoughts about that, please send me an email, we want your participation in this decision.

Buy some rod raffle board squares. Help out the club and maybe win some neat stuff. See page 9 for more info.

"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 & Stay Safe



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

August 2006

Olive Willy

By Bob Bates



About 1995 Swede (aka Allen Peterson) decided that Swede's Fly Shop in Woodenville, Washington needed a signature fly. So he told one of his tiers to invent one, and pretty soon the Olive Willy was born. When Swede moved his fly shop to Spokane, Washington in 2003 he naturally brought the fly, along with a few thousand others, with him. I heard a lot of great stories about the success of this pattern. It was easy to tie so I tied a few and went fishing. I caught several fish in our local lakes, and over 15 fish in a few hours in a fly-fishing-only, cutthroat/rainbow lake north of Spokane, WA. But none of my exploits topped the 37 rainbows in 2-1/2 hours that Swede caught in one of our quality lakes in central Washington using the Olive Willy and a fast sink line. Also my success didn't equal that of one customer who bought six flies and went fishing. The next day he came back for another half dozen because some mean rainbows stole all of the others.

Its popularity really struck home in February 2006 at The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue, WA. I had tied a few Olive Willys, X-Caddis and Parachute Blue Wing Olives to display in the FFF Washington State Council booth. Many people who came by the booth looked over our display with the usual kind of interest that people look at things in a fishing show. But when they saw the Olive Willys, several exclaimed Oh Olive Willys! You should have been there to hear all the great stories about catching fish on the Olive Willy. The general opinion was: "It will catch fish anywhere."

Most people use a full sinking fly line and let it sink to near the bottom or top of the weeds. Try out different retrieves until one works to attract the fish. I have used everything from a slow hand twist to a fast 2-foot strip. Even pause the retrieve once in a while. It is so easy to tie that I teach it and the Wooly Worm in the first session of my beginning fly tying class.

Materials List:

Hook: Mustad 9671, Tiemco TMC 5262 or 3769ST, #12

Bead: #10 Red Rochaille

Thread: Black, 8/0

Tail: Yellow pheasant rump afterfeather

Body: Peacock green chenille

Hackle: Yellow pheasant rump feather

Tying Steps:

1. Smash the barb with smooth jaw pliers.
2. Put the bead on the hook. An easy way is to run the hook through a cup of beads.
3. Put thread on hook by holding it behind the hook and bringing the thread toward you and over the hook. Wind thread over itself toward the bend. Cut or break off the tag, short end, stop when thread is at the bend, and let the bobbin hang free.

Continued on Page 3 →



4. Hold one or two afterfeathers in both hands and push the thread away to move the feather on top of the hook. (The afterfeather is the thin feather that you see when pull off the pheasant rump feather.) Put a couple of loose thread winds over the afterfeather. Then carefully pull the afterfeather a little toward the eye of the hook. This moves it so the thread is on the thinner part of the stem. Don't worry about the length sticking out behind the hook.

5. Wind thread tightly over the feathers to secure them. Trim excess feather in front of tie down point. Trim the tail by holding it tightly between thumb nail and first finger on one hand. Then grab excess tail with thumb nail and first finger of other hand and break it off. The fuzzy fibers on bottom of a regular rump feather may be used in place of the afterfeather.

6. Strip the fuzzy stuff off the chenille leaving only the core. With the long part of the chenille over the vise, slide the chenille under the thread and position it on top of shank as with the afterfeather.

7. Wind the thread over the thread core, trim excess and continue winding forward to within about 1/2 hook-eye width of the bead. Wrap the chenille forward to the hanging thread, secure and trim excess.

8. Strip off the fuzzy stuff from a pheasant rump feather. Hold the feather by its tip with the shiny side toward you, and stroke the feather away from the tip to make the barbs stand out. On the last stroke hold the barbs down to keep them out of the way. Position feather on top or side of hook with the shiny side out. Secure the feather by winding thread over the exposed stem. The long part of the feather will be out over the body. Make two or three tight winds of thread. Trim excess tip. Leave thread next to the bead.

9. Pick up the stem of the feather and stroke the barbs to the rear as the feather is wrapped around the hook. Continue stroking and wrapping forward between body and bead. Make only two or three wraps. Secure the feather and trim excess. Assuming the hook is facing to the right use thumb and first two fingers of the left hand to pull all the fibers back. Wind the thread rearward over the fibers a little to make them slope backward. Put a little head cement on the thread and wind thread two or three times. Finish with a couple of half hitches or a whip finish.

Closing comments: This is an easy fly to tie. Get the materials, which are easy to acquire, and tie up a dozen or so. Then go to your favorite lake or pond and catch a bunch of fish. Naturally, release them carefully so you can play with them again.

Larry's comment: Not about this fly as it is a very good fly to have in your arsenal. But about fly tying in general, to be more specific, *variations on a theme* or more commonly called *variants*. Actually this is about my fly tying skills. I do believe that every fly I tie is a variation on a theme or variant. Not that that is bad, you never know what the fish will take, but purists who strive to copy an existing pattern would need a bottle of Tums after inspecting my flies. :-)

Back of Beyond

Stephen Neal

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

Close Encounters of the Wild Kind

Chopaka 2020

The sound of rain on the canvas roof over my head, hastened my move to nighttime rest. The few times I achieved wakefulness during the night, heavy rain was drumming on the tent's fabric. I awoke to a cornucopia of bird songs around 4:30 AM, the birds nesting in the trees around my tent were celebrating the cessation of the rain and sunrise with an unprecedented exuberance. I was hearing bird songs and calls that I had not experienced in the previous six days in camp. It brought to mind the Neal family reunions of my youth when the voices of our extensive extended family members caught up with one another. My mind absorbed the specialness of this new day beginning, but my body was not ready for full wakefulness at this early hour of the morning, I fell back to sleep as Red Winged Blackbirds, Yellow Headed Blackbirds, Willow Goldfinches (Washington State Bird), Chickadees and other birds celebrated this new day.



Garry, Sean, and I had arrived at Lake Chopaka on Sunday evening after a whirl wind of preparation. Sean had called me on Friday morning informing me that Garry had been on the phone with WDFW and DNR and had been told Chopaka would open on June first, for camping. The three of us busted our butts to get everything packed so that we would be there for its opening. We were all chomping at the bit, like restless fidgety horses, to get on the Lake, we were a month behind for our annual trip. Fifty-five hours or so later found the three of us at the lake setting-up camp. Public safety precautions for Covid-19 had delayed our trip, it also changed our normal camping practices, as we applied social distancing. Our usual conglomerate camping setup became three distinct camps sites. Meal preparation and consumption became a solitary pursuit. Our main social interaction was the campfire in the evening when we would gather around Garry's fire pit sitting 6 feet apart and share the days adventures and experiences.

One of unexpected benefit of more alone time was that the three of us spent more time paying attention to the area's wildlife, and no we did not just concentrate on trout. The bird life on the lake provided hours of entertainment and reflection. In our talks around the evening fire Ruddy Ducks and Red Winged Blackbirds were common topics, as we all had antidotes of our encounters to share with each other. While there are several duck species on the lake, Canvas Backs, Mallards, Golden Eye, and Coots; Ruddy Ducks were the ones that truly drew our attention. It being matting season the males were all dressed up in their courting colors, their pin tails were pointed towards the sky, their caps a velvety black in contrast to their white cheeks and baby blue colored bills, while their bodies were a deep chestnut color. They are very striking in appearance, add to that, their distinctive call that is punctuated by the drum of their bills on their chests which produces bubbles around them. They are fascinating birds.

Ruddy Ducks during the breeding season feed principally on invertebrates, primarily chironomid larvae and pupae. Chopaka is a high elevation, North central Washington lake, well known for its chironomid fishery. It also has plentiful shore grasses that fit the Ruddy Duck's nesting needs. Sean's first close encounter was on Monday morning; he chose to fish the same water on the eastern shore that the Ruddy Ducks were feeding on. They are very agile underwater divers and feeders and they used this skill to great advantage, which disrupted Sean's fishing calm. Watching them swim under your watercraft as you fish can be startling as well as their unexpected pop ups in your targeted fishing zones.



Photo via <https://www.goodfreephotos.com/>
>Good Free Photos

On Chopaka they congregate together in a large group, their antics remind me of a family water picnic, much diving, short, webbed feet propelled dashes on the water's surface, disagreements with much flapping of wings, courting displays, and young ducklings stretching their wings under a mother's guidance, feeding forays and pop-ups. A typical multifamily outing.

Ruddy Ducks are known to lay their eggs in each other's nests and in those of other ducks as well. After watching their socializing and young care efforts this information caught me off guard, but further research shows that this happens where there are meager nesting sites. This is a species survival tactic to ensure the continuation of the species, after all that work at migrating, mating, and laying eggs why let all that reproductive work turn to naught. Ruddy Ducks have been around for a long time. Fossils have been found dating back 11,000 years ago to the Pleistocene era in Oregon, California, Virginia, Florida, and Illinois. Early Naturalists were drawn to them just like Garry, Sean and I are. "One 1926 naturalist account described them thus "Its intimate habits, its stupidity, its curious nesting customs, and ludicrous courtship performance place it in a niche by itself.... Everything about this bird is interesting to the naturalist, but almost nothing about it is interesting to the sportsman." *1

We have learned much since the 1926 naturalist made his observations, Ruddy Ducks are hunted, their proclivity for flying at night during their migration and their habit of diving or swimming away when faced with danger, makes them less desirable to hunt, as shooting them on the water is viewed as unsportsmanlike *1. The belief that birds are not smart has been disproved through observation and experimentation. We have all heard the terms, birdbrained, dodo, and silly goose, these learned biases do a disservice to us and birds. "A bird's experience is far richer, complex, and 'thoughtful' than I'd imagined." "And if that was news to me after a lifetime of watching birds, it must be surprising to other people as well." "What It's Like to Be a Bird" – David Allen Sibley *2. Pigeons can and have been trained to read mammograms as well as humans, crows and parrots perform as well as dogs in tests of reasoning and learning. Chickadees that live in harsh climates store food for survival, they can remember 80 thousand seed hiding places and which ones hold the most nutritious food. Birds can sleep with one eye open resting one half of their brain. A peregrine falcon was clocked at 242 miles per hour and they make flight turns at 27 Gs ("humans lose consciousness at 9 Gs"). Crows recognize us by our faces, and they associate each person with good or bad experiences. More astounding is that they can communicate that information to other crows. Crows even understand the concept of fair trade, in one experiment humans took on the roles of fair traders and others became unfair traders, giving a lower-quality item in exchange. The crows learned the inclination of each individual human and preferred to trade with the fair ones. *2

Much of what we know about bird navigation we learned from pigeons, and it is fairly complex. Birds use a self-actualized internal map and compass with multi senses and systems contributing. They sense the earth's magnetic field, read the stars, track the sun, hear infrasound, follow smells and more, all integrated with a precise clock. And once they have experience with a route, they can follow the same corridor using rivers hills, roads, buildings, and other landmarks. On finding themselves in an unfamiliar place at sunrise, migratory birds use the local resident birds as an information source. They listen to the sounds the native birds' wings make when taking flight, a high-pitched whirring signals danger, a lower pitch signals calm. They also observe where local birds feed to find food. *2

Habitually birds think when they forage. Titmice a small songbird related to chickadees use reasoning to figure out which seeds offer the best pay back for effort spent. It does not necessarily choose the biggest seeds, because a smaller seed with a higher fat content and more calories could be a better choice. Multi-faceted decision-making is going on every time a titmouse visits a backyard bird feeder.

Birds may opt to eat later in the day when they spot predators near, thus keeping at flight-ready status in case avoidance maneuvers are needed. Egrets and Herons consider water's refraction characteristics, when striking at fish when feeding. Knowing where the real fish is requires a complex calculation of light and depth. *2 . Photo via <a href="https://www.goodfreephotos.com/" .

It takes a very agile mind to be a bird. Our world is an extraordinarily complex system and we shortchange ourselves by prejudging the intelligence of other species and other humans as well. One could spend many lifetimes study other species and beings and still not tap the depth of knowledge that is available. How rich our lives could be if we just open our minds and drink from the depth of knowledge that is presented to us each day. Too much of our time is spent with self-imposed blinders upon our own minds. We try and make the world fit our prejudices instead of appreciating what was given to us.

Sean, Garry, and I took full advantage of our 12 days at Lake Chopaka, our mornings were leisurely, camp chores, breakfast, tea or coffee, listening to the songbirds watching waterfowl and slowly getting ready to fish. We usually launched around 11:00 AM and fished until 4:30 PM. The Mayfly hatch came off around 2 PM and lasted about 45 minutes, but the fish were keyed on them and would take flies for quite a while afterwards. Sometimes fishing was hot sometimes not, I had one afternoon when I was surrounded by feeding fish. I tried a plethora of different flies and caught 2 fish in 3 hours, both fish where on different flies. I could not break the code. My hottest fly on this trip was a black ant I used it as my searching pattern back in the reeds and it paid off big time. My next hot fly was a Mayfly emerger doctored up with a black felt pen. This worked best when the hatch was on. Besides the Ruddy Ducks feeding on the water we were fishing, we had beavers, otters and muskrats feeding also. The fishing seemed to drop off a bit when they showed up though. Towards the end of our stay the traveling sedges started to come off, around 9 PM we would tie on sedge imitations and fish the shoreline as it got dark. This was a first for me, as they are not around in May when I normally fish the lake. As the sedge emerges it makes a beeline for the weeds and the trout key on them. If you get it right, you can cast out and fast strip towards shore and you will get these fast hard takes as the fish take this large protein rich meal. Not a bad way to end the day. We had a moose visit the lower end of the lake one afternoon but no bear sighting this year. The campground and lake were busy. The campground stayed mostly full but with lots of change over, people would camp for 2 or three days then move out. The day fishermen were steady, they would pull in mid-morning and leave late afternoon. Quite a few were multiday day fishermen. It was an equal mix of chironomid and dry fly fishermen on the water. Sean and Garry kept three fish between us towards the end of our stay and we barbequed them on Sean's last evening. Sean worked his magic and they were moist and tender, a treat for our one communal evening meal.



Hope you all are staying safe and finding ways to grow in these difficult times, may you always keep your mind open and learn from this astonishing world that has been entrusted to our care. All creatures great and small are valued residents of this planet we call home.

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

Sources

*1 – Wikipedia, All About Birds, National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, Chesapeake Bay Program, & Ruddy Duck – eBird

*2 – What It's Like to Be a Bird – David Allen Sibley, Sibley Birds – iTunes App

This is a wonderful book and I highly recommended it, my paraphrasing of a tiny bit of this book just lightly brushes the information that this book contains, it will expand your knowledge and appreciation of birds. I ordered my copy from Amazon and it has opened my eyes to many wonderful insights into birds and how special they are. Mr. Sibley has spent a lifetime studying birds and his knowledge and understandings are very much appreciated.



~ *In The Past* ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 4 No. 10

October of 1976

Reed Miller, 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: Steve Raymond, noted Northwest angler, editor and author, will discuss fishing for Kamloops rainbows and show a short film as well. Steve is the editor of the FFF publication "The Flyfisher" and the author of the authoritative "Kamloops—A study of the Kamloops trout" and the entertaining and poetic "The Year of the Angler".

Prizes: Don't know what all we'll have, but there'll be something to spend your money on.

Back Home Again: Ye olde editor is back from the hinterlands of Longview. Many thanks to acting editors Jim Higgins, Gary Ritchie, and Doug Hansen for putting out the newsletter during my absence.

Wild Trout: The State of Washington has designated Price Lake in Mason County as "Wild Trout Water". This lake has a self-sustaining population of Brook Trout that grow to 3 lbs. or more. The regulations require barbless hooks, a limited kill (1 or 2, I'm not sure) of the 6" to 12" trout and release of all fish over 12" long. Jim Johnston of the Dept. of Fish and Game spearheaded the study which resulted in the new regs. The club has a copy of his report. The state needs more people like Jim Johnston in the Game Dept.

Fishing Prospects: Although October is generally considered hunting time, there is still much excellent fishing available. In fact, if the weather cooperates, October can be the best month of the angler's year.

The Eastern Washington quality lakes reopened Oct. 1. This year's summer was cooler than normal over there which kept the lakes cool and the fish actively feeding. The biologists say the fish are in excellent condition and larger than average for this time of year. Summer kill was very minimal.

If our pleasant fall continues, the high lakes should continue to produce. Play this one by ear, because a couple of cool storms can spell finis to high country fishing for this year.

Beaver ponds are a good bet. The cool moist summer kept them full and fresh, which should mean fat and sassy trout. This years they stay open until November 30 so you can try all your favorites.

Searun Cutthroats are in a lot of the rivers now. The Cowlitz has been producing for some members. Jim Higgins will have more to say about Cutthroats at the next meeting.

You should also consider a trip to either the North Fork Stillaguamish or the Wenatchee to try for summer Steelhead. Both of these streams carry late runs of these fine fish.

This is the best time of the year to try the Yakima. The irrigation releases are through and the river is down to a fishable level. I've taken rainbows to 16" from the Yakima in October. One of the previous newsletters gives some hints on fishing this fine river.

The list could go on and on, but I think you get the picture. Forget raking those damn leaves and go fishing!

See you and your guest at the next meeting.

A MONTANA FISHING REPORT

By Larry Gibbs

I just spent 4 days fishing the Clark Fork River in the St. Regis area. The first two days my guide was Brooks Sanford and then I took a one day break to give my hand and shoulder a rest. Bill Fox came over and we fished for two days and our guide was Steve Temple. We had missed out on the April fishing for the Skwala hatch, which would have really been fun. By the way, Howard Inks came down to Paradise from Thompson Falls to meet up with Bill and myself and friends have a great dinner at the Harwood House at Quinn's Resort. Howard says Hi!

On my first day I fished the 14 mile run (St. Regis to the 14 mile bridge). Right off the bat the fishing was really good with small hoppers and that went on until around 9:30 am, then it really slowed down. I tried some nymphing and caught a few but it was back to the hoppers, switching between the small hopper and a large hopper. I got 29 fish, Rainbows and Cutts, to the boat that day, most between 16 to 18 inches. All were really chunky.

On my second day I fished a 15 mile run, Forest Grove to Dry Creek. Again the fish were really into hoppers in the morning then it slowed way down so I finished the day doing mostly nymphing. I got 38 fish to the boat that day.

When Bill arrived in town, we fished the Big Eddy (Superior) to St. Regis. it was a very hard day of fishing. The weather was sunny with temps in the high 80's and low 90's. The fish just were not cooperating that day like they had been. We only got 20 fish to the boat, however some of them were really nice and in the 18 to 19 inch range.

For our last day of fishing we did the 14 mile float from St. Regis. This time the fish were again not cooperating very well, the anticipated cloud cover didn't really happen much. When we did get a little cover, there was a hatch of mayflies but the fish did not key in on it, just too small of a hatch. We only boated 23 fish that day but about 5 of them were in the 18 to 20 inch range and great fighters.

Those last two days were really hard days of fishing, but we were out on the water and catching some fish so it was really worth it. Below on the left is a photo of Bill's very nice 19 inch trout caught on Thursday.

The Cutthroat on the right is one I caught on Monday.



A River Runs Through It

An editors mistake

A little while ago I decided to watch a movie that I have seen a number of times, but it has been many years, *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean.

I was surprised to see an editing mistake. I guess I was more surprised that I had never seen it before. When Norman Maclean comes back to Montana from 6 years of college, he and his brother go to the river to do some fly fishing. There is a close-up of Norman casting. It shows his hand, reel and bamboo rod. The reel is the proper age, and in very good shape. All the black paint is on the spool. Then they cut to him looking at a rock that he wanted to cast to and he strips out more line and starts casting. They do a close-up again of the hand, reel and rod and the reel is all beat up, about a third of the black paint worn off.

I am surprised no one caught that during editing. It does not however diminish from the film.

“Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it.”

Larry

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2020

August (no meeting)

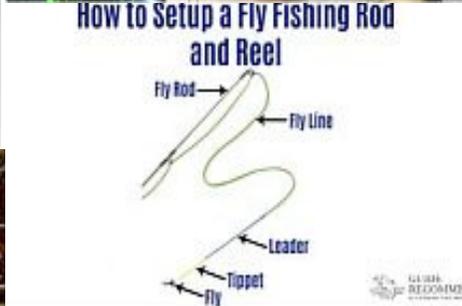
Next meeting to be announced at a later date.

If we do meet in the following months, these will be the dates:

September 22; October 27; November 24; December 15



<https://guiderecommended.com>



Door Prizes at our next meeting!!!

Aside from the Loop Rod/Reel raffle board and the regular raffles we hold at every meeting, I am going to have some great door prizes at our next meeting. Just show up, grab a ticket and wait to see if your number is called. You must be present to win. So, what are the door prizes? That is TBD (To Be Determined), but I am sure you will like them. See you down the road.

Larry

Six (6) Winners on Loop Rod/Reel Raffle Board!!

I want to thank **Howard** and **Paul** and **Duffy** and **Bruce** and **Guy** for buying some squares on the Loop fly rod/reel board. Between their purchases and my own purchases, we now have over 51% of the rod board squares sold!!!

I would really like to get the whole board sold out before we have our next meeting or even sooner! It would be nice to pick some winners before then or at the meeting.

If you are thinking that you really don't need another fly rod (really?) then consider buying some squares to try to win and then you can re-gift the fly rod outfit to a deserving youth or a friend or a very worthy cause like Project Healing Waters so a vet can have a really nice outfit. Or how about Casting for Recovery or someone you know who may just be getting into fly fishing or who needs a second outfit. If not yourself, then make someone else happy!

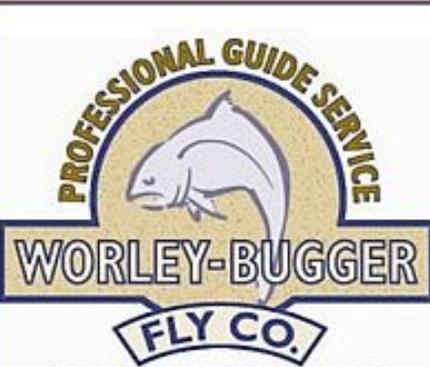
So, here is what is going to happen. The first square chosen will be for the Loop outfit. Then we will draw a total of five (5) more winners (***You do not have to be present to win***). I will have five nice items for the winners.

One person can win more than once, the more squares you buy the greater your odds are at winning.

Email me and I will send you my home address so you can mail a check to me.

Don't forget, this is a fund raiser so Ron can get some great guest speakers!!
Larry





1713 SOUTH CANYON ROAD
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worleybugger@fairpoint.net



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

Worley Bugger Fly Co.

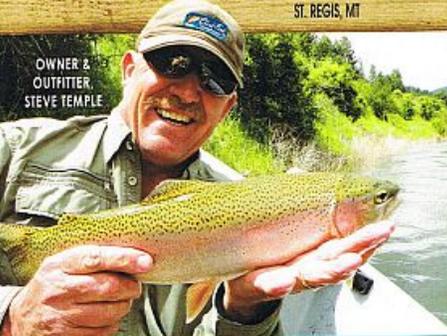
Steve Worley has some great guides and he has put together the best fly shop filled with a massive amount of fly tying materials and equipment. You really need to stop by the shop and check it out. Just take the Canyon Road exit off I-90 and turn north towards town, the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop is 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

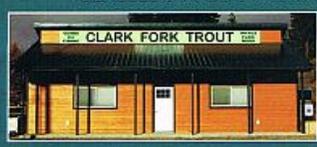
St. Regis, MT

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."

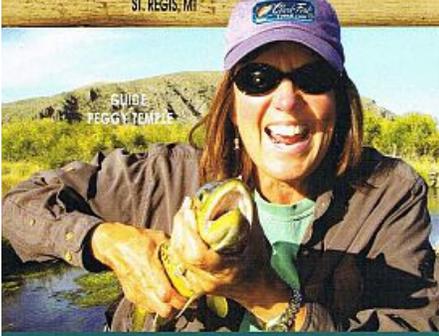




CLARK FORK TROUT, LLC
BUS: 406.382.0161 - HOME: 406.822.0922
715 Hwy. 135 - St. Regis, MT 59866
Outfitter Steve Temple #20878



MONTANA FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS
ST. REGIS, MT



GUIDE PEGGY TEMPLE

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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.

Gear Sense

Is your floating fly line sinking faster than the economy? Does it slap the water with a resounding 'flop' that spooks fish in the next county? Are you only casting half the distance you used to? Does your fly line sound like sand paper when going through the guides? Is that your problem? Well, sounds like you need to give your fly line a little loving care by cleaning it and then treating it with a good conditioner.

I was cleaning my fly lines the other day in preparation for a fishing trip. That is something I do before every trip and also during the trip.

A clean line will cast better and I can use all the help I can get in reaching out to the fish. The dirt that accumulates on the line causes more friction in the guides when casting, hence more drag, so less distance and maybe not as neat a presentation on the water.

For floating lines, a clean line will float a whole lot better than a dirty line. Dirt is everywhere, even in that clean looking water of a river or a lake, there is dirt galore. It grabs onto your line and stays there, not washing off on the next cast. It just builds up to a thicker layer. That really sinks a fly line.

Even sinking lines need to be cleaned. Aside from the increased friction, the dirt actually keeps the line from sinking at the rate it is supposed to.

So, I clean my line before each trip and during the trip. I strip off around 60 feet of line, soak it in a basin of hot water for a while, then pull it out and start pulling it through a wet wash towel. (Do not use good towels for this, an old rag from a towel is better). After two or three times pulling it through the rag, you will notice that it does not leave a dirty streak, unlike the first time or two through the rag.

Then I drape the line over something (at home I use a post on my stairs but in a motel room I usually use a door handle). Once the line has dried, I grab my bottle of Loon or Rio line cleaner/conditioner and apply a small amount to a clean piece of cloth. I then pull the line through that cloth two or three times to finish cleaning the line and applying a conditioner that will allow the line to cast better and float better. Note: Do not use the cleaner/conditioner on sinking lines. After that dries then I use a dry cloth and buff down the line.

But, I still have not finished. Next is a very important step. When in a motel room, I will drape the line over a door handle and take both ends of the line (ok, one end and the reel which still has lots of line on it) and I back up and give three steady pulls on both ends. Gentle pulls and no snapping back. This helps take out the curls in the line. The line has a 'memory' of being wrapped in a tight circle (the reel) and coils develop. Gently stretching the line gets rid of the worst coils.

Almost done by now. Only thing left is to put a new leader on the fly line. Yep, every day I start off with a new leader. No little nicks, coils, knots or abrasions. I know leaders are not exactly cheap, but just how much money are you spending on your fishing trip? What's a couple bucks compared to possibly missing out on a nice big fish.

Only thing left to do is get out there on the water.

If anyone of you has a good tip please feel free to send me an email with it and I will place it in the next newsletter.

August / September 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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"Summer is the time when one sheds one's tensions with one's clothes, and the right kind of day is jeweled balm for the battered spirit. A few of those days and you can become drunk with the belief that all's right with the world."
 - Ada Louise Huxtable (1921 - 2013)

**1
August**

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	No Meeting In August			20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

"Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse and cool the earth, the air and you." - Langston Hughes

**1
September**

6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Not sure of a September meeting. Depends upon what our doctors say.						
27	28	29	30	"Gently I stir a white feather fan, With open shirt sitting in a green wood. I take off my cap and hang it on a jutting stone; A wind from the pine-tree trickles on my bare head." - Li Po, Summer in the Mountains		

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