

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on

Tuesday

February 23, 2010

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 0 N E W S L E T T E R

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Alpine Fly Fishing*

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By Larry Gibbs

A new year. More trips to plan, more fish to C&R and more flies to tie. Sounds like a good plan to me. My calendar is already filling up with the trips I will be taking. Then there are the two FFF related auctions I organize, one for the Washington State Council FFF this May and one for the national FFF event this August. The prep work for those keeps me very busy almost year round.

Both events are being called a 'Fly Fishing Fair', which pretty much sets the stage for how they come off. Lots of fun, tons of things to do, plenty of classes to take, seminars, hundreds of fly tyers for you to sit right across from and have a chat. And naturally, some great raffles, silent auctions and live auctions for you to participate in and win or buy some really neat stuff. We all need more stuff you know.

Make sure you make it over to Ellensburg this April 30 and May 1 for the WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair. We will have Skip Morris and Brian O'Keefe as our highlighted personalities. Al & Gretchen Beatty will also be there. We are starting to accumulate a nice selection of vendors and fly fishing / tying personalities for your enjoyment. Make sure you come to the show.

These past weeks I was happy to see the AFF Yahoo site being used for what it was intended for—Information Exchange. All too often there are no postings yet I know our members have gone fishing, or tied some new flies or maybe went on an outing. Let the other members know about these things, it makes for interesting reading and we can all live the experience vicariously through you, the writer.

We had a nice fly tying session last week. One potential new member, Guy, showed up and there were a number of us regulars tying and talking.

February 15th is our last fly tying session for this winter. By March I am starting to get very busy working on the FFF related auctions. If someone else wants to host a fly tying session, please feel free to do so.

It is time to start getting serious about planning some outings. We have talked about some possible locations at past meetings, but we need to firm up the locations and dates and we need someone to be the Ghillie at these outings. Any takers?

FFF Charter Club status: I have all of the paperwork completed and after our January meeting I will mail it off to the FFF. Now we wait for their review and acceptance of our application .

Good fishing.



Larry

FFF Fly of the Month

PHEASANT TAIL NYMPH with BEADS



By Bob Bates
February 2002 FFF Fly Of The Month

Many years ago Frank Sawyer designed his Pheasant Tail Nymph (See the September 1998 Fly of the Month by Jim Abbs). Now we are putting beads on them. The bead head fly craze really started at the 1988 Dutch FlyFair (a mini conclave). However, prior to 1991 we Americans didn't listen to the European fly fishermen (See March, 2000 Fly of the Month).

At the FFF 1991 International Conclave in West Yellowstone, Montana, Dutch fly tier Theo Bakelaar made an impression on everybody. After all, he was clad in a gold suit with gold paint on his face and a passion for bead-head, bead-body and bead-etc. flies. Three of his flies are shown in Patterns of the Masters 1991 Conclave. FFF officials, mainly Jack Parker, took him fishing and saw how effective his flies were.

In 1992 everybody wanted bead head flies, and most of our beads came from craft shops. The demand was insatiable. Commercial tiers tied hundreds of dozens, and even guides stayed up late to tie bead head patterns for their clients. Most tied single bead head patterns like above. However, John Faust of Hamilton, Montana made it better by including two beads (see two bead fly above). His pattern also has the advantage of using beads with holes that are too large and would slip over the hook's eye.

In stillwater use bead patterns with floating or sinking lines. With a sinking line let the line and fly sink to where the fish are and start to retrieve. The fish are frequently near the bottom, but they might not be there. Also, vary the retrieve until something works. With floating lines vary the fly sink-time and retrieve. Start a hand twist retrieve immediately, let the fly sink to near the bottom before retrieving, or even let the fly hang under a strike indicator. The keyword is experiment.

Bead patterns also work well in moving water. Suspend the fly under the strike indicator a distance about equal to twice the water depth. In fast water extra weight might be needed a foot or two above the fly to sink everything quickly. If the indicator does anything beside drift downstream. It might be only a rock or it could be a nice fish. Then you will have a great story to tell your fishing partners.

Materials:

Hook: Dai-Riki 730; Mustad 9671, 9672, 7957BX; Daiichi 1710, 1560; Tiemco 3761; sizes 8-16

Weight: One or two brass beads

Thread: Brown, 6/0 or 8/0

Rib: Gold or copper wire

Tail and body: Pheasant tail fibers

Wingcase and legs: Pheasant tail fibers

Thorax: Peacock herl (On one bead fly only)

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Tying Steps

Bead Head Pheasant Tail Nymph

1. Smash the barb to make threading easier, and slip on one or two brass beads. If you have modern beads with a smaller hole on one side put it toward the eye.
2. Put hook in the vise with the shank pointing down a little so bead stays at the eye.
3. Attach wire about mid-shank and hold it as you wrap thread over wire to the bend
4. Hold a pheasant tail, and stroke the fibers outward so the tips are even before cutting off the ones you want. Make a shank length tail at the bend by attaching a dozen or so tail fibers by their tips on top of the hook. Keep thread wraps on top of each other
5. Hold up butts of pheasant tail fibers and wind thread forward to a little in front of mid shank.
6. Grasp the pheasant tail fibers with your fingers and start wrapping them around the shank. The first wrap should be back to cover the thread wraps securing the fibers, and then wrap forward to mid-shank, secure and trim excess.
7. Spiral the copper wire rib forward in the opposite direction than you wrapped the pheasant tail fibers. This counter wrapping protects the pheasant tail fibers. Secure and cut off excess wire. Leave thread at front of body.
8. Cut off a dozen or so tail fibers after making them even. Measure the tail fibers so the distance from the tips to the thread is about twice the mid-shank-to-bead length. Secure them on top of the hook with tips to rear. Wrap thread over butts to help build up the thorax area. Trim excess.
9. Secure two or three peacock herls by their tips between the body and the bead. Wind thread to bead. Build up a fat thorax by winding herls between body and bead. Secure and trim excess.
10. Pull the wingcase fibers forward, hold them together and secure with a turn or two of thread.
11. Divide the tips, and hold half of them along each side of the thorax. Put on a couple more thread wraps to hold tips back, whip finish behind bead and add a drop of head cement to wraps.

Two Bead Pheasant Tail Nymph

- Steps 1 to 6 same as above except secure pheasant tail fibers from body on top of hook and do not trim excess.
7. Spiral gold wire forward. Faust likes to wrap the rib in the same direction as the body is wrapped but with a different pitch. He feels that body fibers are loosen with counter wrapping. Hold up excess pheasant tail fibers, put several wire wraps ahead of body, secure with thread and trim excess wire.
 8. Bring one bead back to body, and move thread to front of it. Even the tips of 6 or 8 pheasant tail fibers, cut them from tail feather and tie them, tips to rear, on top of hook in front of rearmost bead. Make these legs 1-1/2 to 2 gap widths long and split half on each side of bead. Trim excess. Bring pheasant tail fibers from body over bead forcing legs to side, tie down and do not trim.
 9. Bring front bead back and move thread in front of it. Tie on 6 or 8 pheasant tail fibers for the front legs. Trim excess. Bring pheasant tail fibers from body over beads, forcing legs to side, and secure near the eye.
 10. Trim excess pheasant tail fibers and whip finish head. Add a little head cement to whip finish and wingcase.

As far as I am concerned any style pheasant tail nymph is a great all year fly. Have fun with these patterns. Please put the fish back gently so you and others can have the pleasure of playing with them again.

Key Dates In The Future

February 15 — Fly Tying Session	March 12/13 — Albany, OR	April 27 — Club Meeting
February 23 — Club Meeting	March 23 — Club Meeting	April 30/May 1– Fly Fishing Fair

NW Fly Tyers Expo, Albany, Oregon March 12 & 13, 2019
Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA April 30 & May 1, 2010

February Program

Michael T. Williams

Michael T. Williams Wilderness Fly Fishing program is a captivating blend of high altitude fly fishing and back country adventure featuring outstanding photography, coupled with inspiring and anecdotal narration. Michael highlights wilderness areas in Oregon, California, Idaho and Wyoming. Demonstration fly tying and specific fishing techniques are included. Michael has over 50 years of fly fishing experience and is a fly fishing teacher, coach, artist and entertainer. He will be tying at both the NW Fly Tyers Expo in Albany, OR and at our very own Washington Fly fishing Fair in Ellensburg

Washington
State Council



About Our WSCFFF

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

By Larry Gibbs

Washington Fly Fishing Fair

Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers

Ellensburg, WA April 30-May 1, 2010

Friday: 11:00 am- 5:00 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Washington
State Council



Our highlighted personalities this year are Brian O'Keefe and Skip Morris

Fly Tying Classes; Fly Casting Classes; Free Fly Casting Clinics & Games; Free Youth Fly Tying Tables;

Free Seminars; Raffle & Auction; Banquet; RV and Tent Camping; Education and Fun For All



About the FFF

www.fedflyfishers.org



The FFF wants your best catch and release images for new web content. We are currently developing new web information for our website on proper catch and release techniques, philosophy and gear. Share your best catch and release photo with us. Select images will be used on our website to help teach others the best way to handle and photograph fish for release. For specific guidance on appropriate photography to be submitted, and to participate send an email to the Conservation Coordinator. Any photos used will display photographers name.

conserve@fedflyfishers.org

Quote Of The Month



There are two distinct kinds of visits to tackle-shops, the visit to buy tackle and the visit which may be described as Platonic when, being for some reason unable to fish, we look for an excuse to go in, and waste the tackle dealer's time.

Arthur Ransome

"On Tackle Shops" Rod and Line (1929)



The National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave 2010

Presented by the



Education Inspiration



Celebration

Fair hours:
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 26-28

Activities include:
fly tying demonstrations, fly casting demonstrations, hour-long seminars, exhibit hall, raffles and much more!

Exhibit hall admission:
adults \$5, kids 15 and under free
Saturday is FREE for all

Workshops:
Take one or more workshops on tying, casting, on the water, and non-angling. Fees for workshops vary. It is requested to sign up in advance, however numerous walk-up workshops will be offered on-site. Workshops are offered August 24-28. See the on-line schedule for more details.

Visit us at:

Holiday Inn at **West
Yellowstone**

Montana

August 26-28, 2010

FederationConclave.org

Awards Banquet & Auction

Saturday evening will be our annual Awards Banquet and Auction. The banquet will be catered by Rodeo City Bar-B-Q from Ellensburg. Following dinner there will be the announcement of the candidates for the open Board positions followed by the presentation of the Council's 2010 Awards. The awards presentation will be followed by both a silent and live auction. Tickets for the banquet are \$30 and can be purchased online at our website.

Registration

More information

More information, including the status of classes, schedule, and costs can be found on our website: <http://washingtoncouncilfff.org> by following the links for the Fly Fishing Fair. Registration can also be completed from the website. If you have additional questions contact Carl Johnson at 425-308-6161

Lodging & Camping

Group rates have been arranged at the Best Western Lincoln Inn and Suites - 509-925-4244, Quality Inn and conference Center 509-925-9800, and the Super 8 Motel - 509-962-6888. In addition Camping is available at the Kittitas County Event Center (home of the Fair). More information and camping reservations can be made on our website.

Fly Tying

Over one hundred fly tiers from throughout the Northwest, including our featured tier Skip Morris, are expected to demonstrate their skills Friday and Saturday. Currently we expect four Buz Buszek Memorial Award recipients. The Buszek award is the national Federation of Fly Fisher's highest fly tying award. Scheduled to appear are Al Beatty (1999), Bruce Staples (2001), Henry Hoffman (2008) and John Newbury (2009).



Fly Tying Classes

A number of fly tying classes will be offered including: **Spinning Hair** with Vicki Eagle Elk, **Student's Choice** with Bob Bates, **Dubbing Demystified** with Michael T. Williams, **Steelhead Tube Flies** with Jack Cook, **Umbrella Flies** with Bob Bates, **Tying Realistic Flies** with Karen Royer, **Favorite Steelhead Flies** with John M. Newbury, **Tying the Erv Emerger** with John M. Newbury, **Bass Poppers** with Sam Matalone, and **Mayfly Cripples - The Quigley Hackle Stacker** with Vern Jeremica.

Free kids fly tying on Saturday. Bring the family!



Featured fly tier Skip Morris



Featured fly caster Brian O'Keefe

<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

Fly Casting

The Fly Casting events will be held at Veterans Memorial Park adjoining the fairgrounds. There are a number of casting demonstrations scheduled, including FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor Brian O'Keefe. There will be an **Emergency Casting Clinic** where you can walk in and get a short lesson.

The new FFF Fly Casting Course will be available for those who want to play on Friday or Saturday. All you need to do to try the course is show up with or without your rod. There will also be a **Friendly Competition on the FFF Fly Casting Course** Saturday morning. Sign up for the competition is available the web page.



Fly Casting Classes

There will be a number of casting classes offered including: **Beginning Casting For Women** with Judy Graham, **Spey Casting Class on the Yakima** with Aaron Reimer, **Intermediate Casting For Women** with Judy Graham, and **Casting in Wind Conditions** with Don Simonson.



2010

WASHINGTON FLY FISHING FAIR



Kittitas County Event Center
(Fairgrounds)
Ellensburg, WA

April 30th - 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

May 1st 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Admission \$5.00 for both days

FREE for FFF members and youth under 16
<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

Other Classes

In addition there will be two other classes offered by Red's Fly Shop at their place in the Yakima canyon. The **Drift Boat Handling and Safety on the Water** class. This 2 hour class covers river safety, basic rowing, entry/exit, defensive rowing, anchoring, and more. This class is designed for both boat owners and those curious about rowing rivers. Waders are recommended, but not required.

The **Introduction to Fly Fishing** class is geared towards people that have never fly fished a single day in their life. It will have a little casting but will essentially be a "how to get started, where to go, what to throw" type class.

As both of these classes will spend part of the time outside, dress for outdoor weather.

Seminars

There will be a number of **free seminars** throughout Friday and Saturday. Presenters scheduled to participate include Skip Morris, Brian O'Keefe, Tom Schreier, Preston Singletary, Lee Davidson, and David P. Williams. Subjects will include: entomology, how to fish lakes, bull trout, carp, smallmouth bass, and fishing the South Fork Snake River in Idaho.

For More information on Seminars, including subject and schedule, please visit our website.

<http://washingtoncouncilfff.org>

February / March

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

Alpine Fly Fishers
PO Box 1103
Milton, WA 98354

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.

Club Officers:

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
Vice President:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	253-568-7965
Secretary:	Howard Inks	253-881-1885
Ghilly:	Joe Fitzpatrick	253-405-7356
Outings Coord:	Bob Jacobs	360-897-8733
Programs Coord:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683
Librarian:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Webmaster:	Steve Egge	253-841-1093