

# Alpine Fly Fishers



Our next meeting will be on

Tuesday

January 26, 2010

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup

## JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

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### Presidents Line

By Larry Gibbs

A great big Thank You to all of you who showed up for our December meeting/fundraiser. Duffy sent me the results. We grossed \$800 in raffle sales and if we combine that with the \$500 we made off the sale of the rod and reel that Bruce donated, that gives us a \$1,300 increase in our bank account. A great way to start a new year.

I sent out an email recently and posted the message on the AFF Yahoo site regarding our status as a club and eventually becoming a FFF Charter Club. I think it is worth repeating here:

*Hi everyone,*

*Regarding our club status. I have applied to the state of WA to make us a non-profit organization. Guess that will take a while. Meanwhile the club voted to become a FFF Charter club. That means everyone who wants to be a member of our club has to join the FFF.*

*As a trade off, the Alpine Fly Fishers club will no longer have dues. (which would have been due this December). That means the money it takes to join the FFF is almost totally covered by not having to pay any club dues.*

*I just went over the December 2009 FFF Washington membership list and compared it to our club rooster. Right now there are 19 people who are members of the FFF and 13 people who are not members.*

*When a person joins the FFF, if they are a member of a club and mark it as such then that club gets one point towards a free TFO rod. Right now we have 4 points and actually should have 5 (which I will be taking care of). So when the 13 non FFF members join the FFF, our club will get a free rod and I figure we can have a rod raffle to make some extra money for the club. We will also have 5 points towards the next rod.*

*I will be obtaining some membership forms and I will write in the data for our club. I will mail them to the people who are not members and I will have them at our next club meeting as well.*

Good fishing.



Larry

## **FFF Fly of the Month**

### **Glass Bead Emerger**

**January 2002**

**By Bob Bates**

This pattern started as a winter chironomid imitation for Colorado streams. However, its use has spread to warmer waters. Chironomid is the big name for midge. An adult midge looks like a mosquito, however, it doesn't bite. Mayflies receive a lot of publicity, but this is an insect that fly anglers should learn more about. For one reason they hatch when ever there is open water, and for another fish like them. Sizes range from 1/16 th of an inch to about 1-1/2-inch. Usually the late fall and winter midges are on the small size. Some of my friends regularly fish winter streams with size 22 and 24 floating patterns.

The Glass Bead Emerger was featured in the December 1995 issue of Trout Tales, which is a monthly Internet newsletter about fishing around Colorado and sometimes Southern Wyoming.

(See: <http://www.bobsflytying.com/> Bob's Fly Tying Specialties, 406 S Lincoln Ave., Loveland, CO 80537, (970) 667-1107.) Julie Ray includes a fly in each issue. She tied the size 18 fly pictured above, and gave me permission to publish it.

Julie uses it when there is generally nothing else going on in her streams, and she fishes it dead drift on a floating line. As Julie says "Dead drift is important, and those little black midges are out almost all winter."

In warmer stream waters hang it under a grasshopper or other floating pattern, and give fish two opportunities for a meal. Just make sure that using two flies is legal in your area. Watch the floating pattern, and strike gently if it does anything strange like sink, stop, jerk sideways or race upstream.

It also works for stillwater fishing. Use a floating line. If you see fish chain feeding, try to guess where a fish will rise next and place the fly there. If you guessed right, hang on. This is almost as much fun as sight fishing. If you didn't guess right try again.

Often when there is no surface activity the fish are feeding just under the surface. Lay out your floating line, let the fly sink an inch or so and start a slow hand twist retrieve. Blind casting is fun also because you never know when you will feel that tug.

#### **Materials:**

Hook: Tiemco TMC 2457 size 18 & TMC 2487 size 20\*; Dai-Riki 135, Mustad 80200BR, 80250BR, 37160; Daiichi 1130, 1150, J220 and other scud hooks

Bead: Clear glass, midge size #20 & small #18

Thread: Rusty Dun 8/0

Rib: Fine gold wire

Body: Black dubbing

Hackle: Dark grizzly hen

Head: Black dubbing



\* Julie commented that she doesn't know why she does it this way, she just does. I take it from that comment the hook model really isn't set in concrete. I tried several ways of threading beads on a small hooks. One worked great on size 18 and 20 hooks. Place a few beads on table. Pick up a hook in one hand or needle nose pliers, press first finger of other hand down on a bead, Go to Page 4 →

it should stick to your finger, turn finger over so bead is on top and thread bead on hook. I didn't jab my finger even though I used super sharp hooks. If the bead doesn't stick to your finger use a little dubbing wax, Sticky Fingers you can get from stationary stores or saliva.

1. FFF encourages catch and release fishing, and I feel barbless hooks make releasing fish easier. Smash down the barb with smooth jaw pliers or the vise before you spend time tying the fly
2. Thread bead on hook, and place hook in vise.
3. Wrap thread on hook and secure wire to hook a little behind the barb, see picture above.
4. Begin dubbed body at the same place, and wrap it forward to about mid shank.
5. Spiral gold wire forward, secure and trim excess.
6. Slide bead back to mid shank and bring thread forward over the bead and put a few thread wraps in front of bead. Some tiers don't like this method because a nasty old fish might cut the exposed thread. However, Julie said that she hasn't had a problem with it, and it is quicker than tying off, cutting thread and reattaching thread. (I haven't had a problem either.)
7. Pick a small grizzly hen hackle with fibers about 1-1/2 to 2 gap widths long. Tie on hook in front of bead, wrap several times around shank, secure and trim excess.
8. Put a tiny amount of fine black dubbing on thread and wrap head. Whip finish and add a tiny drop of cement for extra security.

[ Julie also ties a variation of this pattern that looks good and catches fish. Attach a FEW strands of gray polypropylene on each side of bead before securing the hackle. Have strands flow back to about one-quarter shank length beyond end of the hook. It is just a wisp to add a little sparkle.] It is easy to tie a few of these Glass Bead Emergers, and get ready for some frosty-finger fly-flinging.

## Five Rivers Sweepstakes Continues

By Larry Gibbs

The Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been EXTENDED! You still have a chance to win a trip to Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT and a chance at the grand prize - a trip to Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile.

The Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been extended due to economic conditions.

The drawing will be held on March 15, 2010. Tickets must be postmarked by February 28th, 2010 to be eligible. Please support the FFF's ongoing efforts in conservation and education by purchasing a ticket.

See Larry Gibbs to purchase some tickets.

## Key Dates In The Future

**January 11 — Fly Tying Session**

**January 26 — Club Meeting**

**February 15 — Fly Tying Session**

**February 23 — Club Meeting**

**March 12/13 — Albany, OR**

**March 23 — Club Meeting**

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

## Quote Of The Month



*Fishing books, lit by emotion recollected in tranquility, are like poetry...We do not think of them as books but as men. They are our companions and not only riverside. Summer and winter they are with us and what a pleasant company they are.*

Arthur Ransome



*The Fisherman's Library (1959)*

## **Yakima River December 18, 2009**

*By Larry Gibbs*

On December 18, Bill Fox and I went over to Ellensburg for a drift on the Yakima River. The temperatures had warmed up from the single digits to around 33 degrees Fahrenheit. There was a foot of snow on the ground but most of the roads were in good condition. It was foggy and we never did see the sun that day.

We met up with our guide, Ryan, at the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop in Ellensburg and left the shop around 10. We were going to do a short drift from the KOA to Rinehart. The cold water means you really have to work sections of the drift, casting many times to fully cover the area the fish are holding. I didn't even bother rigging up my dry fly rod, I brought it with me just in case, but we figured we would be nymphing all day and we did.

We saw some wildlife, like two otters that were frolicking around on the shore and in the water, a couple Whitetail deer back in the brush and a couple Bald Eagles who were looking for their dinner.

Fishing was a very slow at first then the fish warmed up between noon and 1:30 PM. After that it pretty much died off. I only got two to the boat and lost two. Bill got three to the boat. All were Rainbow trout and in the 12 to 17 inch range. They were fat and sassy, looked very healthy and all fought really well. The water temperature varied between 34.88 to 35.96 F. The air temperature got as high as 37 degrees.

The Whitefish have been spawning for a while so Ryan tied on some Whitefish egg flies as well as a Skwalla Stonefly nymph. He later replaced my Whitefish egg fly with a pink San Juan Worm. The five fish we caught were hooked on all three types of flies, with three of them taking the SJW.

The ice on the river was a bit of problem. We had large sheets of ice flowing by us all day and the ice along the shore was around 8 inches thick, but it was starting to break off causing the ice flows. We did hit one section of the river which was blocked by a fallen tree and the small area to drift by that tree was blocked with large chunks of ice. Ryan unloaded us and managed to fight his way past this obstacle by actually getting out of the boat and standing on the ice (no way I would have done that) and breaking enough ice off the outer edge to force the drift boat through the opening.

It just felt great to be out on the river after a couple months of no fishing. The two fish I caught really felt good on the end of my line and I am looking forward to January when I will come back for a couple more days of fishing.

Larry



Larry's best Rainbow

Bill's two best Rainbows



# January / February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					<b>January 1</b>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Fly Tying Session	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	<b>26 Club Meeting</b>	27 Washington	28 Sportsmen's	29 Show	30 Puyallup
31 Show Ends	<b>February 1</b>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Fly Tying Session	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	<b>23 Club Meeting</b>	24	25	26	27 P
28						

**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](http://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