

Alpine Fly Fishers

No club meeting

until

September 28



Charter
Club



The Dead Drift – August 2010

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Editor Information

New Mailing Address

*Club's Board
of Directors*

Presidents Line

By Larry Gibbs

On Saturday, July 17th the WSCFFF Board of Directors held a quarterly meeting in Ellensburg. One of our AFF Club members has become a member of the WSCFFF Board Of Directors, that being Bill Aubrey. He is a Director At Large. I am also a BOD member, being the Auction Coordinator.

July was a busy month for Bill Fox and yours truly, we went to Montana twice for some great fishing. The first week of July we went to the Clark Fork River in the St. Regis area and two weeks later we went to the Missouri River in the Craig area. The fishing was far better on the Clark Fork than on the Missouri, but we did catch some nice fish on the Big Mo.

In June we had our annual AFF Picnic at Duffy's place. I am sorry some of you could not attend but those of us who did show up had a great time. The food was excellent and the weather was perfect.

We sat outside and were introduced to a game that Steve Egge and Bob Alston play while they are on some of their fishing trips, the game is called Washers. This is sort of like horseshoes except without the horseshoes or the pipe, if that makes any sense, which is most likely doesn't. You try to get a 'ringer' by tossing the washer into the PVC pipe or if you can land on the rubber pad you may get points as well. You would be amazed how hard it is to toss a large 1.25 inch washer into a 4 or 5 inch PVC pipe from a distance of around 25 feet, or maybe it was 18 feet. The distance seemed to move around a bit at the whim of the players.

Another game that seemed to take on some heavy discussion and more than a few moans was Bocce Balls or Bocci Balls, whichever way you want to spell it.

There was also some casting of fly lines and the telling of many fishing stories. I really want to thank Duffy for allowing us to use her property for our picnics, the location perfect.

Thank you Duffy.

Remember to be safe out there, go fishing, relax and have some fun.

See you at the next club meeting on Tuesday, September 28th.

Good fishing.

Larry

FFF

Fly of the Month

Headless Blue Wing Olive

August 2005 FFF Fly of the month

By Bob Bates



There is "no one and only way" to tie a fly that catches fish. For example, several years ago I was tying this pattern at a Federation of Fly Fishers Conclave. A friend decided to make a survey. His report: "Today I saw five ways to tie a parachute."

This tying technique came off of a website that I have followed for years. It is <http://www.bobsflytying.com>, Bob's Fly Shop in Loveland, Colorado. It's monthly newsletters have fishing stories, cartoons and, most interesting to me, Julie's Fly Tying Tips. Several of her flies, including this one, were added to my fly box.

Julie Ray, like many tiers, experiments with different techniques in the "Yes that works, but what if?" style. Sometime before 1997 she saw a fly tier using a half hitch to secure a parachute hackle. So if that works how about a whip finish? The Headless Blue Wing Olive was born, and the last time I corresponded with her she said that she ties all of her parachutes using a Matarelli whip finishing tool.

This pattern imitates the blue-winged olive (*Baetis*) mayfly and related genera which, depending on location, hatch from late February to November. Many feel it is the basic mayfly along most North American rivers. Some are multi-brooded species and have two or three hatches a year. Therefore, keep a good supply of these flies to match the hatch. In the cool temperatures of spring hatches might come off from noon to early afternoon. During warmer days hatches will be in the morning and evening. In really hot weather they might hatch at night. Cool and drizzly days offer the chance of memorable hatches. If you can, check with a local fly shop for the latest information.

Fishing this fly is like any other dry fly. Floating line, long leader, appropriate tippet size and dead drift.

Materials & Equipment:

Hook: Mustad 94840 or Tiemco TMC 100, sizes 14-20

Thread: Rusty dun, 8/0 or 14/0

Tail: Medium blue dun hackle fibers

Post: White turkey flats, poly yarn, crystal flash or calf tail

Hackle: Medium blue dun

Body: Medium olive dubbing

For step by step photos to tie this fly go to the FFF website, then to Fly Tying, then click on Fly of the Month and scroll down to August 2005.

www.fedflyfishers.org

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Tying Instructions:

Step 1: If you want barbless flies, smash the barb with smooth jaw pliers before you start tying.

Step 2: Start thread in center of hook. Select a bunch of hackle fibers for the tail, hold them over the hook so a shank length of the tips extend beyond the bend, trim fibers at mid-shank and secure. Hold the fibers on top of the hook, and wind thread rearward to above the barb. Wind thread forward to a point 1/3rd shank length back from eye.

Step 3: Pull off any short fibers on the turkey flat so the tips are even.

Step 4: Cut off a bunch of fibers from one side of the turkey flat and fold them together to look like a small paint brush. Secure this "brush" at the 1/3rd point with a shank length of the tips facing forward. Trim butts, and wind thread to make a smooth ramp behind the post.

Step 5: Stand up tips and wind a thread cone in front of post. I usually put a few thread wraps around post to pull fibers together a little and strengthen the post.

Step 6: Select a hackle with barbs (fibers) that are 1-1/2 to 2 gap widths long, pull or cut off all longer barbs. The web should be less than 1/3rd of the barb length.

Step 7: Place the feather vertically, tip up along the post with the bare shaft extending about a hook eye width above the shank. Have the shiny side of the feather toward the post. Wind thread up shaft and post three or four turns and then back down again. Leave a little bare shaft above the highest thread wrap.

Step 8: Bend the butt of the shaft rearward along the shank and secure it with a few rearward winds of thread. Trim excess shaft, and wind thread to a point above the barb.

Step 9: Dub thread using your favorite technique, and wrap body forward to the eye and back to the post. The body should be a little thicker around the post. Put the last thread wrap immediately behind the post, and let the bobbin hang on far side of hook to keep tension on the thread.

Step 10: Grab hackle tip in pliers, and pull feather down to put a little kink in the shaft. Wrap feather clockwise around post with each wrap below the preceding one. Three to five wraps should be enough for most water conditions. When you are down to the body let the hackle pliers hang on the far side of the body. Reach under hook with the left hand to hold pliers down and tension hackle. With bobbin in right hand, move tensioned thread three times clockwise around post, each time sliding it between body and parachute hackle.

Step 11: Hook a Matarelli whip finish tool onto thread and tip it up so wraps will be around the post below the parachute. Keep tension on thread as you wind it around feather and post. After three or four winds hold the tool down so when you unhook it you wont trap hackle fibers.

Step 12: Trim thread and excess hackle. Carefully put a little head cement on bottom of post.

After a little practice this technique is a lot easier than other parachute methods that I know. Now I use it for all of my parachute patterns: Adams, Callebaetis, PMD, ants and anything needed to match the hatch. A point to remember, the blue-winged olive comes in light to dark olive, olive brown, dark brown and reddish brown; so tie it in several different body colors. One thing for sure this pattern has fooled many trout.

August - No club meetings	Key Dates In The Future	August - No club meetings
August 26/28 FFF Fly Fishing Fair in West Yellowstone, MT		September 28 — Club Meeting

AFF 2010 Club Outings

By Bob Alston

1. 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

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

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

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

Quote Of The Month



Go, take thine angle, and with practiced line,
Light as the gossamer, the current sweep;
And if thou failest in the calm still deep
In this rough eddy, may a prize be thine.
Say thou'rt unlucky where the sunbeams shine;
Beneath the shadow, where these flowing waters creep,
Perchance the monarch of the brook shall leap.
For fate is ever better than design.....
Sonnet. By Thomsa Doubleday, 1826



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

FFF Fly Fishing Fair/Conclave Auction & Raffle Highlights

The auction and raffle will be in full swing this August at West Yellowstone during the Fly Fishing Fair.

Be sure to join us on Friday August 27th for the annual live auction which is a main highlight of the show and the only fundraising auction held at the national level. A Cash Bar and great appetizers will be available during the Auction preview from 6:00-7:30 along with several raffle items and a silent auction - to get in for the preview from 6:00-7:30 reserve your ticket when you register. The live auction starts at 7:30 sharp and no ticket is required-just show up!!!

Here is a sneak peak of some fishing trips that will be up for bidding at the Fly Fishing Fair!

SW Wisconsin: A Wisconsin Spring Creek fly fishing trip offered by Jacquish Hollow Angler and Angler's Inn in southwest Wisconsin. The trip is for two people for 2 days of guided fishing and 3 nights lodging at the Angler's Inn B&B owned by David & Nancy Barron.

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Western Montana: Brooks & Jackie Sanford of the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle fly shop have offered two days of drifting on the Clark Fork River in the St. Regis area plus a \$100 gift certificate towards the purchase of anything at the fly shop.

North-Central Idaho: Clearwater River Company LLC is once again offering some great trips. One trip in the live auction is a 2 person, 2 day guided drift boat fishing trip on the Clearwater River between Kooskia and Lewiston, ID with 2 nights lodging. Each fall over thirty-thousand Steelhead return to the Clearwater River. These fish offer ample angling opportunity from mid September thru March. These majestic fish are considered to be pound for pound the hardest fighting fish that swim the western rivers. The average Clearwater River Steelhead is 12-15 pounds with numerous over 20 pounds being landed each season. These fish will test the limits of every angler that ties into one of these brutes.

Kenai, Alaska: Blue Moose Rafting and Drake's on the Kenai offer an exceptional package trip to fish the Kenai area of Alaska. This will be a five (5) days of fishing for two (2) people. This is for the year 2011. The trip includes four (4) nights of lodging at Drake's on the Kenai, a 5,750 sq. ft. custom log B&B owned by Bill Drake.

Richard Mousseau of Blue Moose Rafting will handle the travel to and from the fishing locations. There are five (5) fishing systems to pick from. They are: The Russian, Quartz Creek, Anchor River, Swanson River, the Kenai, and the Kasilof. Some areas are a walk in type and others are with a drift boat.

This trip is for the 2011 year. Here are the dates of the various salmon runs:

June 15th to July 4th –Sockeye Salmon – Limited productive Rainbow Trout and Dolly Varden fishing, with a chance of a few Kings

July 4th to July 15th – King Salmon – Rainbow and Dolly Varden

July 15th to August 15th – King Salmon limited on the spawn, 2nd run of Sockeye, Silvers and better Rainbow Trout and Dolly Varden fishing

August 15th to September 15th – Coho/Silver Salmon and the most productive Rainbow Trout and Dolly Varden fishing

Blue Ribbon Flies: Donated by Craig Mathews of Blue Ribbon Flies. A full day fishing backcountry stream (s) for 2 with Blue Ribbon Flies' Tylor Robinson. Included are lunches, soft drinks, and water. Transportation from and return to Blue Ribbon Flies on trip date. Date to be announced with Tylor, subject to availability – must be taken in Sept. 2010.

Madison River: Donated by Brad Richey of Madison River Outfitters. Enjoy a guided float fishing trip for two anglers on the Madison River. Lunches, beverages and transportation are included. Trip can be taken during the Conclave or later in the 2010 season.

Custom built Sage Z-Axis Fly Rod –A 9 foot, 6 weight, 4 piece:

Larry Gibbs and expert custom fly rod builder Tyler Speir, www.tyrodffishing.com of TyRod Fishing have teamed together to bring you a beautiful custom built Sage Z-Axis fly rod. The rod is signed by Tyler and it is dedicated to the 2010 FFF Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave. Check it out when you come to West Yellowstone.

A Riverwood Design Original with Relief Carving:

Bob & Val Wagner have attended and supported the FFF & Fly Fishing Fair for numerous years, and this year is no exception. They are donating: One 36" Large Portable Fly Tying Table, black cherry trim with hand carved trout plus a matching 5 drawer materials cabinet, 17" wide by 29" tall. All are solid wood construction.

New Bamboo Fly Rod:

A new 7' 9" 6/7 wt rod donated by Volcano Fly Rods, Randy Johnson.

Jack Gartside book, pamphlet and box of flies: Donated by Melvyn Harris, Bud Lilly & Bob Jacklin

Plus numerous other items such as:

Rods, reels, certificates, books, vehicle rod carrier, hats, sunglasses, DVD's, jackets, shirts, art and MUCH MORE!!

This year is guaranteed to be one of the best. We have a number of amazing items that have been donated by individuals and companies that support the FFF for you to bid on in the live and silent auctions and to win in the raffles. From guided fly fishing trips, beautiful fly plates, flies, and exceptional art, to the finest gear we are sure to have items for everyone who pursues a fly fishing lifestyle. There will also be a nice selection of non-fly fishing related items.

Larry Gibbs
Auction/Raffle Chairman

August / September

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
August 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 NO club meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	No club meetings in August, see you on September 28th			
			September 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	28 Club Meeting	29	30		

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NEW MAILING ADDRESS

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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

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