

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on

Tuesday

February 26, 2013

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM



Charter
Club



The Dead Drift - February 2013

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Mailing Address

Board of Directors

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By Larry Gibbs

At the start of every year I complete an Alpine Fly Fishers charter club report to the FFF, so the FFF can complete our IRS report for the previous year. I spent some of my time in January doing just that. One part of the report covers our finances and I am happy to say that we are in good shape, considering the state of the economy, I am glad to be able report that we are on an even keel with last year. Another part covers our volunteer hours that our club members have donated to various fly fishing events. Thanks to all the help I receive at the WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg and at the IFFF Fly Fishing Fair in Spokane this past year, plus the many hours our members donate all during the year within our club. I think we did very well for our size. I look forward to spending more time with some of you at Ellensburg again this year during the 2013 Fly Fishing Fair, May 3 & 4.

I just got back from our Trophy Lake outing. Eleven club members and two guests showed up and spent a couple hours casting to elusive trout. We went to the Hole 6 pond and while some fish were caught, catching was very slow. Paul caught a couple very nice trout and a few others managed to hook into some. Guy and his friend Lee left and headed down to the fishing pond by the club house. I guess that is where all the fish were as they hooked into a number of them.

We all went up to the club house and had a great lunch, which gave us a chance to warm up, talk, exchange fishing stories and I am sure no fibs were told as fly fishers never lie. :)

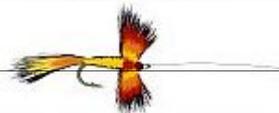
Our new club patches came in the other day. Every active member gets one free then if you want more they will be six dollars each. The patches look good, almost exactly like our original patch. The only change was I split the word 'flyfishers' into two words, 'fly fishers' since we are registered as a non-profit, 501.3.c with the SOS, FFF, WSCFFF and the IRS under the name Alpine Fly Fishers

I asked Stephen to submit his Back of Beyond with his article about Roger Miller, a friend to both of us who passed last December. Roger will be missed.

Both Stephen and Brian are recuperating after surgery. Stephen had knee surgery and Brian went in for a new hip. Their surgeries went fine and both are doing well. If you are going to have an operation, the winter is the best time because then you will be able to fish come spring. We have to keep our priorities in mind.

Good fishing.

Larry



Federation of Fly Fishers

Fly of the Month

Mini Pop

February 2004

By Bob Bates



Like so many steelhead flies, the Mini Pop is beautiful in real live color. Is the color to attract the steelhead or the steelhead angler? The experts tell me that color is important, but which color combination is best depends on a lot of things.

This fly came from the fertile mind and memory of G.L. Britton in about 1992. At the time he owned Silver Bow Fly Fishing Adventures in Spokane, WA. He doesn't claim to be the sole originator of it since most new flies are built on earlier ideas and patterns. However, at this point in time I cannot find any steelhead pattern like it. Marabou speys are somewhat similar in appearance, but the tying method is different.

So much for history and references: Does it catch fish? YES! It may be fished on floating, sink tip or full sinking lines. Down stream quartering cast will deliver a Mini Pop so it can swing across current and attract attention. One caution when using it with a floating line, the fly will wake across slick fast water in the tail of a pool or flat. Sometime that excites the fish, and they will come slashing after it. Just remember when a steelhead hits a surface or near surface fly you have to let it go until you feel some weight.

This fly is tied in a wide range of colors and color combinations, depending on your preference and that of the fish. Steelhead on the Dean River liked the pink version (6). G.L. found that chartreuse and lime (1) was preferred by pink and chum salmon on one of his trips to Bella Coola, British Columbia. He also uses chartreuse and lime for steelhead when the Grand Ronde River is crystal clear.

Materials List:

Hook: Tiemco TMC 7999, 4 & 6

Hackles: All are saddle hackles; two rear hackles are given first and two front hackles second.

Thread: 6/0, color is listed last.

Color Combinations:

1. Light chartreuse - light chartreuse & hot lime - fluorescent chartreuse
2. Cerise - purple & blue - fire orange
3. Yellow - yellow & red - fire orange
4. Orange - orange & black - fire orange
5. Orange - purple & black - florescent green
6. Pink - pink & cerise - fire orange

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Mini Pop, a fly of many colors

Tying Steps:

1. Smash the barb with smooth jaw pliers so you can release any wild fish.
2. Pick four saddle hackles with fibers and marabou-like fibers (fluff) that are shank length long.
3. Strip fluff from stem, but leave 1/4- to 1/2-inch of fluff below the barbs.
4. Put thread onto hook right behind end of loop eye, and tie in two saddle hackles (first color).
5. Wind both hackles forward tightly while stroking fibers rearward so they aren't tied down. Continue wrapping until you have completed two turns past the fluff. Secure and clip off excess. Save the hackle tips for another fly.
6. Tie on second pair of hackles with 1/4- to 1/2-inch of fluff below the barbs, and wind thread forward to within an eye width of the eye. Wind second pair of saddles forward tightly, as you did the first, until you have completed three turns past the fluff. Secure and trim excess.
7. The stiffer barbs are now standing like a collar, so they need to be laid back. Stroke them rearward and wind the thread rearward about 1/16-inch over the barbs. It should put everything into a pyramidal shape.
8. Whip finish and add a drop of head cement.

The Mini Pop in any color combination will catch steelhead in most of our steelhead streams. The only thing you need to do is find where the steelhead are and go fishing.



FFF's Fly Tying Group Spotlight

One of the important activities of the Fly Tying Group (FTG) is its Evergreen Hand Project.

This project is spearheaded by Jesse Scott, designer of the Evergreen Hand, and Dean Childs, production ramrod. Dean is in search of funds to continue the building of the kits and getting them distributed to the persons with one arm that want to tie flies. You can read about the project in detail on the IFFF website under the "Tying" tab.

The FTG has worked with the IFFF office manager, Rhonda Sellers, to set up a way individuals, clubs, or councils can donate funds to support this project. All money collected goes into production of the units. At the bottom of the Evergreen Hand Project article on the IFFF website is a link to Pay Pal where donations can be made to the "IFFF - Evergreen Hand Project." Checks can also be sent to the IFFF office. Be sure to make the check out to IFFF, then put a reference to the Evergreen Hand Project on the check. If you use the Pay Pal method, you can get an immediate receipt for tax purposes.

The group has already made and distributed about 90 of the units. Dean's goal is to secure funding for at least 200 more units to meet the increasing demand. A DVD instructional video is included in the kit. There will be opportunities to see the Evergreen Hand in action at the FTG Rendezvous and at the Fly Fishing Expo when the IFFF meets in West Yellowstone in September.

- Jim Ferguson, FTG chair

Alpine Fly Fishers Meeting in 2013

February 26 March 26 April 23 May 28 June 25 (Picnic)
September 24 October 22 November 26 December (Date to be decided)
(No meetings in July nor August)

Sporting and Fly Fishing Related Shows in 2013

The Fly Fishing Show returns to Washington State in 2013. Lynnwood — February 16 & 17
Yakima Sportsmen's Show — February 15 - 17
Wenatchee Sportsmen's Show — February 22 - 24

FFF Events in 2013

The 2013 Northwest Fly Tyers Expo, will be held again in Albany, Oregon.



NW Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo

Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence

March 8th and 9th - 2013
Albany, Oregon



Fri and Sat
March 8 & 9, 2013.
Plan to attend.

Washington State
Washington



Council of the FFF
Fly Fishing Fair

The Washington State Council will bring you the Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. Friday and Saturday, **May 3 & 4, 2013.** Don't miss this one, it is a great event!!!!



INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF
FLY FISHERS



The Federation of Fly Fishers International Fly Fishing Fair will be held in West Yellowstone, MT. This will be a FALL gathering, **September 24 - 28, 2013.**

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

In Appreciation of Roger Miller

(and to all fishermen that we have treasured loved and lost)

Across the river I sight a fellow fisherman. The current of the water is strong as it sucks at his thighs as he stands just off the far river bank the water eddying just behind him. A down canyon breeze could cause his fly line to sail to the right, but he compensates instinctively. The fisherman's hat has the wide brim pulled down low to shield his eyes from the lowering sun and its reflection off the water. His face is obscured by the hat's brim shadow but I can see a white beard. His back cast is strong and supple as he comes to a sudden deceleration, his bamboo rod flexes in an arch from the precise loading. The arm starts its forward progress and the rod loads again to release at the next arrested forward movement. The dry fly settles gently on the water's surface and begins to drift with the pull of the current; the fisherman's wrist flicks the rod tip upstream putting a mend in the line. His shaded eyes follow the fly's downstream course while his hands make subtle line adjustments. His wrist remains relaxed sensing the take, before his eyes pick up the flies disappearance, the rod tip rises as the other hand strips the line. The trout launches himself into the air kinking his whole body to throw the fly. After the brief but showy fight the trout is brought to hand, he looks up, a wide smile stretched from ear to ear as his eyes seek mine. His eyes crinkle with delight and the look what I've done grin. I know this man; we share the moment as the trout slides back into its watery element. Roger retrieves his line fastening his hook to a guide; he gives a deep satisfied smile and a wave as he turns to fade away into the trees lining the river. Roger fishes with me still his memory walks beside me on the waters of this plane.

Transformation, the cycle of life, no matter how much we feel that we are prepared for the parting, the emotion's we feel are larger than we expect. The lump in our throat, the empty feeling in the pit of our stomach, the water leaking from our eyes or the loss of speech and those are the immediate physical symptoms. When someone special in our lives moves on, the feeling of loss and separation is not easy to put into words. Roger's leave taking fell on the winter solstice, an important energetic day and time of the year. The winter solstice is when the potential of change is the greatest for new beginnings; but every new beginning means, that some are left behind. Roger left us during the season of hope, the season of joy and the season of thankfulness. For all of us left behind, this day and season makes our loss more acute and powerful.



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We strive amidst our loss, to celebrate Roger and his life, to fully feel the separation and to be thankful for what he brought to each of us, his family and friends. While this season makes his loss greater it also reflects back what a wonderful thing it was to have Roger in our lives.

Because each of us is a unique individual our reflections on Roger are unique to us. Each of us holds an image of Roger that is special to them so my reflections of Roger cannot be complete as he was many things to many people. Roger spent a lifetime interacting with air and water, his working career in the California Air National Guard and his two favorite hobbies fly fishing and sailing. Air, atmosphere that which we breathe, sail before or upon; water, aqua, a part of us to swim in to float upon they are yin and yang, two elements always interacting with and part of the other. Sandy his wife partner two elements interacting with and part of the other. She was there with him, as a fellow airman, as his partner in sailing and as a fellow volunteer for the Federation of Fly Fishers and Fly Fishers for Conservation.

Open glimpses in to our true natures, are revealed in everyday moments, the everyday miracles of our lives. Roger picking up Sandy and hugging her after returning from a fishing trip, accepting the bribe of a Dr. Pepper to continue fishing the nightfall rise on a cold rainy day, returning Kevin's laughter with a middle finger salute and a wryer grin as he struggled to get into the pickup with too tight waders and short legs. Roger presenting each of the Dunsmuir crew his handmade wadding staffs as gifts and at Christmas giving us each miniature landing nets to celebrate his enjoyment of our company. Telling Jeff that his six inch trout caught on a 7 weight rod was chum but crowing over his own six inch catch and offering to buy dinner if we all ordered cheeseburgers. Teaching his grand children to fly fish and taking them to fly fishing shows, teaching knot tying to aspiring young fly fisherman attending the FFC youth fly fishing academy. Roger flying to our nation's capital to meet with Washington's congressmen to present the fisherman's view of water and life. Roger's attendance and active participation in Board of Director meeting for Fly Fishers for Conservation, NC Federation of Fly Fishers, and Federation of Fly Fishers or simply manning the FFFC booth. Roger's life shined through his everyday actions and meeting Roger wherever it happened to be was like coming home.

They say that behind every fisherman is a long line of fisherman, the elder statesmen's who pushed the envelope broke new ground or passed their knowledge on to other fishermen young and old. Wherever there are fish and water there will be Roger enjoying the moment with me as my fly lands on the water to entice the fish to the fly.

In closing I would like to repeat this Inuit blessing in Rogers honor “Walk well my brother” for we are all brothers and we are our brothers keeper, for mankind, there is one hope—to live in harmony with the earth, not in conflict with it, and to live in harmony with our fellow inhabitants of this planet both animal and human.

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



“Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in” ~Henry David Thoreau



February Guest Speaker

Michael T. Williams

"Idaho Fly Fishing---High & Wild"

Wilderness fly fishing, backpacking, llama packing in the huge Frank Church River-of-No Return Wilderness & the tiny Seven Devils Wilderness



The original AFF Patch

The new AFF Patch



The Alpine Fly Fishers holds monthly meetings at the Puerto Vallarta restaurant in Puyallup.

We start our meetings around 6 PM and enjoy a social hour of food and drinks. Everyone gets to give a fishing report, then a guest speaker will give a presentation and finally we have a raffle. Please feel free to join us and check out our club while you dine on some great tasting food.

For Sale

A great steelhead / light salmon rod

\$150 OBO

Sage Graphite II 790RP — #7 Line 9'0" 3 & 5/8 ounces

For Sale: Sage RP fly rod. A 7 weight, 9 foot, 2 piece rod donated by Duffy and I have placed it in a Sage rod case donated by Stephen. This is a lightly used fly rod with a fighting butt and I can feel no nicks nor imperfections in the length of the rod.

The Sage RP is one of the classic fly rods made by Sage, highly respected by fly fishers and it is great to cast.

This is an Alpine Fly Fishers fund raiser, the money will go into the AFF treasury.

Email me if you are interested. Larry Gibbs flytier015@q.com

Lone Lake Outing

Offered by Steve Egge

April 24 thru 28

Our annual Lone Lake outing on Whidbey Island has been moved from the cold and blustery month of February to the springtime month of April. Thursday April 24th through Sunday the 28th. Steve will arrive Thursday night after work ... so those who want to fish Thursday and stay Thursday night, can. More details in the coming months.

2013 NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

By Mike Clancy

Editors Note: At the December AFF meeting, the club voted to donate \$250 towards this great cause. A check was mailed to Mike Clancy to be used to support their efforts to teach our youth about fly fishing. Larry

It's just around the corner, the opportunity of a life time for our youth 12-16 to learn conservation and our sport of fly fishing. Applications will be accepted starting January 1, 2013 for the NWYCFFAcademy, June 23-29th at Hicks Lake, Gwinwood Community Center in Lacey, WA. The applicant must submit a written essay, explaining why they would like to attend and a letter of recommendation is needed from their school counselor or science teacher. Applications are available on our website – www.nwycffa.com or contact me - mtclancy39@comcast.net. We also have a Facebook site with lots of pictures, showing what we do during the week.

All meals are included, everyone will stay in warm comfortable cabins with bunk beds. Very clean facilities with good clean showers. Each person needs to bring a sleeping bag, pillow and personal items. All fishing gear is provided, except waders and/or hip boots. All fly tying gear will be provided. Many will catch their first fish on a new fly they tied.

Cost is still \$275 for the whole week, but there are sponsorships available and no one will be turned away because of money. The event is sponsored by WCTU, WSCFFF and hosted by the South Sound Fly Fishers, Puget Sound Fly Fishers and Olympia Chapter TU. We will limit enrollment to 24 boys and girls.

There is classroom time, but we spend a lot of time casting, tying, eating, sleeping and learning what's in our streams. We are fortunate to have excellent staff of volunteer teachers. We had over 50 volunteers in 2012, and I'm sure we will have the same amount again in 2013.

So mark your calendars for the last week of June, the 23rd thru the 29th. This is a golden opportunity for our youth to learn a lifelong activity. The youth of today are the guardians of the future sport of fly fishing. Mike Clancy, Co-Director, 360-753-1259 & Jim Brosio, Co-Director, 360-943-9947 (Sponsorships are available, just ask us)

February / March 2013

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 February	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Yakima Show	16 Fly Fishing Show / Yakima Show
17 Fly Fishing Show / Yakima Show	18	19	20	21	22 Wenatchee Show	23 Wenatchee Show
24 Wenatchee Show	25	26 Club Meeting	27	28	See page 4 for a list of shows	
					1 March	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Albany Show	9 Albany Show
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26 Club Meeting	27	28	29	30

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Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.org

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