

Alpine Fly Fishers

The next meeting will be
on

December 13, 2011 at the
Puerto Vallarta
215 15th St. SE, Puyallup



Charter
Club



The Dead Drift - December 2011 / January 2012

In this issue:

Page 2 & 3 & 4

FFF Fly Of The Month

- Tellico Nymph -

Page 4

FFF Call For Donations

Other Events in the NW

Page 5

In the FFF Corner

*Renew your
FFF membership*

About our WSCFFF

FFF Fly Tying Group

Page 6

Calendar

Editor Information

Mailing Address

Board of Directors

President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

December Meeting Is Our Annual Fundraiser

Hi everyone,

Don't forget, our December meeting is going to be on Tuesday, December 13, this is the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We do this so as to not conflict with the busy holidays.

This is our annual fund raiser, so if you have some neat new or in fantastic condition used fly fishing 'stuff' or non-fly fishing 'stuff', please bring it for our raffles. The funds we obtain go towards paying for our guest speakers.

We will also have a Fly Tree, so bring some flies to stick in the tree and that will be one of the raffle items.

We will have a drawing for the TFO Rod & Reel board that we have been running this year.

We will also have an election of club officers. We need a Vice President, that is per Washington State and FFF rules. We also need a librarian. Until we have a librarian we will not have a library.

2011 has been a busy year for most of us, good fishing trips and I hope lots of fun. 2012 is right around the corner. Some of us are planning on making our annual migration to Albany, OR for the NW Fly Tyers Expo, that will be in March. In May we have our Washington State Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg and also a very special treat in 2012, the FFF International Fly Fishing Fair which will be held in Spokane in July.

I hope to see all of you at our December meeting, we should have a great selection of items for the raffles.

Good fishing.

Larry

TELLICO NYMPH

By Bob Bates

January 2009 FFF Fly Of The Month



Comments:

Tellico Nymphs are absolutely necessary for many anglers. If they are not in your fly box go home and get some. The Tellico Nymph is an old pattern that was developed around 1927 by a priest along the Tellico River in Tennessee and North Carolina. The Tellico River basin is one of the Southeast's premier trout-fishing destinations. According to website promos it offers year-round fishing for wild and stocked trout in secluded mountain streams. It seems like every guide or fly shop in Tennessee and North Carolina that has a website mentions the Tellico Nymph. I also see references to huge brook trout, a 20-pound brown and also smaller fish (stockers) that apparently love Tellico Nymphs. It is an approximate imitation of many insects like Golden Stoneflies and bees. Probably most of the time it is fished in streams, but it has been successful in lakes.

There are many variations of the Tellico Nymph, at least 7 or 8 according to Mike Stewart. Mike was tying his version at the 43rd FFF International Fly Fishing Show and Conclave in Whitefish, Montana, July 22-26, 2008. Mike lives in North Granby, Connecticut. This is an easy fly to tie. This is the third pattern (without the reinforcing over-rib) that Mike teaches in his beginner fly tying classes.

Use your favorite nymph fishing technique. One person describing his experience said he made sure it was right on the bottom.

Materials & Equipment:

Hook: Mustad 3906B or similar, size 8 (this can be tied down to 16, but Mike swears by size 8)

Thread: Black, 3/0

Tail: Hen back hackle, mottled brown

Over-Rib: Copper, brassy size or smaller

Weight: Lead or lead substitute, 0.020 inch dia.

Rib and shellback: Peacock herl

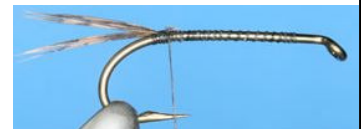
Body: Floss, bright yellow

Legs: Hen back hackle, mottled brown; (alternatively you can use any brown feather)

Step 1: Start thread about 1/4 of the way back from the eye, and wind toward a point near the barb.



Step 2: Tie on a few fibers of hen hackle to make a tail that is a shank length long.



Step 3: Tie on the over-rib. You could use a finer wire than what he used because you really do not need the flash. He folds a little of the wire back and wraps the thread over it to be sure it is secure. The wire reinforces the peacock shellback and rib that will be put on later. The Tellico is easily shredded by the sharp teeth of fish. The wire over-rib solves that problem.



Step 4: Put about 12 wraps of lead or lead substitute. Use a half hitch tool to roll and smooth the ends of the wire.

Step 5: Use some “Sally Henson’s Hard as Nails” clear fingernail polish over the wire and build up a thread ramp at each end. Select a bunch of peacock herl. How many you need depends on the bulk of the fibers. Some strung herls are thin so more are needed. Mike used 12 on this fly. Tie them in near the eye so the materials can be tied down smoothly over the back. Put all the herls in a material clip. Select a nice full herl from a feather. This will be the rib. Tie it in with the others and secure it in the clip so you can find it later. Leave thread near bend of hook where you tied-in the tail. Tie the yellow floss just in front of the peacock herl. Use 8-10 inches of floss for size 8 hook. Double the floss over the thread, slide it to the tie in point and secure it. Smooth out lead with thread to get nice ramps front and back of lead. Wind thread forward to about an eye length from the eye.

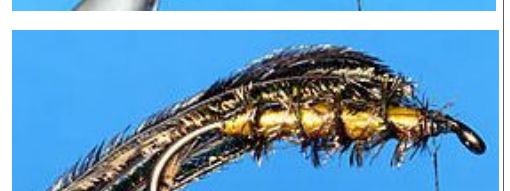
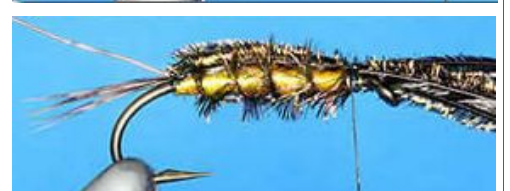
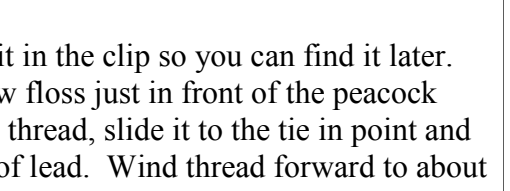
Step 6: Wetting your fingers before starting to wrap helps prevent fraying the floss. Also, when wrapping floss pass it from one hand to the other rather than sliding it through the fingers, again to prevent fraying the floss.

Step 7: Take the full herl and spiral it forward in five wraps. Secure it at front of floss.

Step 8: Pull herls forward and put one wrap of thread over the top.

Step 9: Now start counter wrapping the wire. First make one wrap at the back like a tag. Counter-wrap wire over the shellback and ribbing at evenly spaced wraps as was done for the rib. Use your thumb to keep the shellback on top. When you get to the last wrap, stop and unwrap the thread while keeping tension on the wire. Tuck shellback herls out of the way. Take one more spiral wrap of the wire, then tie down the wire with three wraps of thread, pull the wire back to lock it in place and tie it down. Use “kluncky” (a new fly tying term??, for those poor quality, inexpensive scissors used on bulky and hard, tough materials) scissors to snip off the wire. You have to get down with the point of the scissors to cut the wire, and that will damage good scissors.

Step 10: Select a hackle with barbs that will almost reach the point of the hook. A hackle gauge can be used. Stroke the fibers back, and tie it in softly by the tip. Then Mike pulls it back through the thread a tiny amount (about 1mm) so a tiny amount of shaft is exposed. Trim the barbs sticking out front.



Step 11: One wrap of the hackle is usually enough. If the feather is not webby you might need two wraps. Finish wrapping on top of hook, so it not critical if you clip a fiber or two when the feather is cut.



Step 12: Collect all the herls, pull them down and then forward. Make a soft wrap, check to make sure everything is centered. Then put on two more wraps, first one soft and second tight.



Step 13: If you have a stray fiber, grab it with tweezers and snap it off. Form a head and finish with a whip finish. Put on head cement or “Sally Henson’s Hard as Nails.”



Closing Comments: Mike goes through a hundred Tellico Nymphs each year. He uses so many of them because they catch fish. If you really want it to sink fast put a bead on it. There is so much great fish catching history attached to this fly, particularly in the eastern U.S., that fly anglers in the rest of the world should check it out. Mike actually caught his first striped bass using a Tellico while smallmouth bass fishing on the Connecticut River.

Call for donations for the 2012 International Fly Fishing Fair

The FFF Show Committee is already gearing up for the 2012 International Fly Fishing Fair, which will be held in Spokane on July 10 -14. As the auction coordinator for this great event, I am already gathering up a nice selection of items for the raffles, silent auctions and live auction. I have some graphite fly rods, fly reels and a fantastic bamboo fly rod.

We need donations so that we can offer a huge selection for everyone to bid on or win in the raffles. I am especially looking for items that fall within the \$5 to \$50 range in retail value. Naturally, I will accept items that are above that range in retail value. Please contact the FFF or me, Larry Gibbs, via e-mail at flytier015@q.com or phone 253-863-4910 about any donations you would like to donate. We are a 501.c.3, so all donations are tax deductible.

Other Events In The Greater Northwest

Lower Umpqua Expo — Fly Casters Fly Fishing Club — February 25, 2012 — Reedsport, OR

Oregon Council FFF Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo — March 9-10, 2012
Linn County Fairground Albany, OR www.nwflytyerexpo.com

River Fly Fishing and Bamboo Rod Fair — Tenth Annual Metolius Black Butte School — July 2012
Camp Sherman, OR www.campshermanstore.com



In The FFF Corner

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

Upcoming FFF Events

FFF International Fly Fishing Fair

July 10 thru July 14, 2012

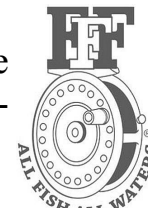
Spokane, WA



Renew Your FFF Membership

We have been a FFF Charter Club for over one year. That means that those of you who joined at the end of 2009 or start of 2010 are at or near your expiration date. Please make sure you renew your FFF membership.

Thanks, Larry



About Our WSCFFF

Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

By Larry Gibbs



At many of the events that the Washington State Council FFF attends and has a booth, one of the key things we do is support and promote fly casting. Some of your very own Alpine Fly Fishers & Puget Sound Flyfishers FFF Certified Casting Instructors and Certified Master Instructors attend these events and are there to give casting demonstrations and often will give one-on-one casting tips. Look for them at the below shows.

WSCFFF Booth Show Schedule

- o Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Show– Sequim, April 14 -15, 2012
- o **2012 Washington Fly Fishing Fair - May 4 - 5, 2012**

New plan for Fly Tying education announced

The FFF Fly Tying Group recently adopted a new and aggressive Strategic Plan for Fly Tying Education. Phase 1 of the plan is to develop an extensive Directory of Fly Tying Instructors and Demonstration Tiers. In addition to the Directory, the group will also develop and make available teaching materials for FFF tying activities. In this effort the Tying Group is asking each Federation member to look around his or her Club and identify to us those Fly Tying instructors who are out there working in the trenches teaching the art of fly tying. We would also very much appreciate contact information for NON-FFF instructors in your area. Those people teaching in Fly Shops and to other organizations can help us out a lot.

Please help us spotlight your local tying instructors. Simply send the names, contact information, and most importantly an email address to either Carl Ronk or Frank Johnson at the addresses shown below. We will then send an e-mail survey and questionnaire to these generous and talented people and learn about their fly tying activities. We would like to learn who they teach, what they teach, how often they teach, and what teaching materials would benefit them in their efforts. This is an opportunity for all FFF Clubs to contribute to the fly-tying education opportunities FFF can provide. Please help us - this effort will cost you no money and only a little time.

Send Instructor and Demonstration Tier names and contact information to either:

Carl Ronk, Board Chairman
FFF Fly Tying Group
909-987-4051
E-mail: flytyer@earthlink.net

Frank Johnson, FTG Member
Project Chairman
307-672-5164
E-mail: bighornjohnsons@gmail.com



December / January

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				December 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Club Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 30	26 31	27	28	29	30	31

January 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Club Meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Alpine Fly Fishers' 'The Dead Drift' is Published bi-monthly by the Alpine Fly Fishers Club
 Larry Gibbs, Editor 253-863-4910 flytier015@msn.com

Alpine Fly Fishers
PO Box 1456
Sumner, WA 98390

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

Board Of Directors:

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
Vice President:		
Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	
Secretary:	Howard Inks	253-881-1885
Ghilly:	Guy Magno	253-831-0444
Outings Coord:	Bob Alston	253-848-6884
Programs Coord:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683
Librarian:		
Webmaster:	Steve Egge	253-841-1093