

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

December 19

(Third Tuesday in December)

As always, at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE



FFI
Charter Club



The Dead Drift - December 2017

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By Larry Gibbs

Our December Christmas meeting is going to be on the THIRD (3rd) Tuesday of December so please make a note of it on your smart phone calendar, tablet, I-Pad, your printed calendar, post it on the refer, or anywhere else. --December 19 --

I want to thank Gene for the presentation he gave us at the November meeting, those lakes in eastern WA around Chelan sure look like they could be fun.

Speaking of the November meeting, that was a great turnout. There were 33 of us including two returning members, Kevin Jones and Catherine Walters, back from their 2.5 year stint in California. Welcome back! We also had four visitors. Douglas and Stephanie, friends of Robert Shirley. Terry's son, Matt Lueck and his son were also there. I hope you enjoyed the Pumpkin bread loaf. Oh yea, Carol won the other Pumpkin loaf. Hope you enjoyed it. We sold some more squares on the TFO raffle rod board, we are not almost 50% filled. We may end up filling it at the December meeting so I will have the rods there just in case. **See you all at the December 19 meeting!!!!!!**

Reflections:

2018 is just around the corner. Another year is slipping on by, recorded in our mind with thoughts of many other Decembers past. Years upon years of happy memories. When I was growing up, we had a freshly cut fir trees and I really enjoyed the smell. We would spend hours decorating it. Stringing the lights was always a challenge. If one bulb didn't work then the whole string would be out. It was my job to find the culprit, and more times than not it was actually two bulbs that didn't work, making the search even more challenging. We would hang the glass balls of different colors and designs and then we would drape the tree with tinsel. Back in those 'old days' the tinsel was made from a lead product. I did love the way it hung off the limbs. Far better than the newer and safer type they came up with which just never looked right. But then the lead tinsel wasn't really good for us either.

Last December Bill Aubrey won the Christmas Fly Tree. I hope he was able to use some of those flies. I trust we will have a decent number of flies for the tree again this year. Please bring some to the December meeting. The winner of the fly tree is picked from all of the raffle tickets purchased at our Christmas meeting so anyone could win.

Don't forget we will also have a special free raffle for a St. Croix Avid series fly rod, a Sage 1850 Large Arbor fly reel (5/6) and a fly rod/reel case and maybe a few more items. The more meetings you attended in 2017 the more chances you have to win.

Good fishing.



Larry

FFI Fly of the Month

GOLD RIBBED HARE'S EAR NYMPH

December 2001



***Webkeepers Note**

Since the inception of the beloved Fly of the Month section of our website, our former webkeeper and all purpose contributor Jim Abbs has kept up this section. Since I personally do not have the expertise of Mr. Abbs the daunting task has been accepted by Bob Bates. Bob is an avid tyer and fisherman from Spokane Washington. Bob has tied flies since 1960 when he started tying small midge patterns for Colorado high country waters. He wrote a fly tying column for his hometown newspaper in Spokane and is now a fly tying instructor when he is not fishing in Washington, Montana, Idaho, or Canada. He's a familiar face at our annual show and greatly appreciated for helping out with yet another endeavor.

Thanks Bob!!

By Bob Bates

Fly tiers like to talk about their delicate dry and emerger fly patterns. However, when they get serious the Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph usually shows up as one of their favorite flies. It is an all purpose nymph. Its various sizes can imitate nymphs from large dragonflies to tiny mayflies. Probably most people consider it a mayfly nymph imitation. Floating, sink tip and full sinking lines may be used to present it to willing (or hopefully willing) trout. As for retrieves, use any and all you can think of. Also you can suspend it from a strike indicator. It can be used in lakes, ponds, creeks, streams or rivers. A few years ago I had a chance to test the performance of a Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph against (please excuse the bad words) an earth worm. I was in a float tube using a floating line and a medium speed hand twist retrieve. A father and son were a short distance away using spin gear, bobbers and the unmentionable things. At first the father told his son that they "would catch all the fish because we are using worms." However, he definitely had second thoughts after my Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph fooled six or eight rainbows, while their bobbers floated undisturbed.

Many recipe book authors neglect the word Nymph when listing this pattern. Leaving it out is really an error because Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear is an old dry fly pattern. In fact it might be the original dry fly, circa 1886 or earlier. The Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph is also an old pattern, but my references don't help establish a date. At least one person told me that it is traceable to Izaak Walton and Charles Cotton (1600s). I can find instructions to use white rabbit tail for tying a fly so maybe they used other parts of the rabbit as well. There are many variations with the only consistent materials being hare's ear/mask for the abdomen/thorax and a gold rib.

In the following recipe, the material used in tying the pictured fly is given first, followed by variations.

The materials are listed in the order they are placed on the hook.

Hook: Mustad 3609B, 9671, 9672; Tiemco 5262, 3761, 200R or other nymph hooks, sizes 6-22

Weight: Optional, 8-12 wraps lead-free wire

Thread: Black 3/0 to 12/0

Tail: Pheasant tail fibers, hare's mask guard hairs, tuft of hare's mask fur, Red Fox squirrel tail, partridge hackle fibers, brown hackle fibers or none

Rib: Gold tinsel, fine oval tinsel or fine gold wire

Abdomen: Dubbed hare's ear/mask

Wing case: Pheasant tail fibers, bronze turkey tail or wing, gray goose or duck, white tip turkey tail, peacock herl or pearlescent Flashabou

Thorax: Dubbed hare's ear/mask

Legs: Rough dubbing or picked out guard hairs

FOTM Cont. on page 3 →

Tying Steps

1. Smash the barb, and put hook into vise by the bend. (The pictured fly was tied years ago before catch and release was widely practiced.)
2. If weight is desired, put several wraps of lead-free wire on front part of hook (thorax area). Wrap thread on shank and secure wire.
3. Select several pheasant tail fibers, and use them to make a gap length tail.
4. Tie on gold tinsel or wire.
5. Now we come to the dubbin' material. Packaged hare's ear mixes are available, but the best fur is from real hair's masks, with ears, imported from Europe. Trim all fur, except the light colored fluffy fur, off the mask and ears. Mix it in a blender, and store in a moth proof container. (If you use your partner's blender be sure to wash it out before putting it away.)
6. Use your favorite dubbing technique; I use a dubbing loop on large flies. Put a thin layer of dubbing on your thread, and compact it into a thin fuzzy noodle. Always roll the noodle in the same direction. A little dubbing wax on the thread helps. Wind dubbed body forward. It is OK if the dubbed body extends well into the thorax to provide a base for the thorax.
7. Spiral rib forward (about 5 turns), secure and trim.
8. Position thread between 2/5ths to 1/3rd shank length back from the eye. Cut a segment of pheasant tail fibers wide enough to cover thorax, and attach it on top of body with tips pointing rearward. Have the dull side up.
9. Roll more dubbing onto your thread, and wrap a thorax that is thicker than the abdomen. Leave space at the eye to finish the head.
10. Bring wing case forward, secure and trim excess.
11. Build a neat head, and whip finish. A drop of head cement on the thread windings will secure them against those mean fish that will hit your fly. For legs, pick out a few guard hairs from the thorax with a bodkin.

I try to keep various shades of Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymphs (usually sizes 12 to 16) in the fly box and a few more at home. The main variation I use is the Flashback Nymph with its pearlescent Flashabou wingcase. It fooled a lot of Madison River, MT rainbows and browns when drifted under a strike indicator. No one should go to a lake or stream without a few Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymphs.

Editors Note: This was Bob's first posting of a fly pattern and he had not perfected the SBS (Step By Step) presentation that came later. So, I borrowed a couple colored photos of the Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear and the Bead Head Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear from the internet using the Big Y Fly Company.



Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

Walking in Beauty

Wet and wild, sums up the North West's fall meteorological conditions. Unsettled weather fascinates me; each storm has its own pace, strength and timing. A storm's approach, arrival, height, duration, and departure, frame the tale it tells. The foliage of fall adds to this storm's dramatic expression. The leaf's size, color, and shape, add drama and flair to the unfolding story/song played out within my view. My picture window is my portal to thrashing tree limbs, buffeted by volatile wind gusts. Bright golden colored Big Leaf Maple leaf's, break free, their moorings shattered. They quickly join other castaways, briefly defying gravity as they obey the will of the wind. Even when they finally embrace the earth, their kiss is momentary, the wind catches them again, flinging them heavenward.

This storm started with a female rain, that transformed into a male rain, drubbing the Enumclaw Plateau; water streams across the road, rain puddles turn into small pounds. Evergreen trees sway, jerk and shudder as the storm grips them in its fury. A murder of crows caught out in the storm, are drenched by the onslaught of water, and scattered by the forceful winds, they make erratic progress towards the relative shelter of a storm ravaged evergreen. Those flailing limbs, invite disaster to a crow's misjudged landing.

In late October I made my annual fishing pilgrimage to Dunsmuir California, to join Bob, Jeff, Scott, Kevin, and Cy on the banks of the upper Sacramento River. My southern journey was in the center of a storm covering the North West, it stretched from Canada into Northern California. In my truck I felt like I was one of those storm ravaged crows; I was a member of a murder of cars and trucks. The male rain sluiced from the sky, forceful wind altered the trajectory of my truck and the water thrown up by my fellow travelers, dramatically reduced visibility. Multiple fender-benders, littered the sides of the road from Portland to Grants Pass, Oregon. Intuitively I moved with the storm, never rebellious; I accepted what was given, never judging, nor cursing. The storm delivered me safe to Dunsmuir. That night I slept to the sound of rain drumming on my pitched tent beside the Sacramento River.

Saturday morning dawned dreary and cold, with the promise of afternoon sunshine, and a reunion with special friends and my son. That promise kept me warm as I packed the tent with very cold hands. After a breakfast of sausage, hash browns and eggs, I visited with Bob Grace at his fly shop, Ted Fey's. Like thousands of fishermen before me, Bob and I discussed fishing, but we also touched on Bob's life in Dunsmuir and mine in Buckley. Bob is a reader of my articles, so we stay in touch, but it is nice to just catch up. Visiting with Bob is always a highlight of my sojourns to the Upper Sacramento River. After our visit and the acquisition of a California Fishing license and a few odds and ends, I headed back to the river to fish, but the warm sunshine heated the cab of my truck to a sleep inducing temp. Still tired from yesterday's storm journey I dozed in my tranquil pickup, listening to the river run.

At noon I drove to our rental and was joined in a short time by my friends, cousin and my son. It is a homecoming when we get together many hugs are traded, and joy full laughter filled the early afternoon. We squared away our bags and fishing equipment amidst verbal sparring and good-natured barbs. Past misadventures were dusted off and re-examined, sheepish grins were held by the perpetrators until another story came to mind. Then a shit eating grin would appear, and the sheepish grin would appear on someone else's face. Good friends, what a joy! The week progressed with the same camaraderie. As to be expected new mishaps were added to our repertoire of stories to be recounted and told again. To our listed were added misplaced, and left at home fishing licenses, misplaced keys and wallets. Jeff kept us peasants in-line, illuminating, instructing and demonstrating the correct way to accomplish every skill necessary for living and fishing. Mark Stevens, joined us for some fishing and a couple of nights of celebration; he laughed with us and shared his families California history, even while Jeff badgered him about his bartender duties.

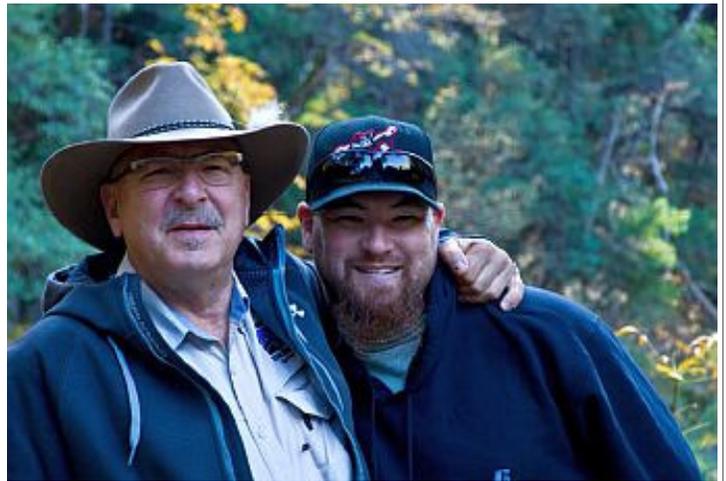
Continued on Page 5 →

We fished the upper-Sac, McCloud River Preserve, Burney Creek, and Baum Lake on Hat Creek on this trip. I will let the others tell you their stories. I approach fishing like watching a storm or admiring a vista. I open all my senses, I smell, I feel, and I see. When I feel that I am part of the water, the sky, and the earth, then I'm ready to put a line on the water. This is when, fishing takes care of itself; by being in the moment, one walks in harmony. The Navajo refer to it, as walking in Beauty the Tao refer to it, as being in Balance.



Burney Creek water felt like velvet as it formed around my waders, its sparkling clarity revealed deep rich color of the rocks and vegetation, the fish takes were firm and decisive, when they came to hand their rainbow sides effervesced. Baum surface was calm and smooth, fall foliage reflected on its surface, the rising fish fed on surface flies mimicking minute sail boats, short delicate casts produced takes even when the fishing was slow. Ospreys displayed their fishing skill on its placid waters. The McCloud sang as it flowed, its riffles bubbled with pleasure and the water pressed weighty on my calves and thighs, here the colors of fall had not yet painted the forest, green was the prominent color. The fish rose lustily to parachute Adams, their red bands displayed with pride. The upper Sacramento held its fish in pockets and dark riffles, the takes were hidden, and sharp, dark green moss added a slick silky feel to the water, but each fish when landed displayed dark backs and rainbow sides which glowed as I held them in the surface water to release them.

Western civilization is quickly losing its ability to live in harmony with nature and the natural world, to regain ourselves we must once again walk in beauty. It is not the numbers we catch, nor the equipment we acquire, nor the dollars we spend that define the success of the trip nor the value of our person. It's not the land we own, nor the building we erect, that give us stature. The true measure of a person is in the beauty they walk in. The earth has much to teach us but first we must be present to learn.



My sincerest praise and thanks go to my fishing brothers, Bob, Jeff, Scott, Kevin and my son Cy, they are a treasure beyond measurement. I wish to thank Mark Stevens as well, his appearance added depth and knowledge, you are always welcome at our fire.

“Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after”

Henry David Thoreau

~ *In The Past* ~
The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 2 No. 1

January of 1974



This ~ *In The Past* ~ article was published in 1974. The information it contains is 44 years out of date and is not accurate. This is a historical document only.

Next meeting:

Date: Monday, Jan 7, 1974

Place: Noel's Restaurant

6:00 - Wet Line

6:45 - Dinner & Meeting

Program: Now that we have some fly only steelhead water, steelhead on the fly is the subject. Dave Carlson, noted northwest fly fisherman, will show slides and tell us how its done. Better come, and bring your steelhead buddies, too.

Draw Prize: ????

Last Meeting: The slate of officers proposed by the board was elected. Jim Green of Fenwick gave casting tips and showed us an sample of their fabulous new graphite rods. Attendance was excellent.

B.C. Fishing licenses: I suppose it was inevitable, but if you like to fish in British Columbia it will cost you more in '74. Probable increases: Non Resident season will go from \$10 to \$15. The 3-day non resident from \$3.50 to \$6 and steelhead punch cards from \$5 to \$10. Of course, with the gas shortage you may not be able to drive that far anyway.

Saltwater fly fishing: Something seldom discussed in the Puget Sound area is fly fishing in the saltwater, but there are a lot of fish out there that can be taken on flies. If you are interested, maybe our program committee can fetted out someone who can enlighten us on the subject.

While I am talking about steelhead I'll get up on my soapbox. It's been my observation that the greater the quarry, the greater the greed exhibited by man in his quest for that quarry. The crowding, thoughtlessness and sometimes outright antagonism seen on steelhead rivers is why many people give it up.....

Fly Patterns: In keeping with the season, this month's pattern is again a steelhead fly. The Thor is an old favorite and with its bright colors should give good visibility in cloudy winter waters.

THOR

Hook: Size 2-6, 2x stout

Tail: Orange hair

Body: Thick red chenille

Hackle: Dark brown

Wing: White hair

Head: Black

For information on how to fish this and other steelhead flies, come to the meeting Monday night (And of course bring a guest).

MAY 1974 BE A GREAT YEAR FOR YOU.

Editors Note: (Larry) I went to a website to clip a picture and recipe for a Thor fly. akflyfishingguide.com

SteelThor0001

Species: All Salmon – Rainbow / Steelhead Trout



Hook: Sizes 2/0 – 4 your choice of style

Shown on Daiichi 2055 #3 gold

Tail: Red wool yarn / per preference

Body: Claret yarn or dubbing, I dub this body and build to suite

Hackle: A nice full Dk. Brown saddle hackle as a collar and swept back a bit

Wing: White calf tail

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2017

Our club meetings are on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month except for December (the third Tuesday) and there are no meetings in July or August.

December 19 (3rd Tuesday)

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2018

January 23; February 27; March 27; April 24; May 22; June ??(picnic)
September 25; October 23; November 27; December 18

A Fly Fishing Quote:

“On bass:

This is one of the American freshwater fishes; it is surpassed by none in boldness of biting, in fierce and violent resistance when hooked.”

W.H. Herbert (Frank Forester)

Fishes and Fishing (1850)

Thanks to The Quotable Fisherman by Nick Lyons

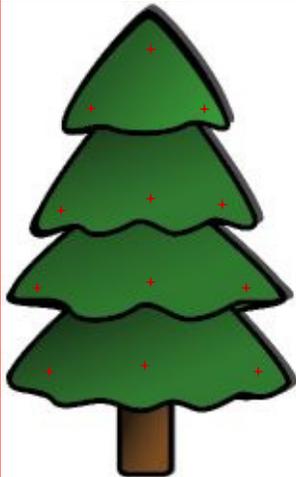
TFO Fly Rod Board Raffle

Don't forget we have a fly rod raffle board going on. For this first rod board, the winner will be able to pick one of three different Temple Fork Outfitters fly rods:

- ◆ An Impact Series Fly Rod 6 Wt. 9', 4pc rod;
- ◆ A BVK Series 6 Wt. 10', 4 pc rod;
- ◆ A Lefty Kreh Finesse Series 3 Wt., 8'-9", 4 pc rod.

All are great fly rods for a variety of styles of fishing. Buy those squares at \$5 each and when all 60 squares are filled, we will draw a winner. Then it will be on to the next rod board, for one of the remaining two rods. It is a great fund raiser for a very good cause.

Christmas Tree Flies Needed



Bring some flies to the December meeting for our Christmas Fly Tree!



January Guest Speaker

Jay Paulson

The Titanic (fly)

The Osprey

30 Years and Still Strong

A message from The Steelhead Committee of FFI

The Steelhead Committee of Fly Fishers International is extremely grateful for past support of The Osprey, the leading science and policy journal dedicated to the protection and recovery of wild steelhead and Pacific salmon throughout their native range. The Osprey has played a key role in major steelhead conservation successes, which have been possible only through generous financial contributions from supporters such as YOU. Please donate!



Since you may not be familiar with our publication, please click [here](#) to read a recent issue of The Osprey.

As has been true from its founding 30 years ago, The Osprey keeps readers current on both the progress and the setbacks affecting these fish, reporting on the many important issues that affect the health and future of wild steelhead and salmon stocks. This includes:

Columbia and Snake River System

The health of the wild salmon and steelhead runs on the Columbia and Snake rivers remains an ongoing focus of The Osprey's investigations. A cover story for the September 2016 issue looked at the shaky economics of the lower Snake River dams and the poor return on the dollar taxpayers receive from their supposed benefits from electricity generation and transportation. A three-part series is taking a detailed look at the collapsing Columbia River B-Run steelhead and its causes.

Dams

The impacts of dams on wild fish and the river environment have been of longstanding interest for The Osprey. In recent issues we have looked at how wild fish advocates are working for effective fish passage over dams on California's Yuba River, an update on plans to eventually remove the four lower Klamath River dams in Oregon and California, and how current management of the lower Deschutes River hydroelectric dams is harming the river's water quality.

The Osprey has also been publishing an ongoing series of case studies showing the benefits of removing dams, including on the White Salmon, Sandy, Rogue, and Hood rivers, with more profiles to come.

Hatcheries

Fish hatcheries have played an outsized role in the plight of wild fish populations, and The Osprey regularly reports on them, most recently in a story on how faulty historical fish management assumptions and a dependence on hatchery production have damaged wild Columbia River salmon and steelhead runs over time.

Habitat and Restoration

Tracking threats to wild steelhead and salmon habitat is also high on our priority list, and The Osprey recently covered a liquid natural gas industrial complex planned for construction along the Skeena River estuary in British Columbia and the devastating environmental impacts it would cause (fortunately, now mothballed). Pointing out problems is important, but The Osprey publishes stories about solutions as well. For example, some recent articles have highlighted steelhead research on Washington State's Hoh River that will help improve wild steelhead management on that stream and efforts to restore steelhead habitat in southern California.

WE (AND THE FISH) NEED YOUR HELP

As we navigate this mix of progress and frustration, we simply can't count on the responsible federal and state agencies to do what must be done without abundant activism from informed citizens. That's why we need your support. On behalf of these magnificent fish, you can send your check made payable to: Fly Fishers International with Osprey noted in the memo line, and mail it to: Fly Fishers International, 5237 U. S. Highway 89 South, Suite 11, Livingston, MT 59047-9176. You may also donate online by clicking the link below.

FFI is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, so your contribution is tax deductible.

Thank you,

Pete Soverel and Bill Redman, Former Chairs

Fly Fishers International Steelhead Committee

Note: The WSCFFI is donating \$250 towards The Osprey.

NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

It's not too early to start thinking about a candidate for The Academy for 2018. Any serious minded boy or girl 12-16 is eligible to attend the Academy. They have to write an essay explaining why "they" would like to attend and they will need a letter of recommendation from their school science teacher or school counselor.

This experience is an invaluable life event for the youth that they will carry through their future lives. No youth will be turned away because of the lack of funding. The event is a youth education project of the WCTU and supported by the WSCFFi and members of PSFF, SSFF and Olympia TU. So please give it some serious thought, would your boys and girls, grandkids, friends or neighbors be a good candidate for The NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy for 2018? Enrollment for the 2018 Academy will be open on January 1, 2018. The week long Academy will be held June 24-30, 2018 at The Gwinwood Christian Center in Lacey, WA. Please see our Facebook page for great pictures. Mike Clancy, Co-Director, 360-753-1259, www.nwycffa.com or mtclancy39@comcast.net

CONSERVATION — Monofilament Recycling Project

This is one of the conservation projects that the FFI has endorsed. Go to their main website and click on Conservation to see the whole project.

Monofilament Recycling Tube Construction

Materials list

- 4"x30" abs pipe
- 4" abs 90 degree elbow
- 4"abs cleanout
- 4"abs plug(with ½" hole drilled in bottom)
- 2- Sammy screws 3/8" bolt size for wood or steel
- 2- 3/8"x 1" hex head bolts
- 2- 3/8" flat washers
- abs glue
- recycling decal, FFF logo decal, club or sponsor decal

How to Assemble

- Cut abs pipe into 30 inch or 24 inch sections from 10 foot piece.
- Glue 90 elbow to one end of pipe, this becomes the top.
- Glue cleanout to opposite end, this becomes the bottom
- Drill ½ inch hole in center of plug; this is to let water out (use ½ inch twist or spade drill).
- Accurately drill a ½ inch hole through the back side of the 90 elbow and ½" hole through the smooth section off the cleanout and the pipe. Be careful to keep the holes in line with the centerline of the pipe.

In the Field

Tools List

- Cordless drill motor with Sammy installation tool
- 24 inch level
- Tape Measure
- Pencil or marker
- 9/16 inch wrench short in length

How to install

- Measure the distance of holes drilled in back of tube and carefully transfer to existing post, making sure marks are in line and plumb.
- Install Sammy's with cordless drill and Sammy tool or socket wrench.
- Screw 3/8 inch bolt into Sammy through bottom hole first. This helps to support the tube before installing the top screw
- Screw the top bolt into the top Sammy through the inside of the tube. This can be a little difficult.
- Apply the decals; take a photo and move on to the next tube!





FFI Related Events in 2018



Travelling in 2018? Well, here are some Fly Fishers International related events or events where the FFI has a booth, that are going to be taking place around our great country.

January 2018

January 5-7, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Denver Mart, Denver, CO, www.flyfishingshow.com/denver-co/

January 12-13, 2018 Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo, Expo Idaho, Boise ID,
www.boisevalleyflyfishers.wildapricot.org/BVFF-Expo

January 13-14, 2018 West Michigan Fly Show by Great Lakes Council, East Kentwood High School, Grand Rapids MI www.fffglc.org

January 19, 20 & 21, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Royal Plaza, Marlborough, MA www.flyfishingshow.com/marlborough-ma

January 20, 2018 Northern Ohio Fly Fishing Expo, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, Brecksville OH,
www.ncff.net

January 26, 27 & 28, 2019 The Fly Fishing Show, New Jersey Convention & Expo Center, Edison, NJ
www.flyfishingshow.com/edison-nl/

February 2018

February 2 & 3, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Infinite Energy Center, Atlanta, GA www.flyfishingshow.com/atlanta/

February 3, 2018 Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show presented by Buckeye United Fly Fishers The Oasis Conference Center in Loveland OH www.buckeyeflyfishers.com/expo2018/default.html

February 9 & 10, 2018 Florida Council Expo, Crystal River FL, www.ffi-florida.org

February 17 & 18, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Lynnwood Convention Center, Lynnwood, WA
www.flyfishingshow.com/lynnwood-wa/

February 23, 24 & 25, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, CA
www.flyfishingshow.com/pleasanton-ca/

March 2018

March 3 & 4, 2018 The Fly Fishing Show, Lancaster County Convention Center, Lancaster, PA
www.flyfishingshow.com/lancaster-pa/

March 9 & 10, 2018 NW Fly Tye Expo, Albany OR, www.nwexpo.com

March 16-18, 2018 Upper Midwest Council will be organizing the casting instruction and fly tying for the Great Waters Expo to be held at Hamline University, St. Paul MN <http://greatwatersflyexpo.com/>

May 2018

May 4 & 5, 2018 Washington Council Expo, Ellensburg WA, Details to be provided at a later date.

August 2018

August 6-11, 2018 FFI Annual Fly Fishing Fair, Boise ID. Boise Centre, Century Link Arena and The Grove Hotel. Watch for more details in the coming months. Click [HERE](#) for more information about making your reservation at our host hotel, The Grove Hotel.



"YAKIMA RIVER PUBLIC ACCESS UPDATE"

Last week, the Public Lands Advisory Council met for the monthly meeting. During the meeting, the council was introduced to the contracting company that will be working directly to enhance public access points and boat launches on the Yakima River. The council pin pointed all of the locations on the river that are viable from Easton to Rinehart Park. In January, the council will meet again with the contractor and map more of the locations from Rinehart to the county line in Selah, Washington.

Now, the PLAC is looking for "volunteers" from all outdoor venues that would like to see more public access to the Yakima River. If you feel its important and would like to donate some of your time to this important project, you can follow the link below to the online application. Download it, fill it out and return it to the address indicated.

This "Public Access" project is now in the beginning stages and in 2018, we will have new access sites from the headwaters of the Yakima to the town of Selah. How's that for some good news!!

Great work done here by the PLAC and County Commissioner, Paul Jewell.

Local government getting it done.....

<http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/.../d.../AppointmentApplication.pdf>

<https://www.ipetitions.com/petiti.../upper-yakima-river-access>

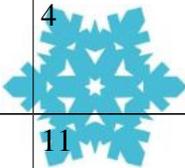
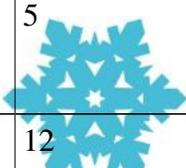
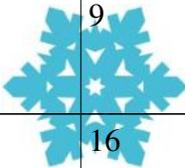
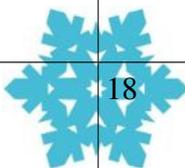
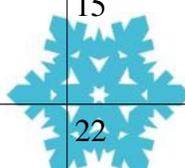
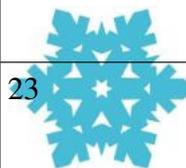
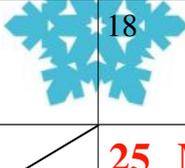
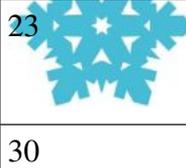
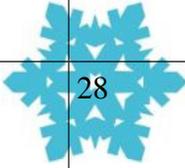
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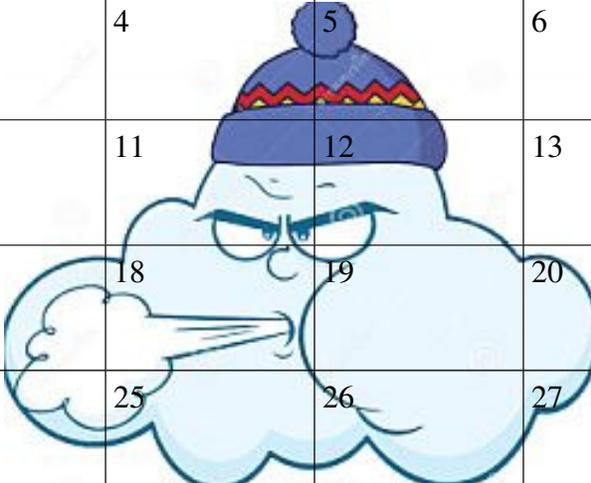
December 2017 / January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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"In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter, long ago." - Christmas Carol

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

"That grand old poem called Winter" Henry David Thoreau

	1 January	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Club Meeting	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	<i>"There is a privacy about it which no other season gives you In spring, summer and fall people sort of have an open season on each other; only in the winter, in the country, can you have longer, quiet stretches when you can savor belonging to yourself." - Ruth Stout</i>		

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