

Alpine Fly Fishers



Our Next AFF Meeting
Will Be Tuesday

September 27

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM

No Meetings in July/August

The Dead Drift - July 2016

In this issue:

Page 2 & 3

*IFFF Fly Of The Month
~ March Brown Flymph ~*

Page 4 & 5

*Back of Beyond
~ W ~*

Page 6 & 7 & 8 & 9

*~ Missouri River Trip ~
~ Yakima River Trip ~
~ Clark Fork River Trip ~*

Page 10

*FAOL Article
~ Simple? ~*

Page 11

*A Fly Fishing Quote
AFF Meetings 2016
Need New Programs
Coordinator*

Page 12

*Youth Camp in Montana
@ IFFF FF Fair
FTG's Fly Tying Videos*

Page 13

Save The Dates

Page 14

*Calendar
Editor Information
Mailing Address
Board of Directors*



President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

July and August, our two hottest months, both in temperature and in fishing. Trout fishing in the rivers and the larger cooler lakes. Pan fish and bass in the warmer rivers and lakes. That can make our summer fishing a very pleasant experience. Drifts on the Yakima River are always fun, as long as the rubber hatch isn't too large. I also really enjoy my time in Montana especially on the Clark Fork River.

We all have our 'favorite' waters, be they big or little, lakes, rivers or saltwater. Just get out there and enjoy the fun. While you are at it, please remember to take some pictures. Plan on giving them to either myself or to Steve Egge so he can put together a power point presentation for us at our December meeting. Yes, I know, that sounds a long way off, yet time seems to fly by and before you know it December will be here and your pictures will still be either in your camera or your computer. We need them for our meeting.

We need a Programs Coordinator for our club. Please read the article on page 11.

Our annual AFF club picnic was the other night, thank you Stephen & Terry for opening up your house to a group of fly fishers, you are brave people. 😊

We had a good time. The weather was just about perfect for this time of year, sunny but not hot and no wind. The food was great and there was more than enough of it. We had a free raffle drawing (no, that will not continue into our regular meetings, sorry) of four items. Bill Fox was the first one drawn and he came up and chose the IFFF baseball hat, then he turned around and gave the hat to one of CJ's boys. That was super nice of Bill to do that. Bill Aubrey was the next winner and he chose the great looking gold toned large arbor reel. Then CJ's ticket was drawn and he let his youngest son pick from the remaining two items (with a little help from Dad whispering in his ear) and CJ got the fly box with two dozen flies. The last person drawn was John Clark and he won the IFFF fly cup with a dozen Caddis flies, perfect for this time of year. Then as a special gift, everyone was able to pick from a wide selection of plastic bags, each containing three flies, so everyone was a winner.

We now enter a two month hiatus from our club meetings, so get out there and do some fishing, and please remember to take pictures. Some of you have been sending them to me, thank you, we will all enjoy them this December.

See you all at our September meeting on the 27th. Have a great summer.

Good fishing.



Larry

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month

July 2012

MARCH BROWN FLYMPH

Published by Bob Bates

Federation of Fly Fishers - Washington Council



Opening Comments:

Never heard of a Flymph? That is not surprising since the term was coined by Vernon S. Hidy in 1962. Bill Lovelace, Baker City, Oregon showed us how to tie this deceptively simple fly at the 2012 Northwest Fly Tyer Expo in Albany, Oregon. V.S. "Pete" Hidy was a good friend (and protégé) of Jim Leisenring who was the best wet fly angler in the U.S. and maybe the world. Together they developed many soft hackle patterns and were very successful at fishing them. Fishing this fly is more active than the usually recommended dead drift approach. Cast across and down so the fly sinks. At the end of the swing tighten the fly line so the fly begins to move upward like a hatching insect. Ideally have it rise in front of a fish that you have spotted, then it is called the Leisenring lift. If you want to learn more about flymphs go to <http://flymph.com>. There you will be welcomed ... "to the International Brotherhood of the Flymph!", and see many more flymph patterns. Whatever you chose to call them, be it Spiders, Wingless Wet, Winged Wets, Flymphs or Soft Hackles they work.

Materials list:

Hook: Scud, TUE, barbless, size 10

Thread: Pearsall gossamer, Orange

Tail: Peasant tail three fibers

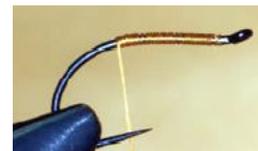
Rib: Oval silver tinsel

Body: Brown beaver, dyed

Hackle: Partridge, brown phase

Tying steps:

Step 1: Attach thread a little behind eye, and wind rearward to past the point.



Step 2 : Attach pheasant tail fibers to make a shank length tail.



Step 3 : Attach silver rib.



Continued on Page 3 →

Step 4 : Dub the body with brown beaver. Leave a tag of orange thread showing at the rear.



Step 5 : Spiral rib forward in about four turns, secure and trim.



Step 6 : Select a brown phase partridge feather and remove all the fuzzy fibers. The barbs on the feather should be about a shank length long. Attach the feather by its tip in front of the body.



Step 7 : Stroke the fibers back as you wrap the feather around the hook a couple of times. Pull all the fibers back with three fingers, wind the thread rearward one or two times to keep them back. Make a small head and whip finish.



Closing Comments:

Two keys to the success of this pattern are the bright orange thread spots at the rear and front of the fly. This is a great fish catching pattern, and it is easy to tie. There are many variations possible. Tie a few and go fishing.

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

In Wildness is the Preservation of the World
“Henry David Thoreau”

Fashion Conscious Mountain and the Hundred Acre Woods



The volcanic mountain outside my window holds her power within, deep and potent. But she shows a different face to the world; she changes outfits several times a day. It is if, she has a tinsel town wardrobe staff making sure she is always dressed for her latest nature features. Her headwear is her most dramatic fashion feature; I have witnessed wraps, berets, sombreros, fedoras, ball caps, scarves, hooded capes, skull caps, cowboy hats and even a fez. And least I forget, mad bomber hats, tricorne and bicornes, a cloche from California and a Non la from Vietnam and even a Keffiyeh from Saudi Arabia. She is a headwear fashion diva.

Her outer garments are most generally billowy skirts, voluptuous shawls and wraps. Many times throughout the year, her dresses have long trains and sometimes her skirts demurely end just above her knees, my personnel favorites are her kilts, replete with deep and numerous pleats. Her base layers follow the seasons, in winter her mantel of white is thick and full, but by summer time her shoulders and thighs are bare.

Some days she is brazen and bold and fills the whole sky, on her demure days she cloaks herself in translucent silk. When she wishes to retreat from the world and sulk she pulls a thick coarse dark gray woolen blanket over herself sometimes disappearing for days on end. She is a lady with grace and beauty that shares her beauty with the people of the Salish Sea. Beneath Rainer's towering presence my boys and I walk through a tall grass meadow. It is mere days before the Summer Solstice and we are exploring the hundred acre woods behind our house. The foliage of the Pacific Northwest is in full fruition, berry bushes reach out to grab us, stinging nettle lurks, wanting to share its oily essence on exposed skin, and Scottish Thistle bristles with pointy spears. Ferns, brush, bushes and waxy leafed plants fill the landscape beneath the western red cedar's, western hemlocks and big leaf maples. Thatch ant mounds are part of the forest mosaic and seem to grow at each sighting.

Some days she is brazen and bold and fills the whole sky, on her demure days she cloaks herself in translucent silk. When she wishes to retreat from the world and sulk she pulls a thick coarse dark gray woolen blanket over herself sometimes disappearing for days on end. She is a lady with grace and beauty that shares her beauty with the people of the Salish Sea. Beneath Rainer's towering presence my boys and I walk through a tall grass meadow. It is mere days before the Summer Solstice and we are exploring the hundred acre woods behind our house. The foliage of the Pacific Northwest is in full fruition, berry bushes reach out to grab us, stinging nettle lurks, wanting to share its oily essence on exposed skin, and Scottish Thistle bristles with pointy spears. Ferns, brush, bushes and waxy leafed plants fill the landscape beneath the western red cedar's, western hemlocks and big leaf maples. Thatch ant mounds are part of the forest mosaic and seem to grow at each sighting.



As we walk I visit with my three Amigos, Darren, Colin and Nolan. I tease them by using nick names. Red (Colin) I send out ahead in the tall grass as we can follow his red hair through the grasses seed heads, Poky Man (Darren) leads through the stickers and berry bushes his cries of Ow!, alerts us to poky things ahead. Frog (Nolan) leads through cow pies and mud holes.

Continued on Page 5 →

Red enthusiastically embraces his new role, he is proud of his red hair, Poky Man grins in acceptance at his familiar role, it is a nick name picked up on earlier discovery trips. Frog cries foul, no way is he walking through cow pies. We all laugh in the high spirit of discovery and exploration. I take the lead with my machete, cutting back vines and stinging nettle. My three amigos soon acquire fallen branches to use as walking sticks, and brush whackers as they follow in my footsteps.

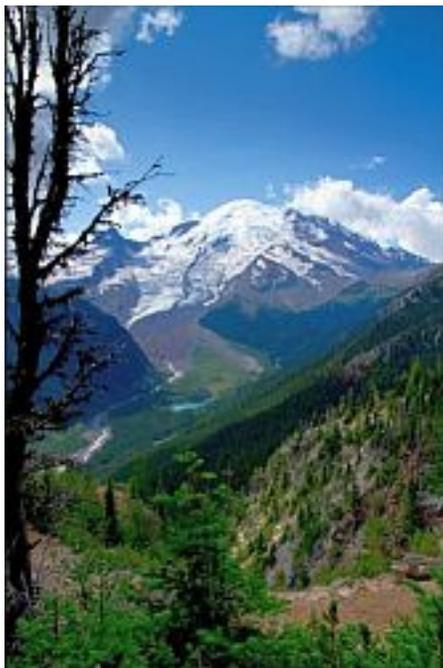
As I lead, I point out different plants and trees, identifying them as we wind deeper into the forest. Behind I hear the boys deciding that I should be a scout leader. Their Cub Scout experience lending credibility to their thought process, I chuckle and smile knowing that their active minds are absorbing nature's lessons, as we duck, low hanging branches and turn sideways to avoid spiky things. Colin picks up a late cow's vertebrae and uses it, to molest tree branches as he discusses the likely reasons for the bovine's demise. Darren and then Colin instruct me to be on the lookout for a broken white 5 gallon bucket we had discovered on an earlier foray into this part of the woods. Up ahead are perfect swinging limbs that, me caballeros want to try again.



After we covered the Western half of the of the hundred acre woods we head North and then East. This is a part of the forest that we tried to get too from the house when we first left, but thick masses of intertwining black berry vines have closed the old and serpentine cow trail and thwarted are efforts to go that way. So now we took the back of beyond path, following faint game and cow paths seeking away through the mass of brush and vines seeking sunlight in which to grow.

Liberally swinging the machete, I opened up a new path way, to gain access to open spaces beneath the tall western cedars; as we turn, twist and bend over double to get through, the three amigos weave stories of adventure and discovery around each new path and hidden cove we find. Nolan orientates himself frequently by asking where the house is from here. I am pleased that they are paying attention to their whereabouts. We have run-ins with stinging nettle and the liberal use of our drinking water gets us through, none of the boys want to use banana slug slime as an antidote. A chorus of ewh!, greeted my suggestion, and since there were none close by, we pressed on.

When we make it home thirsty (most of our water was used in sting abatement) and tired, I applied anti itch cream on Darren and Colin, the newly acquired walking sticks were stored near the backdoor for future use, then Colin exclaimed lets use Nana's I-pad, she isn't home and the three of them curled up on the coach to watch a game together. That night as Nolan relayed his daily activities report to his Dad via cellular communication device, he told him he couldn't wait for Cy to get here, so that he could take him on an exploration of our 100 acre woods.



Just a small tale of adventure, with my boys, beneath the majestic and finely fashioned Mount Rainier in the Pacific Northwest area known as the Salish Sea.

Hope to see you on the water soon, with a fish on your line and adventure in your heart.

Stephen

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

Henry David Thoreau

A Missouri River Fishing Report

(May 27 & 28)

By Larry Gibbs

Recently five of us left Puget Sound for the Missouri River between Craig and Cascade in Montana. Three AFF club members, Bill Fox, Al Hess and myself along with two PSFF members, Mike Clancy and Lee Winegar. We traveled in two vehicles. Putting all five of us in one rig along with all of our gear (ever wonder why we have so much 'stuff'?) makes for a very crowded ride. So Bill and I offered our rigs for the trip.

It is a long way to Arnie Gidlow's Missouri Riverside Outfitters & Lodge, like 650 miles, and a lot of it not freeway. The usual travel time is about 14 hours from my place and with Mike coming up from the Lacey doing a one day drive to the lodge would have put us deep into the night for our arrival. Then to have to unpack and get our gear together for the next day would have meant we would all be dog tired on our first day of fishing. So, we left our area around noon, made a short stop at the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop in Ellensburg, then kept going to a motel in the Spokane area to spend the night.

The next morning we had breakfast and then headed east again towards the Missouri. We stopped in St. Regis, to get Al his Montana fishing license, stock up on some liquid refreshments and swing by the still being built Clark Fork Trout fly shop. Steve Temple was busily working on his place, hoping to get a roof on the building within just a few days. He should have that up and running sometime in June.

Then we kept going, stopping for dinner in Lincoln, MT. Sorry to say the restaurant where I usually eat had a new cook and he was not really qualified to be called a cook. Enough said. Last time at that place for sure.

We arrived at Arnie's lodge and unloaded all of our 'stuff'. We had to go in search of a missing bag that really was not missing, but things like that happen and it gives us good ammo for stories to be told in the future.

Prior to us leaving, I had been checking on the river levels of the Missouri River as well as the Dearborn River. The Missouri River, in that area, is controlled by Holter Dam and they had been releasing a decent amount of water, keeping the flow at a fairly constant rate, which is perfect for fishing. The Dearborn is a free running river, but if it rains hard or has a lot of snow runoff, it can really muddy up the Missouri, which simply means we would fish above the confluence of those two rivers. Naturally, the controllers of the water at the dam decided to start dumping out large flows on the day we left for Montana. The river had been holding at around 5,550 cfs, but all of a sudden they jumped it up to 6,525 the day we left and then on the day we were to start fishing they kicked it up to 6,800 and for our second day of fishing they increased it to a very fast flowing 7,200 cfs. How nice of them to do that for us.....(deleted words).....!

Along with the slightly murky water from the dam dump, there was just a little color coming off the Dearborn, but not bad enough to stop us from fishing the upper canyon area. We also had the fact that we were between hatches (they call it a 'tweener time') so the fish were not real active on surface since there were very few bugs to make the trout look up. It was the end of the BWO's, and March Browns with very few of them out and about. A pseudo mayfly hatch was coming off the water, very small, about the size of a Trico, but grayish brown in color. On the second day we saw a handful of size 16 Caddis on the water, and that was it.

The first day we put in at Craig and drifted down to the Dearborn takeout. I was fishing with Artie that day and he had me start off with a San Juan Worm and a very small mayfly nymph pattern, but after a couple hookups and fish to the boat, both on the small nymph, he removed the SJW and I fished two nymph styles for most of the rest of the day. I caught nine fish that day, most were Rainbows and most in the 16 to 18 inch range. All were fantastic fighters. There were also several fish that never made it to the boat but gave me lots of fun. The water temperature was 50 degrees and the fish were very spunky, jumping like crazy multiple times. I even had one almost jump into the boat but he bounced off the gunwale and back into the water. Great fishing. My morning fishing saw most of my action. My afternoon fishing slowed down a lot for some reason. The other two boats were just the opposite. Their mornings were very slow but it picked up in the afternoon. It was a good day considering the water conditions. I did try some dry flying but with only a single fish and a few missed hits.

Continued on page 7 

We had a great dinner that night. Crab stuffed Chicken breasts, honey glazed carrots, and fettuccini (white sauce and basil). Then for dessert we had a brownie covered in warm chocolate sauce and vanilla ice cream. Yes, we live it real rough on these trips.

The next day we drifted from Dearborn to Prewett Creek, which means the upper canyon area. The river had come up a lot during the night. I fished with Arnie and we started off nymphing which produced some fish, all on the small mayfly style nymphs. The fishing was a lot harder, with fewer hits and lots of junk in the water from the increased flows (thanks again to the great water flow experts). We started seeing some rises close to shore in a few areas so Arnie had me switch to a dry fly rig. At first it was a Parachute Adams along with a very small Pheasant Tail as a dropper. The first fish to hit was on the Adams. After a few more near misses, we switched to two dries and fished those the rest of the day. I got eight fish to the boat that day with many more missed and a some break offs. The Browns were hungry, but you had to cast to within 3 inches of the shore in that fast flowing water. That can be a difficult target on the best of days for many of us who are not casting experts, but there was one more factor that sort of contributed to the casting and fishing experience. A four letter word known as WIND. Oh yes, it was very windy all day, and the wind switched around and swirled when it wanted to, with a fairly steady wind of 10 to 15 MPH plus those every so friendly gusts of 25 MPH+.

But, if you got your fly into that very narrow zone of 3 inches from the shore, but away from the brush, tree limbs, and such, there was a good chance of catching a decent Brown, or at least having a hit. My biggest was a measured 21 incher, fat and sassy, and they next largest was a measured slender 20 incher.

We were all very tired after that day of fishing. Fighting the wind was wearing on all of us. Arnie invited us all up to his house for a grilled steak dinner out on his patio, which overlooks the whole valley What a great view! Then we retired to the lodge and started packing up all our gear preparing to store it all away in the rigs for our trip home the next morning.

We left the lodge at 0530 hours (5:30 AM) Mountain Daylight time and headed back to Lincoln for breakfast. I asked at the gas station where a good place was for breakfast and they pointed to the tavern across the street. It really was a good place, especially compared to the other place. About 650 miles and 13 hours later Al and I pulled into his driveway. Lee, Mike and Bill had all gathered in Bill's rig in Spokane and they all drove to Bill's and then Mike and Lee continued on their way.

It was a good trip and considering the man caused water levels, we did real good.



A Yakima River Fishing Report & A Clark Fork River Fishing Report

By Larry Gibbs

As I write this first paragraph, it is mid-June. Bill Fox and Howard Inks are over on the Clark Fork ready to do some fishing. The river was flowing at 12,300 cfs but dropping steadily. A bit higher than I prefer, but Steve Temple of Clark Fork Trout guide service and Brooks Sanford were out a couple days ago when the river was at 14,000 cfs and they got 40 trout to the boat. By Bill and Howard's second day of fishing the river was down to 10,300 cfs, very close to perfect for this time of year. So I am hoping Bill and Howard have a great time. I am sure Bill will tell us all about it.

I am heading over the last weekend of June to do two days with Brooks on the Clark Fork. But, before that, I decided to do a drift on the Yakima River. Timing and Mother Nature have kept me off the Yakima since October. But I finally managed to book a float with the Worley Bugger Fly Co. for Monday, June 20. It has been 8 months since I fished the Yakima River in the Ellensburg area, waaaaay tooooo loooooong.

Yakima River report: (June 20)

I met up with Aron, my guide from the Worley Bugger Fly Co. fly shop, in Cle Elum. We put in at Bristol and took out at the Green Bridge. It was a great day. Mostly cloudy in the morning with the sun peaking out every now and then to warm things up a bit. Then the clouds mostly went away and it was sunny for the rest of the day, but with no wind at all until the last half mile of the drift. Almost perfect, a few more clouds in the afternoon would have been nice for more BWO hatches but that was ok. Speaking a hatches, there were a lot of bugs out and about. Not a huge amount of any one kind but a lot. We had many Little Yellow Sally stoneflies plus, BWO's, PMD's, Drakes, Spinners, midges, a few Summer Stoneflies and a grasshopper. Kind of a smorgasbord of bugs, and the trout were very interested. I rigged up two dry fly rods and never even bothered to rig up a nymphing rod. It was a dry fly kind of fishing all day long. I had solid hook ups on 25 fish, to the boat. Many of them were smaller Rainbows or Cutthroats, which is always a good sign for the future. But I had a few 14 and 15 inch trout as well. The trout were all very eager to go for the flies, with many misses just because the trout would miss the fly when they tried to grab it. Even with the PMD's and BWO's coming off like they were, the fly that got the most attention from the fish was a large Chernobyl with a peacock colored body. Hence the many misses, the trout wanted the fly but many grabbed at it all wrong, or they were too small, so no hook up. That was alright with me, it kept me on my toes and kept my reaction time good. The other rod had either a size 16 Purple Haze Parachute or a size 18 olive colored body parachute. They both caught fish but I kept going back to the large hopper which seemed to get the most attention. Yep, it was a good day on the Yakima River. Now on to Montana for a couple days on the Clark Fork River.

Clark Fork River report: (June 25 & 26)

The river has been dropping at a steady but slow pace, making fishing conditions just about perfect. As I am getting ready to leave for Montana, the Clark Fork River is down to 6,290 cfs compared to Bill & Howards flow rate of 10,300 just a couple weeks ago. The weather for Saturday & Sunday is sunny and warm.

I arrived in St. Regis late Friday evening, having stopped in CdA to have dinner with a friend, Jack Hise. Traffic all the way through WA & ID was very heavy plus they are working on the road going up Look Out Pass so it was one lane at 20 mph behind a semi rig.

The next morning Brooks Sanford a friend and guide with the Clark Fork Trout guide service (and soon to be fly shop as well) picked me up at 9:00 am. We did the 14 mile drift from St. Regis to the 14 mile bridge. The weather was still partly cloudy, having rained hard all the previous day and into the night, but was clearing. I started off nymphing using my Sage 11 foot XP 6 weight, my favorite nymphing rod and hooked up on 4 very fat and sassy Whitefish, they all put up a good fight then I caught a very fat Cutthroat.

Continued on Page 9 

Brooks had me switch over to a dry fly, a large red half Chernobyl. There were very few bugs coming off at the time, but there were some PMD's and Drakes and a few Caddis. Nothing like the big red ant, but Brooks had had good luck on his guided trip the day before so it was worth a try. Yes, well worth a try. With only a few exceptions, that was the fly I caught most of my fish on all day long. Rainbows and Cutthroats.

I had two dry fly rods rigged up. My IFFF Thomas & Thomas 5 weight and a Hardy rod I bought at the Western Rocky Mountain Council IFFF Fly Fishing Expo in CdA. The big red fly was on the T&T, and Brooks placed a PMD dry fly on the 10 foot, 4 weight Hardy rod.

At one point, while I was still nymphing, my rig had gotten all messed up on a missed set and Brooks had pulled over to the bank and was retying everything. I saw a small sip in a foam line, then another and another. I grabbed my T&T rod and made a few casts but they ignored the fly. Brooks suggested using the Hardy rod with the PMD. The fish were feeding a mere 15 feet from me so I made a very sort cast, fully expecting a dink, in other words, a very small trout. Nope, I got a huge surprise when what turned out to be a very, very fat 19 inch Rainbow grabbed my fly and took off for the faster water in the river. That was a great fight, and we were able to net him, get a quick photo and release him back into the river.

It didn't take long for the sun to come out in full force and the clouds were very scattered. Even with that the fish were still interested in taking dries.

My morning fishing up to lunch turned out to be the most productive fishing for me. After lunch the fishing really slowed down and the day got hotter. But I was still able to get a few fish and by the end of the float I had 28 fish to the boat.

The next morning Brooks picked me up at 8:00 am and we did a 15 mile drift from Superior to St. Regis. It was a very hot day, virtually no cloud cover at all so we were not sure how the fish would respond to the dry fly. But we started off with the big red and started catching some fish. After a lull, Brooks tried a large purple ant pattern and that worked for a while. Fishing was slower than the day before but all the trout I was catching were very fat from a winter of great feeding and they were all full of energy and willing to put up a fierce fight. With the slower fishing we started trying different dry flies and finally I switched to nymphing again, using a Pat's Rubber Legs stonefly pattern and a PT dropper. The Pats was the most productive nymph, even the Whitefish were taking it.

I was back to using the big red and had caught a nice Cutthroat, so we drifted into a little back eddy below a bridge to land the fish. We noticed that there were slurpers in several seams and foam lines so Brooks brought out the Hardy with a parachute Adams. We took three more fish out of those seams, casting to the rises.

Then it was back to trying the various rods, trying to figure out what the fish wanted since they were not being consistent.

Again, the afternoon was a whole lot slower than the morning fishing. It became very warm and a wind started blowing up river adding to the problems. The dry flying just about died off totally so I did more nymphing until we could see some rises, then it was back to a few casts with a dry, then back to nymphing.

Even though the fishing was a little harder than it had been the day before, I still managed to get 24 fish to the boat. The river was still slowly dropping. When I got home on Monday I checked the level and saw that the river was down to 5,600 cfs. It had not dropped on Friday, due to the heavy rains, but it also did not go up that night. So, on Saturday it had continued its slow drop.

I had two great days of fishing and all of the fish were looking really healthy and as I said, fat and sassy. If you want to book a couple days on the Clark Fork River, call the Clark Fork Trout guide service at 406-382-0161 or go on line at www.ClarkForkTrout.com. Steve Temple is the owner and he and his guides know the river very well and will give you a great trip, if the fish cooperate. Steve is in the process of building his fly shop, which is located right across the road from the river access put in/pull out just north of St. Regis. A great location and it should be a really good fly shop. Stop by and check it out.

SIMPLE?

March 28, 2011



The Fly Fishing Enthusiast's Online Magazine
'The Fraternity of Fly Fishers'

Sometimes fishing is so easy you just can't imagine what you ever were doing wrong before - or why the fish didn't like your best fly last time, or if wearing the purple argyle really does make a difference!

We were on the Upper Yellowstone, barely above Buffalo Ford, and I was working with our friend Mike's youngest son. The kid had casting down pretty well, could spot a fish or two and actually listened. I planted him on a narrow sandbar, parallel to shore, and pointed out a row of Yellowstone Cutthroats lying in wait for whatever edibles drifted by. Honestly, they were lined up like critters at the trough - and I believe they were even smiling.

Once he saw the drift he needed he proceeded to make his dad very proud. He realized early it took a little care and finesse to catch one cutt without spooking the rest of, and yes, to play the fish without every other fish in sight leaving for the remainder of the day.

Mike and I spoke on the phone the other day, and he recalls that day with as much pleasure as I. The 'youngest son' is a college boy - growing rapidly into manhood. And wonder of all, considers that he is a fly fisherman. And Mike says, proud of it, too.

Fishing is hardly predictable, there are just too many variables; weather, wind, water, hatches or not, all make up a capricious game. Ah, game you say?

Well we have to call it something, and somehow 'sport' doesn't seem to make it. Just not right. If you look at fly fishing as 'winning' or 'losing' one needs to ask who we are playing against. The fish, as in trout 4, LF 0? Not that it ever happens to me!

Sometimes in our enthusiasm to share our love for fly fishing, which I believe is a perfectly natural thing to do, we over simplify fly fishing, to make it easier to understand - and to speed up the catching. I'm sure you've noticed all the books in our book review section, plus a ton which aren't listed there. Everything from the use of Wonder Wings, how to catch monster browns in one hour, and how to furling your own leaders. All this makes the whole idea of fly fishing a bit more complicated than we admit.

Reducing fly fishing to the lowest common denominator, to fish reasonably well, you only need to be able to cast a fly a short distance - say 30 feet - tie or buy a fly which resembles whatever is on the water, tie a few knots and be able to play tug of war when the fish actually bites the fly. The quality of the gear really doesn't matter - it is just getting a fish on.

The point here is getting the angler hooked.

If the catching is too easy, and without challenge, the angler becomes bored. In fact, sport industry research shows the average participant in most outdoor sports only is involved for a very short time - five years, which is barely enough time for anyone to 'master' a specific sport.

It would seem the challenges and complexity of fly fishing are not going to be exhausted in a lifetime. Indeed, doesn't the fun come from being personally challenged? From solving those problems and realizing there really is no end to what one can learn when you are properly challenged - when you are fascinated by what's difficult.

For most people, they fly fish not because it's easy because it's not. We just try and convince everyone else it is. ~ The LadyFisher



The Fly Fishing Enthusiast's Online Magazine
'The Fraternity of Fly Fishers'

There are several of us at AFF who belong to FAOL. It is a great site for fly fishers, lots of helpful information and many fly tying recipes and articles about all aspects of fly fishing and fly fishing gear. Check it out.

www.flyanglersonline.com

A Fly Fishing Quote:

“If fishing is a religion, fly fishing is high church.”

~ Tom Brokaw quote ~

Alpine Fly Fishers Meetings in 2016

July & August (No Meetings)

September 27 — October 25 — November 22 — December 13

We Need A Programs Coordinator

At the May meeting, I announced that Dave Alberts had asked me to find another person to be the Programs Coordinator. He has done this for almost 3 years, having taken over the job back in November of 2013.

I thank him for his service to our club. He came up with some really good speakers.

So, we need someone to step up and take over that very important job of finding guest speakers, both from within our club and outside our club.

Here is how it looks for the rest of the 2016/2017 season thru September of 2017.

- ◆ We have no meetings in July or August, so no speakers are needed.
- ◆ We don't need anyone in September since that is our meeting to tell our stories about our summer fishing experiences.
- ◆ In October, Steve Egge is going to do one about his trip to Mexico, so no other speaker is needed.
- ◆ That leaves the November meeting. However, Bill Aubrey has indicated that if someone would take over the Programs Coordinators duties, Bill would be willing to do a presentation on fishing in some of the lakes of Montana (what? They have more than rivers in Montana? Wow!) . If that is the case then we would not need an additional speaker in November.
- ◆ The December meeting is our Christmas meeting so no need for a speaker (**but we do need photos!**)
- ◆ That means the first time the new Programs Coordinator would have to come up with a speaker would be at the January of 2017 meeting. This gives you plenty of time to line up some speakers for 2017.
- ◆ The we would also need guest speakers for February through May of 2017. Then we have our June picnic and our two months of no meetings and then the September of 2017 meeting will be story telling.
- ◆ Meaning we only need 5 speakers for the next 18 month period.

I suspect we will get at least one more and possibly two from within the club, so we really only need 3 or 4 outside guest speakers. Not so bad now that we break it down that way is it?

So, please, if you are interested in being a Programs Coordinator send me an email.

Larry

IFFF Youth Fly Fishing Camp 2016

Livingston, Montana

August 2 & 3, 2016

By Mike Clancy

Do you know of any youth that are interested in learning about fly fishing? If you do, then plan on signing them up for the annual International Fly Fishing Fair Youth Camp. We are excited to be in Livingston, MT. for our 51th anniversary and have the opportunity to teach youth about our sport of fly fishing!

This year's Youth Camp will be an exciting two-day program, full of learning, fun, and fishing. It is designed for ages 8 -17 and will offer a wide variety of angling and aquatic education topics. The first day classroom portion of the Youth Camp will be held at the high school in Livingston, the casting will be conducted on the school grounds. We have reserved a pond and a shelter for the fishing day of the camp.

Folks interested in volunteering for this event, please go to the Fly Fishing Fair tab at our website www.fedflyfishers.org to sign up. Volunteers will be needed to insure the youth are safe and having fun. A number of the youth will be new to fly fishing and guidance will be appreciated.

The camp will begin both days at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 pm, with a lunch break (lunch included) around noon. Anyone with special dietary needs please attend to those individually. Please make mention of any food allergy or diet restrictions when registering.

Instructional topics will include entomology, fly tying, equipment and accessories, explanation of the balanced system, angler ethics, fishing safety, abeyance to regulations, catch and release, fly casting and last but not least, FISHING! I am a registered Fly Fishing Merit Badge counselor with the Pacific Harbors Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Any scouts interested in obtaining credit for requirements, please bring your own blue card and I'd be happy to sign off those that are earned.

Be prepared for inclement weather. Rain may not prevent continuing the program, but should high winds or lightening be present, we may have to make alternative arrangements. Participants need to bring a good hat/cap, sunglasses, sun screen, safety glasses for eye protection and a water bottle, along with any rescue medications needed. Be sure to indicate any health issues or concerns also when registering. I appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility to adapt to whatever conditions exist. I'm sure we'll have a great time and a good experience.

Class will be limited to the first 20 registrants for each day. All youth 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Plans for transportation are being looked into, kids will ride via private vehicles to the fishing. Everyone will be notified of transportation plans prior to the camp.

If anyone has any questions of me in the meantime, feel free to email me at mtclancy39@comcast.net or call my cell phone 253-278-0061. I'm looking forward to meeting our participants and another great IFFF Youth Camp experience.

Tight Lines

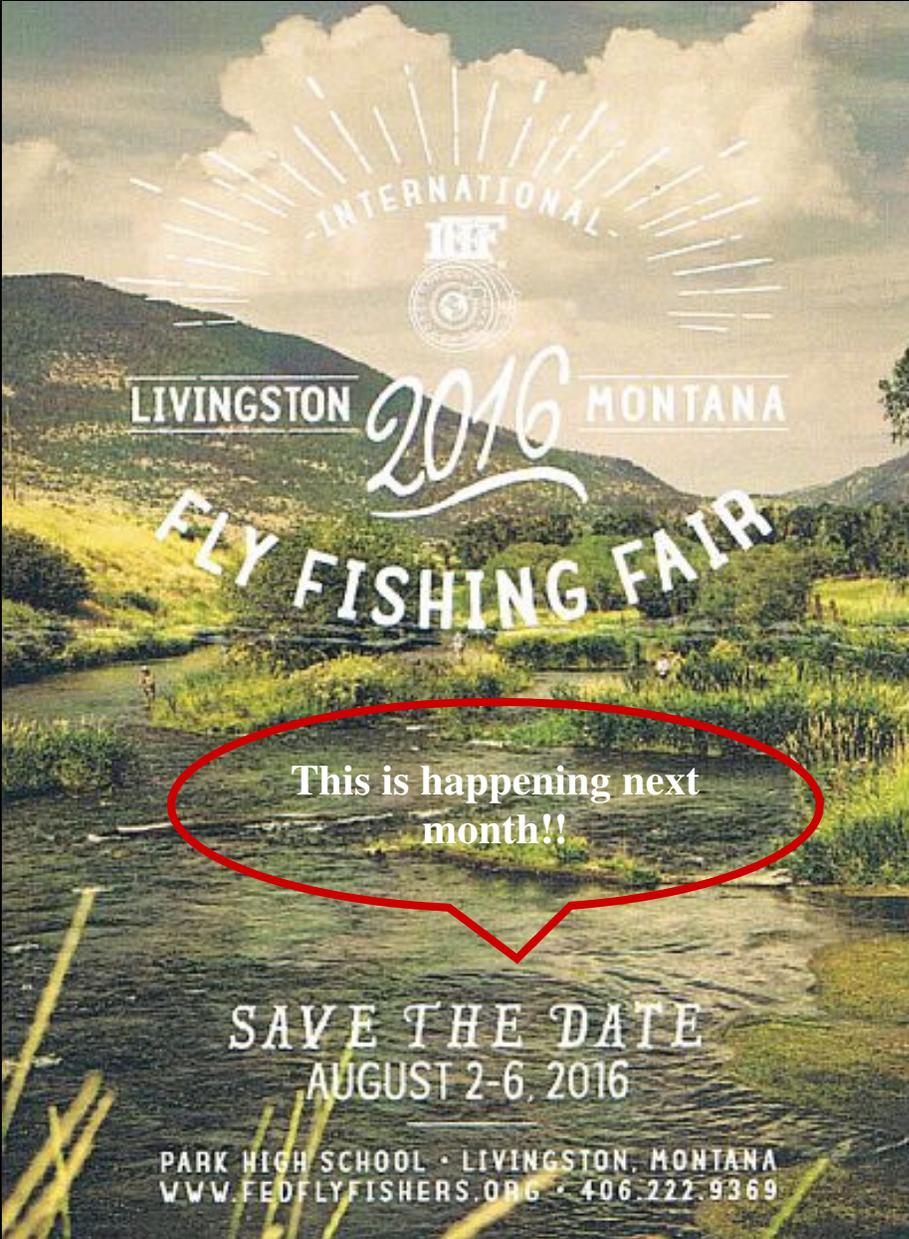
Mike Clancy, Life Member IFFF / Member WSCIFFF Council / Co-Director, NWYCFF Academy

IFFF's Fly Tying Group - Fly Tying Video Online

In keeping with our mission to "provide educational resources for fly tiers", the IFFF Fly Tying Group (FTG) has launched a large online searchable fly tying video library on IFFF website. This fly tying video library is accessible by going to the IFFF website and clicking on the Tying button then clicking on the Fly Tying Video Library button.

The library allows you to either search by fly name; or by Category such as: Cold Water, Salt Water, Warm Water or Technique; or by Sub Category such as: Pike, Salmon/Steelhead, Trout, Bonefish/Permit, Redfish/Speckled Trout, Bass, or Bluegill/Crappie. We currently have several hundred high quality tying videos loaded and will be adding new ones each month. We view each video to make sure that it is high quality. If you know of any high quality YouTube or Vimeo tying videos that you want loaded in our library, please contact Fred DuPre' at flytyerfred@gmail.com.

The FTG would like to recognize the sponsors of the directory, Mike Stewart, Norvise and Peak Fishing. In addition, we thank IFFF staff and the FTG Video Library Team for an outstanding fly tying video library that will be a vital resource to both beginning and seasoned tiers in years to come.



PROFESSIONAL GUIDE SERVICE

WORLEY-BUGGER

FLY CO.

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

Wasatch

Custom Angling Products

Albany, Oregon
 www.FlyTyingTools.com

Quality Tools, Guaranteed For Life

**2016 WA Fly Fishing Fair
 Main Event Sponsors**

**Worley Bugger Fly Co.
 &
 Wasatch Custom Angling
 &
 Frank Amato Publications**

**Frank Amato
 Publications**

July / August 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

"Mosquito is out, it's the end of the day; she's humming and hunting her evening away. Who knows why such hunger arrives on such wings at sundown? I guess it's the nature of things."
- N. M. Boedecker, Midsummer Night Itch

1 July	2
---------------	---

3		5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26 No Meeting in July	27	28	29	30

"In summer, the song sings itself." - William Carlos Williams -	1 August	2	3	4	5	6
--	-----------------	---	---	---	---	---

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 No Meeting in August	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	"Whilst August yet wears her golden crown, Ripening fields lush - bright with promise; Summer waxes long, then wanes, quietly passing. Her fading green glory on to riotous Autumn." - Michelle L. Thieme ~ August's Crown		

Alpine Fly Fishers' 'The Dead Drift' is Published monthly by the Alpine Fly Fishers Club
Larry Gibbs, Editor 253-863-4910 flytier015@gmail.com

Alpine Fly Fishers
PO Box 1456
Sumner, WA 98390

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

Board Of Directors:

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
Vice President:	Bob Alston	253-848-6884
Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	
Secretary:	Stephen Neal	559-977-7979
Webmaster/Director:	Steve Egge	253-841-1093
Ghilly/Director:	Guy Magno	253-831-0444
Outings Coord:	Bob Alston	253-848-6884
Programs/Director:		
Director:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683