

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting
Tuesday

December 18

As always, at the
Puerto Vallarta
215 15th St. SE
Puyallup at 6 PM



FFI
Charter Club



The Dead Drift - December 2018

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

1000 Stewards Program & Our December Party

The FFI has a new fund raiser called 1000 Stewards. This is a great way to help the FFI with their conservation and education programs. It will also help you at the old IRS tax time because you donated money to the FFI.

In Boise this year, they introduced a new program called 1000 Stewards. You can sign up for this. You can help fund many of the FFI's great programs and get a very nice write off. They are asking for \$500 per year over a five year period of time. If you have it taken out monthly, then it is only \$41.66 per month. You will not miss forty one dollars per month very much, but it sure will help fund those great FFI programs.

I jumped right on board with this. I can use the tax write off and I have always been a big supporter of the FFI.

Check out page 9 of this newsletter for some more data and give the FFI a call. Our conservation and educational efforts will appreciate it.

Our December meeting is one week early this year so we do not interfere with Christmas. So, mark your calendars, smart phones, notepads, clay tablets, whatever, for December 18, the third Tuesday in December. I hope Steve Egge has enough photos to put together a good presentation showing some of our fishing and traveling exploits this past year.

The December meeting is our big fundraiser for the year. We want a healthy bank balance so we can have some really good guest speakers. So far, our Christmas raffles and the fly rod and fly rod outfit raffle boards have kept us on the positive side for a bank balance. Ron does a great job of finding speakers for us. It is not an easy job to do but I know we all appreciate his efforts. So, let's make sure we keep enough money in the bank to keep Ron busy. Oh yea, and you get a great chance to win some 'neat stuff' and we all need more 'neat stuff', don't we.

Bill Wheeler put on a very good presentation the other night, thank you for that Bill.

Joel Lewis came to our meeting for the second month in a row, welcome back Joel.

We also had two other visitors last night. Mary Kenyon and Barbara Pfeifle attended our meeting. Thanks for checking out our club. I hope you had a good time.

2019 is right around the corner, my oh my, how time does fly.

We are now half way through our TFO fly rod/reel board, someone is going to get a great fly rod outfit.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Good fishing.



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

December 2003

Martin's Meany, Variation

By Bob Bates



Frank Knapp is one of the senior (and youngest) professional fly tiers in the Spokane, Washington. In 1992 he gave me the pictured fly at a fly casters gathering in Clarkston, Washington. It looked like a great dragonfly nymph.

This is a variation of Martin's Monster that was created by Darrel Martin in about 1973. (One reference is: *Flies of the Northwest, Fourth Ed.*, 1981, p.30) Darrel's original was tied with gold tinsel tip, woven chenille body, knotted pheasant tail legs, chain eyes painted black and turkey flue head. It was widely used in the early 80's.

Tying a Martin's Meany is a little more involved than most flies in this column. However, from what Frank said, tying it is worth the effort. I have used it with pretty good success. Besides it will give you something to do during the slow winter days between hatches.

Dragonfly nymphs are a big mouth full, and I guess a tasty one to boot. As mentioned last month, dragonfly nymphs are around all of the time, and trout will attack them any chance they get. Frank suggests fishing a Martin's Meany with a sinking line and working it around weed beds. Move the fly with 6-inch strips so it looks like a natural searching for something to eat. Look for channels in the weeds or drop offs that provide fish a hiding place from which to ambush passing insects. If you can see the weeds, you will have an extra thrill seeing a big trout suddenly appear from nowhere and grab your fly. If you are fishing blind there will be no question about the strike.

Materials:

Hook: Tiemco TMC200R, 4

Thread: Monocord, olive 3/0

Underbody: Art foam

Body: Vernille or Ultra Chenille, Golden olive and dark olive

Eyes: Mono eyes, medium

Wingcase: Ozark original mottled turkey, dyed olive

Legs: Pheasant tail, olive dyed (picric acid color)

Head: Vernille, dark olive

Tying Steps:

1. Most of us smash down the barb before starting to tie. Barbless hooks are easier to take out of the fish when we release them.
2. Start thread about one eye width behind the eye and build a little thread base for the mono eyes. Attach the eyes by holding them on top of the hook parallel to the shank and wrapping the thread two or three times. The rotate them to a right angle on the shank and secure tightly with figure eight wraps.

FOTM Cont. on page 3



3. Wrap the thread smoothly back to a point just over the barb. Make it a uniform thread base to help keep the other materials in place. A fairly short thread length between hook and bobbin will let you wrap quickly using only a little wrist movement. Return the thread forward to the eyes.

4. Attach the lighter color Vernille to the near side of the hook; start just behind the eye and wrap thread over it all the way back to a point above the barb. Bring the thread forward so you can attach the darker color Vernille on the far side of the hook just behind the eye, and wrap it down to the same point as the lighter material. By putting Vernille on the sides you are starting to shape the wide body of the fly.



5. Frank uses an 1/8-inch thick open pore, art foam. He cuts it about 1/4- to 3/8-inch wide, using a ruler and razor blade or supporting it with cardboard and slicing through everything with a paper cutter.

6. Tie the art foam at the eye on the near side of the hook, and wrap it rearward nearly as far back as the Vernille. When wrapping the art foam you are building a dragonfly nymph shaped body which is fatter in the rear. However, make the wraps and direction changes as smoothly as possible because any steps in the underbody will make Vernille weaving difficult. Wrap the foam forward, overlapping each wrap a little, for about 2/5ths of the distance between the barb and the eye, and then wrap back to the rear end of the foam. Wrap foam forward to mid-shank, and back to the rear of the foam. Finally, wrap forward to about 1/3rd shank length back from the eye. Secure the foam, trim, whip finish and cut thread.

7. Using flat jawed pliers, squash the body flat to look like a natural.

8. Now you are ready for the parallel weaving process. It is the same weave that many tiers use on the Bitch Creek Nymph. Weaving may be performed either from the front or the rear. Frank did his weaving from the rear, so point the vise and fly away from you. From this view the lighter color Vernille is on the right side of the hook. (One hint: whenever you're moving the darker Vernille, it is always over the hook with the left hand farther away from you than the right hand.)

9. Hold the darker Vernille in your left hand, and the lighter Vernille in the right. Move the darker Vernille over the hook and to the right. (Your left hand moves beyond the hook's eye to a position to the right and below the level of the hook.) Bring the lighter Vernille from back to front over the darker Vernille and then under the hook to the left. (Your right hand passes beyond the hook's eye in order to bring the material under the hook to the left side.) Bring the darker Vernille over the hook, then wrap the lighter Vernille over the darker and under the hook to the right side. Your hands should be in the starting position.

10. Pull the Vernille toward you a little to prevent weaving gaps.

11. Repeat this weaving process until you are just in front of the underbody.

12. Hold both strands of Vernille and thread from your bobbin under the fly. Reattach your thread and tie off the Vernille under the hook. Trim the Vernille.

13. At no time during this weaving process do your fingers leave your hands or drop the Vernille.

14. Frank prepares his turkey wing quills by pouring undiluted Dave's Flexament on a feather and spreading it around with his fingers. By the time he finishes half a dozen feathers, the first one is ready to use.

15. Trim out a segment of wing quill about 5/16-inch wide, fold it half lengthwise and cut it on a slant to notch it. Open it and tie it right behind the eyes so the front 1/4-inch of the woven body is covered by the wing case.

16. Trim or pull off six to eight fibers from a pheasant center tail feather. Tie them on one side so they angle outward. Then with another six to eight fibers make legs for the other side. The legs should be about 5/8-inch long. Tie on a length of dark olive Vernille behind the eyes on the near side of the hook and move the thread in front of the eyes. Take three wraps of Vernille behind the eyes and use a figure eight wrap across the eyes. Finally, tie it off behind the hook's eye, trim and whip finish securely. Do not use head cement because it will soak into the Vernille.

Now if you think this is too much work for a real good looking dragonfly nymph you might be able to find them in a specialty fly shop or ask a professional tier to do the job. In 1994 they sold retail for about \$2.50 each.

No matter how you acquire them, a Martin's Meany or two will get you a bunch of fish.

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

Dunsmuir 2018

It is the witching end of October, Cy and I, have driven down from Washington for our annual rendezvous with Kevin, Scott, Jeff and Bob on the banks of the upper Sacramento River. Our three priorities upon reaching Dunsmuir are: warm hugs and hellos, a meet and greet with the trout of the Upper-Sac and a stop, shop and visit with Bob Grace at Ted Fay fly shop. All three are accomplished within the first half a day of arrival. For Cy and me, the Bob Grace visit usually comes first as we need to buy our out-of-state California Fishing License before trying to hook up with the local rainbows.

The visit with Bob Grace fits high on the to-do list, many of our hugs and hellos happen when we all arrive at Ted Fay's as we hit town from our dissimilar starting points. We all look forward to seeing Bob and supporting his shop; the longest continuous operating fly shop in California. During our week long gathering, Bob and his shop draw us back more than once. He is a big part of the lure of this beautiful area. We even checked up on him during the fire season when Dunsmuir was threatened by the Delta fire.

The Dunsmuir day time temperatures this year were in the low seventies, no rain and lots of sunshine. Our fishing was nature enhanced, by a full moon. All the piscatorial portents prophesized slow fishing, and that is what we got. Dunsmuir mixes the weather up for us, each year; we have fished in snow, clouds, rain, wind, sunshine, heat, cold, flood and draught. This year added smoking hot spots, remnants of the Delta fire. Over the years October fishing has vacillated between hot hot, so so, and cold. Our balance to all forms of fishing that Dunsmuir provides, is warm and boisterous friendship. Kevin, Scott, Jeff, Bob, Cy and I laugh a lot, and fish, *it can be said in a tongue in cheek manner, that we are a tight knit drinking community with a fishing problem.*

You can usually find us in the twilight, watching the river while sharing a dram or two, pipe or cigar smoke has been seen wafting heavenward, as laughter and storytelling is bandied about as the day draws to a close.

Friendship is what got me into fly fishing, friendship is what sustains my love of this past-time. Many years ago, as I was hiking beside Idaho's Big Wood River after a business meeting, I was reflecting on a dear friend fighting cancer and on Rivers. As an avid outdoors man, I realized that I knew very little about rivers. Yes, I learned of their economic importance and the role they played in the settlement of our nation. I had ambled beside them, explored their origins, swam in their waters, paddled a canoe and raft upon them, and forded across them. But I had never immersed myself in their waters, learned how to read them, nor understood their life cycles and how tied they are to everything else in the natural world. My knowledge was limited I wanted to know their intrinsic worth.

My friend Ron was an avid fly fisherman and the Big Wood was one of his favorite waters. It was on that river ramble that I decided to take up fly fishing. On my way back to my hotel I passed a fly shop, its lit open sign, drew me in. I pulled a U-ie, after a visit with a guide and a phone call to Ron, I purchased a Galvin fly reel and a 5-wt. Sage rod. Twenty years have passed since that event. I have lost contact with Ron, but he is still with me when I fish. The rod and reel are still my favorite, they have taken me from a rock bottom beginner to a gentle touch and many are the fish that, together we have returned to the waters of their birth. My understanding of rivers still grows, and my friends who wade the waters with me continues to expand.



Continued on Page 5 →

I'm crotch deep in the Sacramento, my right hand tightly grips my wading staff. My left cradles my favorite rod. My waders are compressed to my legs, the rivers weight and energy squeezes my thighs. Each step forward is a struggle. My forward progress is more of a searching shuffle, rather than a step. Trying to find purchase in this aquatic torrent, demands all my concentration and strength. Each step here is on the knife edge of disaster. Every rock is a slick booby trap and/or a hurdle. Some hurdles I can step over others necessitate crabbing sideways to get around. I use every advantage my Patagonia Tractors and Roger Miller gifted wading staff give me. As I try and keep myself sunny side up. A slip here, will deliver, a bone jarring rock landing, a cold bath, water logged waders and a sputtering effort at regaining one's feet.



That thought alone stiffens my spine. The wade to and from this fishing hole is usually worth the effort and the danger. Today, there was no fish reward only a safe return to my embarkation point. For the past 13 years the seam on river right has produced a plethora of beautiful trout. A new home has changed the dynamics, in a misguided effort to stabilize the bank, rock has been dumped. A productive fish feeding lie, lost to a vacation home. Oh! The irony of it all.

I have in the past talked about universal laughter ringing out amongst the stars. When Bob, Jeff, Scott, Kevin, Cy and I get together, the chance for that laughter goes up exponentially. On each of our trips there is always one incident, at least, that causes us to burst into mirth. Three of us are golfers, and they made a mid-week get away to chase little white balls around. For non-golfers, golf like fishing can be pretty humbling. One of the said three, was having a bad outing 4 lost balls on the first four holes, the morning was not providing a peaceful restful feeling. And the resulting razzings was not helping to improve the outcome of the game. Looking for away to change said golfer's mood, a change of clubs was offered and reluctantly accepted. The resulting drive was straight and true, and as the ball landed in the middle of the fairway these momentous words were delivered. "It is obvious that my equipment has been holding me back". The quest for the Holy Grail is still alive, the perfect set of clubs or fly rod is still out there. When this story was told that night at the cabin, we all broke into universal laughter. We are all of us truly human, the richness of our friendship is that we see ourselves in our friends, we make the same mistakes, fall in the same rivers and expose our foibles to each other as we negotiate this thing that we call life. We laugh together at our own selves. That is a wonderful gift and we get to fish while doing it.

I have met some incredible men and women who share my love for our natural world. Each of them enriches me and make me a better person, I cannot thank them enough. To each of my readers I encourage you to step into life's waters and feel its power and its pull. Let yourself discover its intrinsic worth; it is in wilderness that you will find the preservation of this world.

Stephen

"When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind – Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

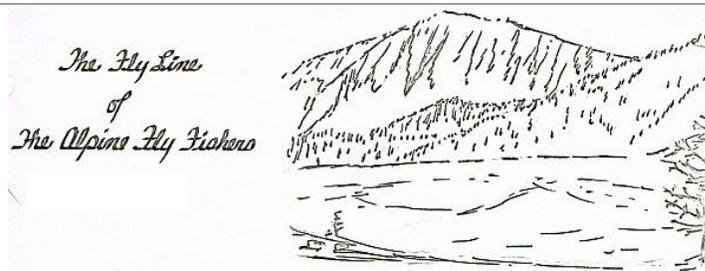
"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after" - Henry David Thoreau

~ In The Past ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers

'The Fly Line' -

Vol. 2 No. 11



This ~ In The Past ~ article was published in 1975. The information it contains is 43 years out of date and is not accurate. This is a historical document only.

Reed Miller, Editor

Next meeting: Date: January 6, 1975

Program: A slide show of the FFF (Federation of Fly Fishermen). This is a new one and I don't know much about it, but it was shown at the conclave in West Yellowstone this past August. Also, Errol Champion, chairman of the Northwest Council of the FFF will be on hand to let us know of some of the things the FFF is working on and to answer any questions about the FFF you may have.

Draw Prizes: Good things — bring money.

Last Meeting: Here are the officers you elected for 1975: President is Reed Miller; V. Pres is **Gary Strodtz**; Secretary is Jim Prince; Treasurer is Dick Mazza; Ghillie is **Gary Strodtz** (He likes work!); Trustee is Cal Cole. In addition, Gary is the chairman of the Activities Committee and **Jim Higgins** is chairman of the program committee. If you have any program or fishout requests, see Jim or Gary.

Fishouts: **Gary Strodtz** is working on a list of proposed fishouts for 1975. If you have any hot prospects, pass 'em on to Gary. He'll have a list ready for your perusal Monday night.

Steelhead: **Gary Strodtz** took two nice fish from the Green. Some fish are being taken from the Toutle, but I am told the run was there was late this year.

Tackle Notes: So you want a graphite rod but can't come up with the \$150 or so that they cost? Well, blanks are starting to appear at places like Shoff's in Kent. Kennedy-Fisher and Lamiglas are both making fly rod blanks and you can pick one of these up for about \$65. Add another \$10 or so for thread, corks, guides and the like, sacrifice a few hours from the T.V. and you'll have what many feel is the ultimate. Speaking of graphite, Cortland is coming out with a reel made from some sort of graphite material. It'll sell in the \$35-40 area and should furnish some tough competition for the Hardy Lightweight series.

New Members: Barbara Samford considers herself a very good fly fisher, as evidenced by the 4 pound Brown she too last summer. She prefers stream fishing and spends her vacation fishing in Wyoming on such streams as the South Platte. The rest of the year she works as a secretary.

The other new member is Geoff Meyer. Geoff is a project manager for Weyerhaeuser, enjoys backpacking and is a "dabbler" at fly fishing. Welcome to AFF Barb and Geoff.

Fly Pattern: This one comes from Cal Cole and **Jim Higgins**. One of the toughest problems in fishing a chironomid hatch is to get the fly to hang on the surface film. After some experimentation, Cal and Jim hit upon using polypropylene dubbing which floats rather well. For lack of a better name, they dubbed (no pun intended) the fly "Polytron".

Polytron

Hook: Size 12 - 18, Mustad 94840
Thread: Black Danville 6/0 prewaxed
Body: This dubbed polypropylene. Good colors: dark green; olive; tan; gray; black
Rib: Unstripped peacock eye herl
Thorax: Thickly dubbed polypropylene, brown or black
Legs: (optional) Partridge breast tied as a beard

Fish this fly with very little movement in the surface film.

Bring a guest: The way to get new members for the club seems to be to bring guests. Keep the guests coming and make 1975 a year of vigorous growth for the Alpine Fly Fishers.

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2018
December 18 — (3rd Tuesday of December)

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2019

January 22; February 26; March 26; April 23; May 28; June ?? Picnic;
July & August (No Meetings) — September 24; October 22; November 26; December 17

IMPORTANT FLY FISHING DATES FOR 2019

January 23-27, 2019 - Washington Sportsmen's Show, Washington State Fair Events Center, Puyallup, WA.
February 16 & 17, 2019 – The Fly Fishing Show, Lynnwood Convention Center, www.flyfishingshow.com
March 8 & 9, 2019 – NW Fly Tyer Expo, Linn Country Expo Center, Albany, OR., www.nwexpo.com
May 3 & 4, 2019 - WSCFFI - WA Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg. www.wscffi.org
June 23-29, 2019 – NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy, Lacey, WA. www.nwycffa.com
July 23-27, 2019 – Fly Fishers International Fly Fishing Fest – Bozeman, MT. www.flyfishersinternational.org

A Message from the Chairman of the Board

Serving in leadership with Fly Fishers International (FFI) is a profound and rewarding experience. Through environmental stewardship and our commitment to education and the sharing of information, FFI continues to develop and implement programs that expand, contribute, and protect opportunities for fly fishers.

FFI was founded a half century ago as a conservation-based organization, now partnering with more than 55 like-minded organizations, all firmly committed to the understanding that protection of our natural areas is essential to our ongoing enjoyment of the outdoors as well as to our quality of life. These partnerships allow us to speak collectively, reaching millions of people like you, for the protection of our lands and waters. FFI is the only organization in this diverse partnership that specifically represents fly fishers. We have a powerful voice!

Your support through membership dues and other donations is essential to our voice being heard! Our new program, the 1000 Stewards (FFI1K) offers another opportunity for you to invest in the long-term health of fly fishing around the world by committing to donate \$500 per year for 5 years (\$2500 total). Consider being a steward of the FFI1K program!

Tom Logan
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Fly Fishers International

NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

by Mike Clancy

2018 is almost over, and we are now in the planning stage for 2019. We will be accepting new applications effective January 1, 2019 for another wonderful event for our girls and boys, 12 to 16 years old. What a great opportunity for these kids to learn about conservation and fly fishing. They will spend a week at Gwinwood Christian Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. June 23-29, 2019. They will enjoy clean, warm cabins with showers and comfortable bunks. All meals and fly fishing gear is provided.

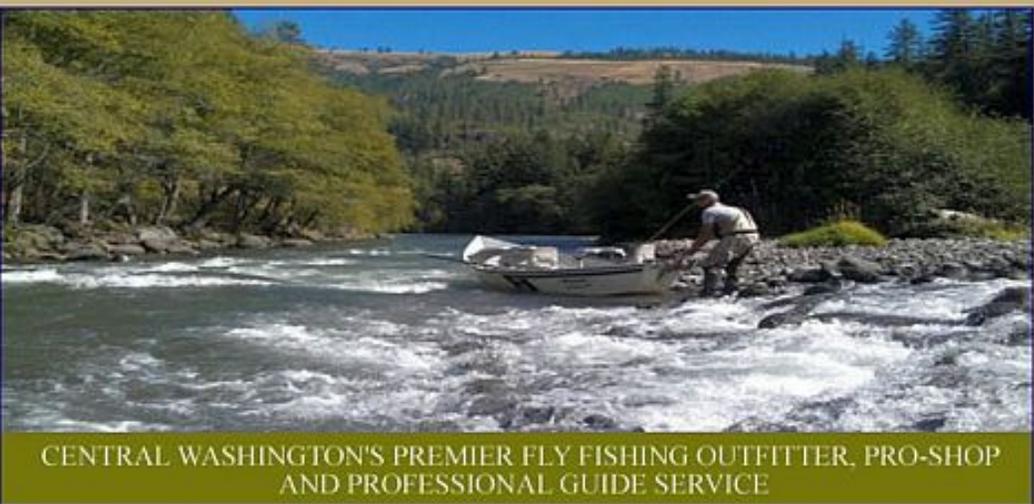
Our goal is to open the door to the future in conservation and fly fishing, regardless of financial means, for any serious minded youth willing to do the work.

The applicant must write an essay, stating why “THEY” would like to attend The Academy and they will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor, science teacher, minister or a responsible person. Applications may be submitted via email or U.S. Mail.

Questions may be directed to Mike Clancy @ mtclancy39@comcast.net, Jim Brosio @ brosioj@q.com or Tom VanGelder @ TVG@comcast.net. Applications are available on our website – www.nwycffa.com email address – nwycffa@comcast.net. And we are on Face Book.

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for their future -FDR

1713 SOUTH CANYON ROAD
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
509-962-2033
worleybugger@fairpoint.net



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!

Clark Fork Trout.com
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 check out the Clark Fork Trout.

The Clark Fork Trout fly shop is closed for the winter. Opening again in the early spring.

"GUIDED FISHING ON THE CLARK FORK, BITTERROOT, MISSOURI AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS AND PROVIDING FLY FISHING CLASSES BY PEGGY TEMPLE."

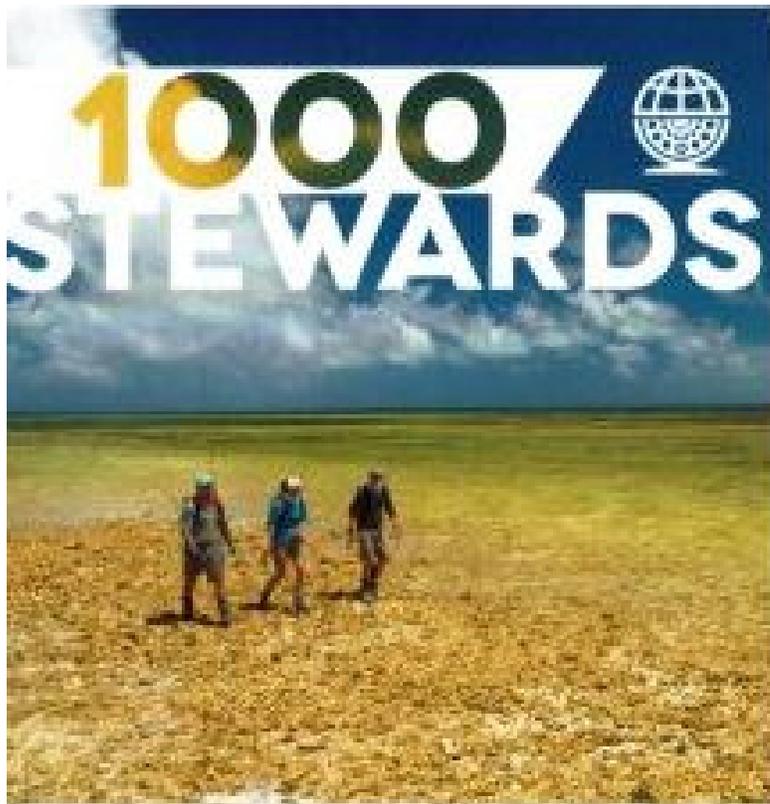
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YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN THE SPORT YOU LOVE.

Fly Fishers International (FFI) has been an organized voice for fly fishers around the world since 1964. We represent all aspects of fly fishing – from the art of fly tying and casting, to protection of the natural systems that support healthy fisheries and their habitats so essential to our sport.

Today, our mission is to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters continues by focusing on **CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY.**

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL'S 1000 STEWARDS PROGRAM asks dedicated fly anglers to donate **\$500 PER YEAR FOR 5 YEARS** (a total of \$2500.)*

THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE FFI1K ARE VITAL to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission, and to support:

- **SPEARHEADING PROJECTS** that improve our fisheries and protect our fishing opportunities
- **THE FFI LEARNING CENTER's** wealth of fly fishing knowledge and resources
- **CAMARADERIE AMONG ANGLERS** built at our annual fair and other events

JOIN US IN SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND THE WORLD BY BECOMING ONE OF THE **FFI1K.**

VISIT FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K OR CALL 406.222.9369 OR TO JOIN TODAY!

*We encourage your donation to support others.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Ed Covich, Ben Phelan, and Fred David R. Thomas, and many others.

KEEP OUR FISHERIES HEALTHY



KEEP EM WET® &
RELEASE FISH PROPERLY

GO BARBLESS & LEAD-FREE



PACK OUT ALL TRASH

CLEAN YOUR BOATS, BOOTS & WADERS



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**

CONSERVATION / EDUCATION / COMMUNITY

FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG

Prime Lies

New President, New Column

By Bill Wheeler

This is my first column as the new President of the Washington State Council (WSC) of Fly Fishers International (FFI) and the first thing I want to do is thank Carl Johnson for his 12 years of service as president, plus the time he donated to the council before that. Boy, does he deserve a break. Carl has been assisted by his wonderful wife, Maura, in so many things and I thank them both. Carl assembled an effective board of directors, but Carl did an incredible amount of council work in the background. Although there will be some changes at the board level as people rotate off, there is a very strong contingent to continue the great work WSC has done. Carl is going to stay involved with the board and the Fly Fishing Fair to provide continuity as we move along. You'll learn more about our board as time progresses.

We will be changing the name of this column to a term I have commandeered from Gary Borger, Prime Lies. Although that refers to a spot where fish can rest from the current, be protected from predators and allow ample flow of potential food; I like it because it allows me a little flexibility with the truth. I am a fisherman, after all.

Let me introduce myself before we get too far. I was initially an interventional cardiologist (doing balloons and stents) before delving into drug development until I retired a few years ago. I have been a fly fisher for only about 14 years, but like so many of you, I quickly became addicted to the sport. The Overlake Fly Fishing Club is my home club and I served as President in 2012.

Although fishing is a major interest, my true love is teaching fly casting. I've been an FFI Master Certified Casting Instructor since 2015 and am currently on the FFI Casting Board of Governors (CBOG). For what its worth, I am also an avid drone pilot/photographer and mediocre video editor.

As the council moves forward you will notice some things staying the same and some changing. We intend to continue the Fly Fishing Fair, which will be in Ellensburg again this year on May 3rd and 4th. In addition to the fair, TU is sponsoring the International Fly Fishing Film Festival at the fairgrounds Saturday evening right after the fair. This should increase participation in both events.

Gary Borger will be this year's celebrity guest sharing his deep knowledge of the sport both days of the fair. Gary is an outstanding teacher and author with multiple books to his credit, including the one I think many people feel is the best overall book on fly fishing, Presentation. Our plan is to have Gary lead casting classes and demonstrations, fly tying classes and demonstrations, and seminars on various aspects of fly fishing. He is an exceptional speaker and teacher. Come see him and learn.

Look for fair registration to go online over the next few months. We will have a more aggressive social media presence and hope to develop a more diverse membership. Don't forget to renew your membership!

New this year will be video presentation of the featured tyers so everyone can see what the experts are doing. You will still be able to sit in front of individual tyers and watch them at work. Adding video will allow multiple people to see the nuances various featured tyers add to the art of fly tying. We will send out invitations soon to tyers for the event. If you don't hear from us, contact Carl Johnson about being a tyer at the show.

We will continue to have casting lessons by certified casting instructors. This is a rare opportunity to get excellent instruction at a very reasonable price in a small group. There are always interesting casting techniques taught that will improve your fishing. This year we won't have certification testing for casting instructors, so more instructors will be available for a greater variety of casting classes.

As usual, we will have seminars on various trips and techniques. Gary Borger will be presenting some of those seminars.

Finally, there is a free dinner for the volunteers on Thursday and the ever-popular dessert auction where tables pool their money to get first shot at the best desserts. There are always some dynamite desserts. Tickets will be available for purchase for Friday's dinner, after which Will Godfrey will return as our auctioneer. The IF4 will be in the same space on Saturday night.

In addition, WSC will have a booth at Sportsman Show in Puyallup in January, and the Fly Fishing Show in Lynwood in February. Come by and say hello and get some tickets for our fly rod/reel/line raffle and reel raffles.

See you on the water,

Bill Wheeler

December 2018 / January 2019

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT



"I heard a bird sing in the dark of December. A magical thing and sweet to remember. 'We are nearer to Spring than we were in September,' I heard a bird sing in the dark of December."
Oliver Herford, I Heard a Bird Sing

**December
1**

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

"January is here, with eyes that keenly glow, A frost-mailed warrior striding a shadowy steed of snow." - Edgar Fawcett

		1 January	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Club Meeting	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	"To read a poem in January is as lovely as to go for a walk in June." - Jean-Paul Sartre	

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