

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Gathering

Will Be Tuesday

June 16

Our Annual Club

Picnic up at

Stephen's House



The Dead Drift - June 2015

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

The 9th annual Washington Fly Fishing Fair is over. We had great weather in Ellensburg, a bit of wind now and then (any surprise?) but nice and sunny yet not too hot. The auctions and raffles went off well, meaning we made some money for the WA State Council. I was glad to see some of our club members showing up, I sure hope you had a good time.

Next year our very own Peter Maunsel is going to be the Auction Coordinator for this event. After 15 years of fund raising for various fly fishing organizations, I am taking a break. Naturally I will help Peter out if he needs it, but he has been a fund raiser for fly fishing organizations for some time, so it is not like he is brand new at the job. I am sure he will appreciate any assistance you can give him, as many of you have given me. Without good volunteers, the job would be impossible to do. Oh, by the way, I will continue bringing raffle items for the Alpine Fly Fishers, not to worry. Thank you Bill Fox and Brian & Sherry Miller for helping me out all three days, you were life savers.

I gave our AFF club donation checks to Project Healing Waters and Casting For Recovery while I was over there, they really appreciated the money. During the Thursday night dinner for the volunteers we always have a short live auction for those two organizations as well. That brought in even more money for them.

The WA State Council Board of Directors brought desserts with them and the tables placed money in envelopes. The table with the most money got to pick which dessert they wanted and so on. That brought in over \$500. The WSCIFFF then donated an additional amount to make it a \$1,500 donation that went to support a group that is gathering in Oregon to study the Cutthroat trout in the western USA.

The WSCIFFF also donated money to the Cowlitz Fly Anglers club. They are conducting a conservation project to recover monofilament fishing line left by anglers in our rivers.

The big 50th anniversary of the International Federation of Fly Fishers is going to be held in Bend, Oregon this year. That is a very nice 300 mile drive, around 6 hours, and it will be a great event. If there is any way you can make it down there, please go. There will be classes on tying various kinds and styles of flies, many classes on casting as well as how to fish certain waters plus destination seminars on popular fishing waters. On June 6th, the IFFF website will have on-line registration.

Good fishing.

Larry

International Federation of Fly Fishers

Fly of the Month

~ Hatchmaster ~

June 2009

By
Bob Bates



The history of this pattern isn't well documented. However, an internet search produced the following: "This fly was apparently first developed by Harry Darbee in the late 1930's for use in the Catskills." Several references agree it was popularized in the west by Dick Alf of Sun Valley, Idaho. There it was used in slow moving sections of Idaho's famous and difficult to fish Silver Creek. Ilene Hirsh, Salem, Oregon was tying the Hatchmaster at the 2009 Northwest Fly Tye Expo in Albany, Oregon. She has been tying and using it for about two years. She found it a good mayfly imitation, easy to tie and its color can be easily changed to match the hatch. She will use it successfully when nothing else is working. For her it works all year not just when the mayflies are hatching. While most stories extol its power in moving water it also works as a Callibaetis spinner imitation in lakes.

Remember that drag free float when fishing any moving water. There are many ways to achieve the needed drag free float. A quick upstream mend before the line hits the water, leaning your body and rod upstream, a wiggle or "S" cast, cast upward a little so the line will land with "S" shapes when it falls to the water or a draw cast. It goes by other names, but I use the draw cast when fishing straight downstream to rising fish. Cast beyond the fish, and draw the rod and line back before it lands. If you have trouble with a drag free float talk to a good caster in your club or spend some time with a FFF Certified Casting Instructor. (See FFF website)

Materials list:

Hook: Dry fly, (some recipes specify short shank) #12 – 20 (14 for pictured fly)

Thread: Light brown thread, or other color to match hackle

Tail: body and wing: Mallard flak feather natural or any color

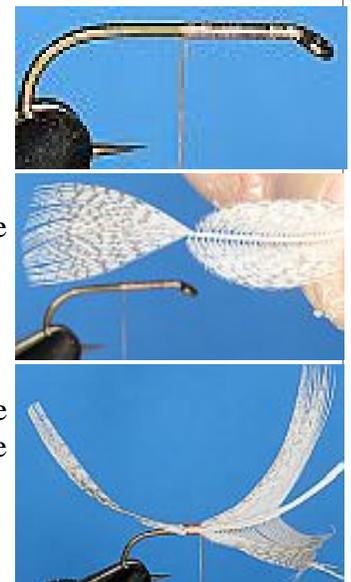
Hackle: Grizzly or color to match the hatch

Tying steps:

1. Put thread on hook about mid shank wind to eye and return to mid-shank.

2. Prepare mallard feather by pulling off fuzzy stuff. Hold tip of feather and stroke some of the barbs away from the tip.

3. Hold feather with dull (concave) side up, and tie on to hook at mid-shank so the folded back barbs make the body. Wind forward over the fibers while making sure they stay on top of the hook.



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4. Top view.

5. Cut out center of feather to eliminate stem. Stand up the barbs, put a few thread winds in front of the butts, and wind around the base like you were making a parachute post. Leave thread behind the wing.

6. Prepare the hackle by pulling a few fibers off the bottom. Anchor feather on near side in front of body. The stem is anchored from the body to just in front of the wing.

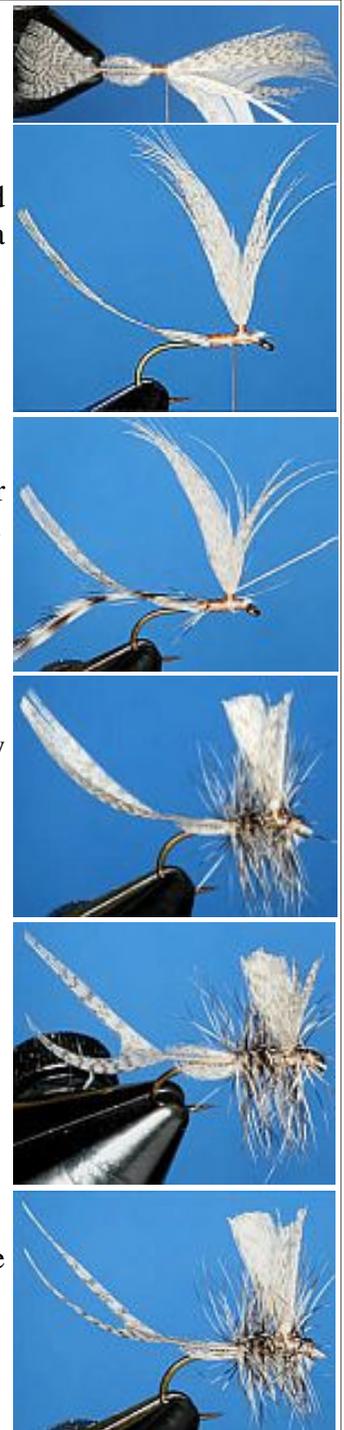
7. Wind hackle forward to in front of wing, anchor the hackle and trim. Put on a few half hitches. Trim off top of post.

8. Cut out center section of mallard feather to make tails

9. Put glue on body, tail and a little on the head. Use any kind of glue, preferably one with brush. Trim hackle on the bottom about even with point of hook.

Closing comments:

There are several variations of this basic pattern. The tail, body and wing can be mallard, teal, dyed mallard, pheasant neck hackle or other feather. The hackle can be any color, even black, to match the insect. Some tiers do not trim the bottom of the hackle. Trimming the hackle makes the fly sit lower in the water which I think looks better to the fish. Some tiers put fan type feathers on for regular wings. Tie up a few for your waters, and go fishing.



Alpine Fly Fishers Meetings in 2015

June 16 (Picnic)

July & August (No Meetings)

September 22 — October 27 — November 24 — December 15 (fund raiser)

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

Sea-Run Cutthroat

Fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout has been on my want-to-do list since I've moved up here to the Northwest. But time and tide wait for no man and for me this dream has been awhile in fruition. Howard and I have picked out a day to do this Sea-Run Cutthroat fishing thing on the 22nd of May; but I felt the need to do some reconnaissance first. So with a free Thursday from truck repair, I decided to make it happen. This would be my second attempt, but my first with a little knowledge and forethought on a beach that suited sea-run cutts a pico bit more.

I had already purchased some flies that were purported to entice Sea-Run; these I threw in my sling pack. I grabbed my 5 wt freshwater fly rod, three spools with floating, intermediate and full sink fly line, my boots and waders. I was already wearing my rain jacket as it is spring time in Washington if you catch my drift.

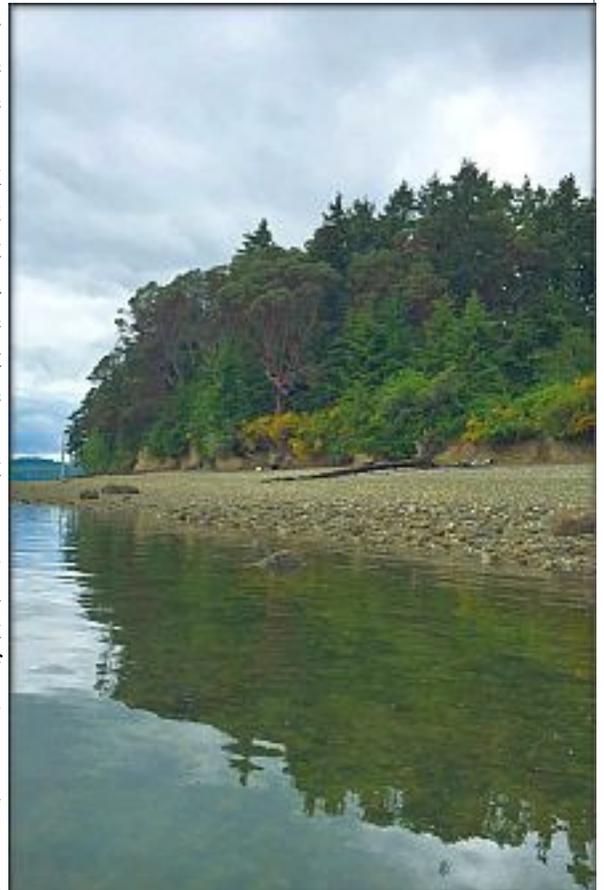
I had to make one stop before I hit the beach, Dr. Steve Egge and I have a standing appointment every three months. He interprets my blood work, makes adjustment, and recommendations which I faithfully heed, then we cover the important topics fishing, his vacation home remodel. Oh! I almost forgot Scotch and coffee they are also on our discussion share list. These topics are to the point and concise, he has other patients' to attend too. He made some fly recommendation for Sea-Runs as he headed out the door to his next appointment.

The rest of the day was my own; the water falling from the sky ceased, low clouds colored the day in muted gray tones. The smell of salt water, sand and old harbor pilings washed over me with nostalgic memories of beaches past and old fishing piers. My wading boots made the beach's pebble stones crunch, clack and screech as I walked between the BNSF tracks and Puget Sound. This was a solo trip as I began my Sea-Run Cutthroat recon. This was my first visit to a regional park near the Tacoma Narrows Bridge; knowledge gleaned from work place discussions. I had missed the outgoing low tide, but I had to start my fishing experience sometime, and this sometime was the incoming tide. The beach looked great, pebbles, rocks, barnacles, fallen trees, crabs, sea anemones and chum fry. Most of the ingredients that indicate Cutts should be here.

Civilization was just on the other side of the tracks and homes peeked out of the woods on the distant shore, but once I stepped into the Sound I was in wildness. Thank you, Thoreau. As I cast an owl serenaded me with his hoo, hoo, hoo, it reminded me of listening to a coyote choir around an evening camp fire. I was in an urban environment but in reality I was back of beyond.

Most of the western rivers that I have fished have rail routes on their banks, and so too did this beach on the Sound that I now fished. It all felt very familiar, like echoes from previous lives. Large long freight trains and the short passenger Sounders'

heading North and South on the double track behind me, sounded whistle and warning signals at crossings and the deep rumble of weight bearing freight cars rolling somewhere else punctuated the quite of the Wildness. On the waters of the Narrows tugs, barges and small craft plied the water going and coming from who knows where and why; the hustle and bustle of a work day world.



Continued on Page 5

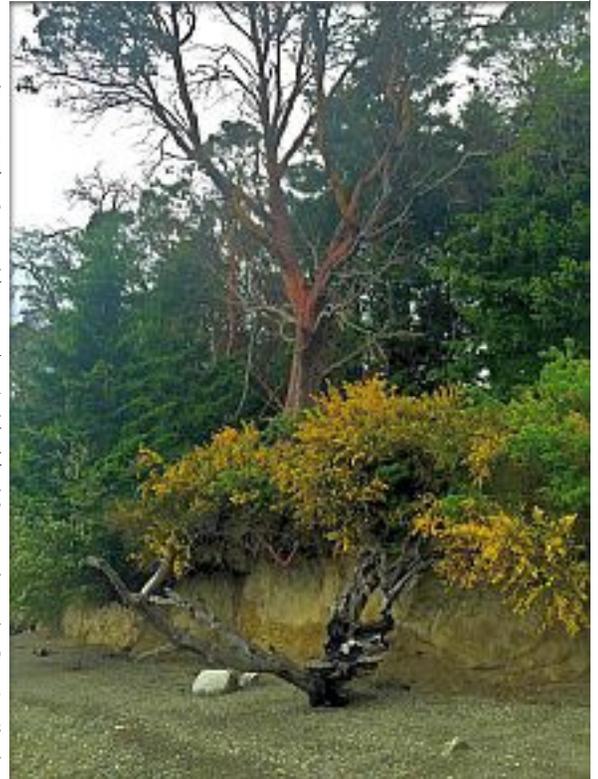
The world of commerce was a stone's throw away. Me I was on moon, sky and earth time casting with the rhythm of the natural world. Cast, retrieve, step and cast again. All was not smooth and harmonious however, this was a learning trip and I had new experiences to take in and adjust to. Some I could manage to correct now, others would remain for future trips. My gear was not a match for my Cutt endeavors. My fresh water 5 wt was slightly underpowered for lifting an intermediate sinking line with weighted flies. I tend to use slow stokes and finesse to cast, but Cutt fishing on the Sound was calling for a tip or mid flex 6 wt rod. I needed to get my line to the water's surface before my next cast and my 5 wt was just a bit slow and light. My other new experience, my sinking line sank while I was retrieving, no surprise there, but what caught my attention and my line were the barnacles. Yep they grab hold of my line and they do not want to let go, pesky things. Good for Cutts not so good for fishing line.

My cast, retrieve and cast again became, cast retrieve, untangle, unhook and cast again; just a new dance step rhythm to keep my life moves fresh and lively. I have been stuck on trees, rocks, grass and brush, now I can add barnacles to my list. They have a stubborn tenacity to hold onto what they grab; on the very plus side they are not slippery like river rocks, so footing is stable. Jeff Trafican, take heed, this kind of fishing would probably cut down on your swimming time but I believe that you could adjust. When fishing for cuts you need to fish the tidal flows, Cutts feed when the water is moving, and I was fishing a rising tide with little flow. I knew that my gear would be a little light and not salt water resistant, that the tides weren't perfect but that's what exploration and reconnaissance are for and my sea-run fishing was starting right here and now.

Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout fishing has made a spectacular recovery since Washington's Fish and Wildlife have made it a catch and release fishery only. Cutt's are spooky, stealth is the best way to approach them, and your first cast should be from your knees before you enter the water. They are aggressive feeders so once you get your offering to where they are they will oblige you by running and jumping when you make a hook up. My first two efforts at catching Cutts have now come up empty, but I am making progress in learning a new fishery. I did catch two sculpin and it was entertaining to watch my line dart, zig, zag and jerk before I brought them to hand.

After two plus hours of exploration, casting practice and a wee bit of barnacle snags it was slack tide and lunch time. After shucking my waders, rinsing off my reel & rod, and comfortably dressed in civvies, I visited the local Beach Tavern established in 1934. The tavern had settled into its surrounding and now was part of the ordered world well at least the laid back one. Locals discussed life events and community activities with the lady bartender over plastic baskets of hamburgers and fries served on faded red Formica table tops. Several large screen TV's displayed broadcast golf games from around the country. I settled onto a stool and ordered Fish & Chips and a Deschutes Brewery, Mirror Pond pale ale from a menu passed over the top of the bar counter. The Deschutes beer, I ordered in honor of my friends, Steve Egge, Pat Blackwell and Sean Gallagher and our steelhead fishing trips on Oregon's Deschutes River. While I ate and sipped, my eyes passed over the golf game to the widow view of the waters of Puget Sound and I let the pleasantness of a day well spent, fill me with a comfortable joy while my eyes drank in the panorama of the back of beyond.

See you on the water soon.



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

SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 11-15 2015
Exhibit hall open 9am - 5pm August 13-15
Join us at the Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center
Advance Registration will open June 8th, 2015 at 9am MDT



- Auction and Raffles: every year we have a great selection of fishing and non-fishing items in our silent auctions and raffles going on Thursday-Saturday, and the live auction Friday Night.
- Book Signing: Come see your favorite fly fishing author and have your book signed.
- Casting: Workshops, Demonstrations, Rendezvous, and games all about casting.
- Conservation: Conservation is a big part of why we exist as an organization, stop by the IFFF Conservation Booth to get information about what we are doing in conservation activities across the country.
- Fly Tying Demonstrations: Two shifts at each table every day for three days...that is how many demonstrations will take place, that's right, over 120 demonstrations!
- Free Programs: Free with your entry to the Fair, come and see unique hourly presentations that include fly fishing destinations, conservation topics, to fishing specific types of water, and flies to use.
- Meals and Special Events: From the Tuesday free reception to our closing barbeque there are several opportunities to join us for food and fun!
- Youth Activities: Educating our youth about fly fishing instills a fun, family oriented activity to enjoy for years to come.
- Women's Program: This is for women only, a one and a half to two day experience you won't forget!

Biographies – There are so many people who give of their time to teach and demonstrate! Here you can find information about Casting Demonstrators, Demonstration Tiers, Program presenters, and Workshop instructors in their biographies.

Local area information – Most of you come to the Fair not only for the fly fishing learning experience, though we know that is the main reason but also for the location, location, location! The local area information pages will give you an overview of what is going on locally, where there is great fishing, area shops and guides as well as maps to help you get around.

Photo Contest – This is an attraction we have annually, it is a fun contest for anyone to participate with prizes for the winners. There is an on-site vote for the people's choice as well. A digital category has been added, go to this page to see how to submit your photos!

Volunteers – Hundreds - yes, HUNDREDS of volunteers take time out of their week, or day to help where needed at the Fair. If you are interested in volunteering click here to sign up!!

Workshops – What can we say about workshops, well nothing short of fantastic, superb, excellent, and we could go on...but why when you can go to the workshop page and see for yourself. Workshops are for ANYONE who wants to learn anything and everything about fly fishing. Pick from the many workshops at your experience level and you will come away learning something new. Workshops take a limited number of students so you get great individual attention too.

Dates for the 2015 International Fly Fishing Fair are August 11-15, in Bend Oregon. If you plan to attend, start thinking about it now as Bend is a prime location for fishing and you won't want to miss it!



A Fly Fishing Quote:

“They say you forget your troubles on a trout stream, but that’s not quite it. What happens is that you begin to see where your troubles fit into the grand scheme of things, and suddenly they’re just not such a big deal anymore.” John Gierach



For Sale

**Brand new
Nor-Vise,
Bobbin Kit,
Bamboo Mounting Board
And DVD**

\$350 OBO

Bruce Jones was kind enough to donate this brand new Nor-Vise outfit to our club as a fund raiser.

Retail value for this is \$405 plus tax, making it a \$445 value.

I am offering this to our club members first then I will sell it on Ebay if we have no takers. I personally have two Nor-Vises and love them. Please consider buying this, it is a very good deal.

Thank you Bruce.





Alpine Fly Fishers
Annual Picnic
June 16, 2015



2015 IFFF FLY FISHING FAIR
August 11 - 15, 2015
Bend, Oregon



2015
INTERNATIONAL
**FLY FISHING
FAIR**
AUGUST 11-15, 2015
BEND - OREGON
Save the Date
50th
ANNIVERSARY
RIVERHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER - BEND, OR
WWW.IFFFISHERS.ORG - 503.333.8388

On line registration opens in June for this great event being held this year down in Bend, Oregon.

NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLYFISHING ACADEMY – 2015 –

by Mike Clancy

Registration for The Academy is on Saturday, June 21st, @12 pm, when 23 boys and girls will be showing up with all their paperwork, sleeping gear, fishing cloths, etc. preparing for an exciting week.

Some have a little experience, most don't, but these kids will learn quick with the help of all the great volunteers. Jim Brosio has a great line up of instructors and we have the schedules made up for the fishing.

Our next challenge is getting volunteers to help the kids fish on The Deschutes River and on the Nisqually Pond by I-5. If you would like to help with the guiding, please give me a call @360-753-1259, Jim Brosio @360-943-9947 and Tom VanGelder @253-261-8890.

Guiding consists of helping the kids land fish or just assisting them when needed. Some will just need encouragement since the kid fishing next to him is catching all the fish. You know how that goes. We welcome your help, this is a very rewarding event. The kids will never forget your help.

Our June Picnic & Fund Raiser

If you haven't heard by now, our June picnic will be on the 3rd Tuesday of June, not the 4th. This is also a fund raiser for our club, and one that can put a little jingle in your own pocket plus some on the club's bank.

I call it a garage sale in that most of the items will be gently used by you, our members. Items that you no longer can use but that could be very useful for someone else.

Go through your stuff at home and if you find such items bring them to the picnic/fund raiser.

I will have a list of club members and each club member will have a number assigned. I will have stick on tags and string tags that you can write your number on plus the amount you want for the item.

There will be tables where you can display your items and one person will be the collector of funds. You can go over and kick back and enjoy the picnic, play games, tell tall tails and just plain have fun and oh yea, get up and check out the items that are for sale. You never know when you will find the item that you just have to have. :)

At the end of the picnic, or when you get ready to leave, please pick up your items that did not sell.

You will be contacted later as to how much money was made and how much money you have coming to you.

The money our club makes from this will help fund our donations to very worthy causes and to help pay for our guest speakers.

See you up at Stephen & Terry Neal's place. If you need directions, email me and I will send you a PDF showing how to get there.

Larry Gibbs ~ flytier015@q.com

June / July 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Club Picnic is on the 3rd Tuesday of June!!!!!!	June 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Club Picnic	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	Please note the date change for our June picnic which is going to be on the 3rd Tuesday not the 4th .			

We have no club meetings in July or August so go fishing. See you on September 22.			1 July	2	3	4 Happy B'Day America, 229 yrs
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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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

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