

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

Tuesday

March 27

As always, at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM



FFI
Charter Club



The Dead Drift - March 2018

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

I worked the WA State Council FFI booth at the show in Puyallup at the end of January. We had a fairly successful show. Signed up some new FFI members, sold a lot of raffle tickets for a bamboo rod the WSC has as a fund raiser. (Half of the money goes to Project Healing Waters and half to the WSC). The winner will be chosen on May 5, over in Ellensburg. Mostly we were able to talk to a lot of people about fly fishing. I was glad to see a number of our club members swing by the booth. I only worked the event for two days but I heard about other club members who stopped by.

This past few months I have been busy getting vendors for the Ellensburg show. We all know one vendor that will be there, Kevin and Ellen Gill. They will have a booth for their display of great looking Gill Nets. If you go to the show, which I really hope you do, stop by and talk to them. Another vendor that you should check out is Henry Hoffman. He always has a great supply of tying materials, including a ton of beautiful hackles. The Worley Bugger will have a booth there and make sure you stop off at their shop, it is filled with thousands of fly tying materials. The best assortment in Ellensburg in my opinion. Don't forget, Steve Worley has some really good guides if you want a trip on the Yakima River. Steve and Peggy temple will be there from the Clark Fork Trout fly shop in St. Regis, MT. That is the 'go to' guide service that I use in Montana. Peter will be running the auctions, silent and live as well as the raffles. He usually has Brian and Sherry working it with him. Make sure you say 'Hi' to them as well. The Fox usually works the sign-up booth. Stop by and sit and shoot the breeze with him. Sign up for a bidding number while you are at it. :)

The Fly Tyers Expo is going to be held in Albany, OR March 9 & 10. The Oregon Council FFI puts on a good show with lots of tyers, vendors, and seminars to check out. I will be down there seeing what kind of goodies I can win for our own raffles up here.

We filled up all 60 squares on the first of three TFO rod boards last night. That made \$300 for our club. There are 6 rows and 10 columns. First we selected a 'row winner' and that was row #2. That meant that the possible winners were Dick; Richard; Randy; John; Matt; Guy; Bruce; Myself; Steve; and Gene. Then I had Dave pick a column container. And the winner was, (we actually had a drum roll going on :)) Me. Yep, it was column 'S'. Yes, I won the TFO fly rod. I decided to take the BVK 6wt, 10ft, 4pc. Just for info, I had purchased 6 squares, one for each row so I covered each row which then covered 6 of the 10 columns. Lady Luck was on my side last night.

I am going to add a TFO fly reel to make the next two raffle boards a TFO Rod/Reel raffle board. Sort of sweeten the pot so to speak.

Good fishing.



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

March 2002

Handy Dandy Emerger

By Bob Bates



March and April, for those of us in the northern states and provinces, are ice-out-time on our lakes and ponds. If legal, it is also a time when we can start going after rising fish. Chironomids (midges) will hatch anytime of the year if there is open water, and if fish are working on the surface they are probably feeding on chironomid pupa. The pupa slowly rises to the surface and then hangs in the surface film before splitting the pupal skin. I have had times when fish would hit a fly hanging in the surface film but would ignore the fly if it sunk. This pattern is useful for imitating deep, rising and floating chironomid pupa.

The original Handy Dandy was developed about 1991 by the late Barry Handy a tier at the Morning Hatch in Tacoma. Morning Hatch people wanted a chironomid pattern that had the sparkle of a natural when it is getting ready to hatch; this was Barry's solution. Handy Dandy flies in different sizes and colors caught fish all over the northwest U.S. and British Columbia. Fly fishers used standard chironomid techniques: a full sinking line with a slow (SLOW) hand twist retrieve or a floating line and letting it hang under a strike indicator.

Whenever a fly works great somebody has to improve it. In this case it was Jim Shearer, a professional tier from Kennewick, Washington. He wanted something that would hang in the surface film like the natural. In 1996, members of six or seven FFF fly clubs had a work party to improve the trail into Merry and Bobby lakes in the Crab Creek Wildlife Area near Beverly, Washington. During a break Jim Shearer showed us the Handy Dandy Emerger, and gave me the fly pictured above. (Jim is scheduled to be a demonstration tier at the FFF 2002 show.) To fish this pattern use a floating line and cast the fly to working fish. On the windy days make shorter casts so you can see the white gills (foam) in the waves. I try to cast slightly up wind and watch the fly as it floats by. Usually there is no question about the hit. As always match the fly to the size and color of chironomids hatching in your area.

Materials:

Hook: Daiichi 1140, Tiemco TMC 200, Tiemco TMC 2457 or similar hooks, 10-20

Thread: White or same color as body, 3/0 - 8/0

Rib: Pearlescent Krystal Flash

Body: V-Rib or Body Glass, red, black, green, tan, olive, bright green, amber

Wingcase: Pheasant tail fibers

Thorax: Peacock herl

Gills: White closed cell foam

Tying Steps:

Garry Sandstrom, owner of the Morning Hatch, cautioned: "Be sure to use white thread in tying patterns with lighter color V-Rib; black shows through and makes the fly too dark."

1. Smash barb before tying fly. Attach thread under thorax area and secure two strands of Krystal Flash on top of hook. Wrap thread smoothly rearward over the Krystal Flash to a point around the bend.

Handy Dandy Emerger



3. Wind thread forward to thorax area. Spiral V-Rib so the Krystal Flash will fit inside of the gap, secure and trim excess V-Rib.
4. Spiral the two strands of Krystal Flash forward, secure and trim.
5. Attach four or five pheasant tail fibers at front of body with most of their length pointing to rear.
6. Attach two or three peacock herls by their tips and wind thread forward to within two eye widths of eye. Wrap herl forward, secure and trim.
7. Attach white foam across hook using a figure eight wrap.
8. Bring pheasant tail fibers forward over thorax and foam, attach in front of foam, trim excess fibers and whip finish head. Add a small drop of head cement.
9. Pull up foam and trim. Test your flies to make sure there is enough foam to float the pattern.

Before the hatch shows up on the surface there are lots of chironomids down near the bottom. So some of the original Handy Dandy patterns can be useful. Replace the foam with white Antron gills about twice as wide as the thorax. Let the fly hang under a strike indicator; fluorocarbon leader helps sink the fly. Originally the Handy Dandy was tied on a Tiemco 2457 hook, but many tiers choose to put chironomid patterns on longer shank hooks so they imitate the slim-body naturals. Remember to release all those fish carefully so they can fight another day.

Club Visitors

We had two visitors at our February meeting, they came there to check out our club.

Dean Hamilton lives in the area and it sounds like he really wants to get back into fly fishing. Welcome Dean.

Bryan Habeck is also from the area and it sounds like he is really into fly fishing. Both he and Brian were talking to Greg Shimek long after everyone else had left, about joining the CCC's efforts in protecting our precious Coastal Cutthroats. Welcome Bryan.

Back of Beyond

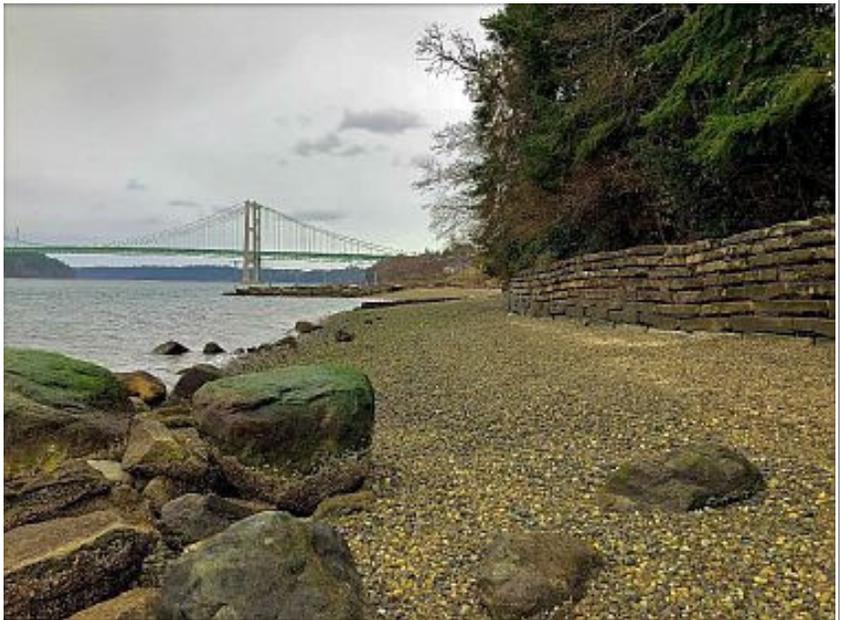
By Stephen Neal

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

Blissful Garden in a Far Western Corner of the World

Across the Narrows a tempest approaches, dark heavens above Fox Island are filled with moisture rich clouds; the wind in the storms front pushes the Sounds surface waters into waves. Wakes from passing ships, increases the waves amplitude. I started fishing in knee-deep water of an ebb tide, but now the gale and wake driven waves are striking me just below my belt. I try and time my casts to match the wind gusts, my not so successful casting attempts, are at least in-front of me, but not necessarily where I intended them to go. Winter fishing for sea-run cutthroat trout and Coho is an exercise in adaptability.

I'm fishing Titlow beach, just south of the Tacoma Narrows bridge; Galloping Gertie its predecessor lies on the narrows floor. Behind me, old pilings point towards the wet heavens, remnants of a steamship terminal. The steamships that stopped here, embarked from Seattle, from Titlow they traveled onto Shelton and ended in Olympia. A round trip ticket from Seattle to Titlow cost 50 cents. What a journey that must have been! Water, sky, Tacoma, the Cascades, the Olympics, islands, inlets, and forests filled your view; wind and spray nurtured your soul and loose logs kept you alert, all for four bits.



The pilings, some with bird houses attached are silent sentinels to Titlow's heyday. Aaron Titlow bought 200 acres here in 1903 and built a three story Swiss chalet style hotel that opened with style (dinner and a dance) in 1911. Hotel Hesperides. In Greek Mythology, Hesperides are the nymphs of the evening and golden sunset, who tended a blissful garden in a far western corner of the world. Sounds like a dream worth pursuing in our Pacific Northwest. Hotel Hesperides, operated until Titlow's death in 1923, the hotel's customers supped on food grown from this blissful garden. Fresh chickens, eggs, milk, butter, vegetable, fruits and berries were presented on the finest of china, with silver cutlery and linen napkins. The high beams of the formal dining room, were supported by Douglas fir columns, the area lit by Tiffany lanterns. The guest room's western balconies, looked towards the splendor of Puget Sound and the Narrows.

This same view was enjoyed by the Puyallup and Nisqually Indian tribes that camped here in the 1800's, they too dined on the Sounds natural bounty, their repast featured Salmon, seals, herring, oysters, clams, mussels, shrimp, and crabs, provided by the sea. From the land they gathered edible roots, berries, nuts and meats. Another dreamer, drawn to Titlow was H.C. Weaver, he built the second (or third) largest sound stage in America here in 1924. As his motion picture dream grew, he added movie sets and film location shots. His, Hollywood-By-The-Sea brought in actors, and filmmakers; tourist soon followed hoping to spot movie stars and acquire autographs; the 1920's version of selfies. The local Auto Ferry and Steamships Terminal were going concerns as was the Northern Pacific Railroad line that arrived in 1914.

Continued on Page 5 →

The Octopus Wrestling Championships were held on Titlow beach in 1963. The Narrows 90-pound octopuses, were pitted against 111 divers from around the world, who were tasked with pulling the Octopus out of caves and out of the water. One on one with a ninety- pound, many tentacled, sea creature, puts my rod waving, in perspective.

But, time changes everything, what was once real, has passed away. The former Indian campground/farm, now Metro Parks Tacoma (MPT), that surrounds the renovated and repurposed hotel is empty, (the top two stories were removed). Summer time programs that fill the now community building and fields are shuttered. Rain, winter



cold, and the school season, have left the community building and playground devoid of summer time laughter. Swings, slides and monkey bars are cold, wet, and abandoned. The water-playground's H₂O, is turned off, its lines drained, no spray, splish-splashes or sprinkles dance on this dark overcast day. The few Gore-Tex clad people out and about, follow the forest trails or crunch the beach rocks as they comb the beach for treasures left behind by high tide. A few cars line the front of the Beach Tavern and Steamers. Right now, this beach town is buttoned up, stormy weather has driven most people inside. A north bound freight trains approach, is announced by the deep rumble of its loaded freight car wheels, its low grumble, adds to the rhythm produced by the semi-trucks transiting the Narrows bridge. The trains horn, sounds a mournful wale as it approaches the Titlow crossing, it's bluesy note accentuated by the crossing guard warning bells. It all reminds me of a Mark Knopfler blues tune, river towns, missed connections, tough times, a look in a mirror and the acceptances of who we are.

Burlington Northern & Santa Fe, Union Pacific and Amtrak all operate trains through Titlow, Northern Pacific Railroad is an entity of the past. The nymphs of this blissful garden have given way to a park and residential homes. Hollywood-By-The-Sea has vanished like film melted in front of a projection lamp, its fate sealed by talkies and the Great Depression. Titlow is now just a sleepy tide water beach town. The Beach Tavern, Steamers Restaurant, and MPT are the heart of the community. The auto ferry's place is now filled by boat docks and Steamers Restaurant. The ferry's once integral place in the community has been replaced by the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

Titlow's dreams and dreamers are still here. I for one, still dream of catching Sea-run Cutthroats and Coho. Each new cast is filled with hope and possibilities. My fellow fishermen are testaments to those dreams as are those beachcombers who seek treasures in the wave tumbled beach rocks. The view still fills my vision with beauty and when the tide turns, and the fish move on, I will enjoy a Deschutes Mirror Pond ale, with fish and chips as my cold bones warm in the welcoming Beach Tavern. Today as I stand here, knee deep in the waters of the Sound, the past and the future fade away, my present cast holds all that is now. In beauty I stand, while the Nymphs tend this blissful garden in this far western corner of the world.

Hope to see you on the water soon.

Stephen

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

Henry David Thoreau

~ In The Past ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 2 No. 4

April of 1974



This *~ In The Past ~* article was published in 1974. The information it contains is 44 years out of date and is not accurate. This is a historical document only.

Next meeting:

Date: Monday, April 1, 1974

Place: Noel's Restaurant

6:00 - Wet Line

6:45 - Dinner & Meeting

Program: Pre-season special. Bring your fly tying stuff, reels, leaders, lines, etc. This will be a free-form session where you can learn fly-tying tricks, how to splice leaders to lines, etc.

Door Prize: Rex Gerlach's "fly Fishing the Lakes" and a year's dues to the Alpine Fly Fishers. This is a good book for you lake fishermen.

Fishouts: The desert Wildlife fishout was a great success. The weather was great, attendance was good, the fishing was challenging and the overall enjoyment was suburb. Come to the meeting and hear the lies fly thick and fast. Those of you who missed this one missed a good one.

Desert Wildlife Area: For those of you who haven't been there, the Desert Wildlife Recreation Area is just west of the Potholes Reservoir. As the name implies, this is a desert area complete with sand dunes. Thanks to the Columbia Basin project, water has seeped through the highly porous sands that make up the soil of this area and formed a series of lakes. As least of these have been planted with trout and area open year round with a five fish limit. The clear fertile water in these lakes grows fat trout. Fish planted in Desert Lake last May are now up to 15" long. Unfortunately that plant suffered a mortality rate of 80% for some reason, so the fish are few and far between.

FFF Council Meets: The Northwest Council of the FFF will meet...If you are interested in attending contact Cal Cole or Jim Higgins. Among subjects to be discussed will be quality fishing proposals for the Naches River. Try to make it.

In Retrospect: This marks the first anniversary of the Alpine Fly Fishers. Overall it was a very good year. We had some good fishouts and some good programs at the meetings. We became affiliated with the FFF and received a fly rod from them for having 8 members join the FFF.

Fly of the month: ...a fly developed by **Gary Strodtz** will be featured this month. The most unique thing about this fly is the technique for making the body. For lack of a better name, I'll call it the Strodtz All Purpose Nymph.

Hook: Size 8 or 10, 2x or 3x long

Tail: A few strands of Guinea hackle

Body: Dubbed green wool—chop yarn into 1/4" pieces, put into a blender to fluff, then use as dubbing

Hackle: A few strands of Guinea hackle

Head: A dark ostrich herl

Depending on the hook size and shank length, this fly can simulate green caddis larva, damselfly nymphs, and with a thick body, a dragonfly nymph.

Dues are Due: Yep, it is time to pay up for another year. Bring your \$7 and our treasurer will be more than happy to see that it is taken care of. In this day of inflation, the Alpine Fly Fishers are a small island of fiscal stability. Dues are the same as last year.

See you at the meeting Monday night and bring a guest.

Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2018

March 27; April 24; May 22; June ?? (picnic)
September 25; October 23; November 27; December 18

A Fly Fishing Quote:

*“... The literature of angling falls into two genres:
The instructional and the devotional.
The former is written by fishermen who write,
The latter by writers who fish.”*

William Humphrey — My Moby Dick (1978)

Thanks to “The Quotable Fisherman” by Nick Lyons

NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY - 2018

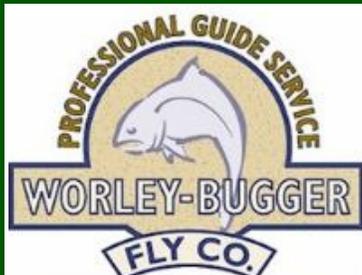
by Mike Clancy

The deadline for the 2018 Academy is closing in – April 15, 2018 is the deadline for the Academy. Those that apply and are accepted, will be notified by the middle of May. The Academy this year is again the last full week of June 24-30, 2018. The Academy is held on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Applicants need to write an essay explaining why “they” would like to attend. They also will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor, science teacher or responsible person. The applicant, boy or girl, 12-16, should not be 17 at the start of the Academy. Cost is \$300 and there are sponsorships available. No one will be turned away because of lack of money.

The support from the fly fishing community again this year is nothing short of spectacular. Applications are coming from all over the State. In the past years, we have been supported by over 50 volunteers each year. We will need volunteers again this year as guides to take the kids fishing in the morning and evenings. We will be fishing a local pond and the Deschutes Rivers in Thurston County. The Academy has a Facebook page loaded with pictures from past years and our website www.nwycffa.com You may download the application off the website or call Mike Clancy @253-278-0061, Jim Brosio @ 360-943-9947 or Tom Van Gelder @253-261-8890.

The Academy will be a life experience for these youth, they are the future of our sport of fly fishing.

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for the future.” FDR



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

March Guest Speaker

Steve Worley

Worley-Bugger Fly Co

**Fishing for Smallmouth Bass on the Lower Yakima River
and
Smallmouth & Largemouth Bass over in the desert areas.**

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL (FFI)

by Mike Clancy
FFI Representative

There were some wonderful things that happened with the FFI in 2017 and more fly fishing events are coming up in 2018.

March 9-10, 2018

NW Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo at The Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, OR. This is a great event. Been going on for years, these folks know what they are doing. Lodging is very close to the event, within walking distance. www.nwexpo.com

May 4-5, 2018

The 2018 Washington Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA. at The Kittitas Valley Event Center (Ellensburg Fair Grounds). This is sponsored by The WSCFFI. There will be Fly Tying, Fly Casting Workshops, Casting Demo's, Fly Casting Challenge, FREE Tying Lessons Saturday, Seminars, Awards & Auction Banquet and a Beginners' Material Dyeing Class. Please go to www.wscffi.org for more details. Camping on the Fair Grounds property for tents and RV's with water and electric hookups.

June and July is for fly fishing

August 6-11, 2018

Annual FFI Fly Fishing Fair, Boise, ID. The program will be held at the Boise Centre in the heart of downtown Boise. The event, The Grove Hotel for lodging, and parking are in the same block. There are many great restaurants within walking distance. I am conducting the Youth Camp, my wife and I drove to Boise to learn about the venue, didn't want any surprises in August. Folks, this place is amazing, The Boise River runs right through the city with wonderful fishing opportunities. I know if you attend this event, you won't be disappointed. It's still in the planning stages, so more to come. It's a great vacation area.

www.flyfishersinternational.org

Remember the special free drawing at the end of 2018 during our Christmas meeting & fundraiser raffle.

This year, every time a club member who attends a meeting can check off their name over by the raffle tickets.

I will keep track of the attendance over the course of the year and at our Christmas club meeting next December, we will have a drawing for at least three (3) very nice items, most likely there will be a few more.

One item will be a brand new St. Croix Avid series fly rod donated by Duffy. This is the 7 weight, 9 foot, 4 piece model and I will include a new TFO reel. (PJ also wants a fly line included). 😊

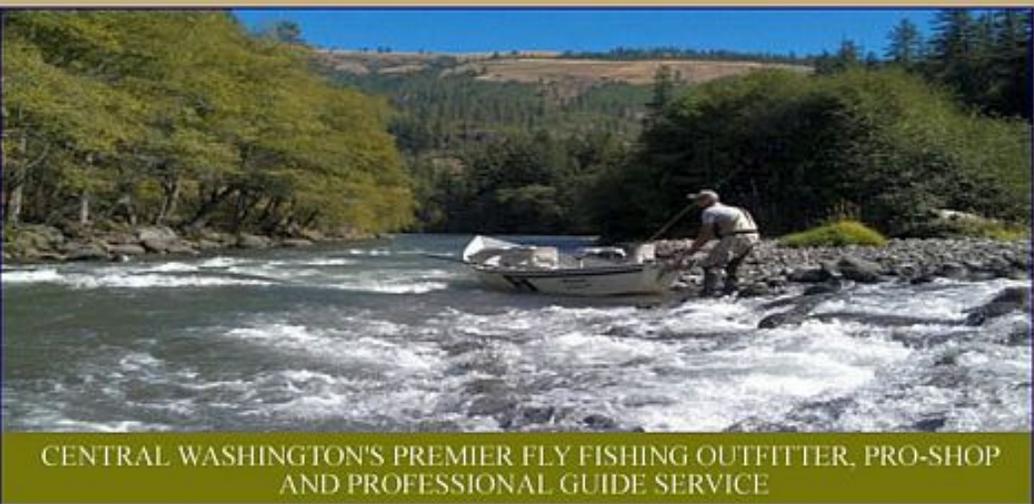
During the year, I will come up with a few more items to be included in this free drawing.

I want to point out that the more meetings you attend, the more times your name will be in the drawing. There are nine meetings, including the picnic, where you will gain another chance to win a prize.

You must be present at the December meeting to win and you can only win one of the special free drawing items.

Larry

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



Worley Bugger Fly Co.

Steve Worley has some great guides and he has put together the best fly shop filled with a massive amount of fly tying materials and equipment. You really need to stop by the shop and check it out. Just take the Canyon Road exit off I-90 and turn north towards town, the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop is on the left or west side of the road.

guided happiness!

Clark Fork Trout.com

MONTANA FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS
ST. REGIS, MT

OWNER & OUTFITTER
STEVE TEMPLE

www.ClarkForkTrout.com 406.382.0161

Clark Fork Trout

St. Regis, MT

Steve & Peggy Temple have a brand new fly shop just on the north side of St. Regis, right across the street from the road down to the boat launch.

Check it out!!!

For a really good guided drift boat fishing trip, you should check out the Clark Fork Trout.

"GUIDED FISHING ON THE CLARK FORK, BITTERROOT, MISSOURI AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS AND PROVIDING FLY FISHING CLASSES BY PEGGY TEMPLE."

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2018 WASHINGTON FLY FISHING FAIR FLY TYING & CASTING

**WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
MAY 4th and 5th**

Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg, WA



for more information visit:

www.WSCFFi.org

©Chris Allison Photo

Invite to the 2018 WA Fly Fishing Fair

May 4 & 5 in Ellensburg

By Chet Allison

I am inviting each of you to the WSCFFI Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg May 4th & 5th 2018. You may attend as a tyer or just as an interested fly fisher in seeing the latest of equipment, places to fish, or just watch dozens of fly tyers ply their wares.

You may register on line beginning Feb 15, 2018 through our website www.wscffi.org. If you are only signing up to tie flies and will not be making any purchases (i.e. dinners, shirts, workshops etc.) register with me directly at jochetallison@msn.com I will email back to you the tying registration form. Also please join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/wscffi.org>.

Volunteer (FREE) Dinner and Auction for CFR, PHW, OPFI Thursday May 3rd, Social hour with no host bar 5:00-6:00 PM., dinner at 6 PM. Please make sure you mark the registration sheet, or if doing on line to mark the volunteer dinner box, we need a head count.

There will be casting lesson for \$40 for a half hour lesson. There will be casting demonstrations by the Gazebo, free seminars, and 75-100 tyers to visit with to see how to tie your favorite fly or to see how to use the latest materials.

If you want to test your casting skills try the Fly Casting Challenge Course with 5 stations available to represent a given casting situation: HIT THE BULLSEYE, THE OBSTACLE, TIGHTEN UP, GET IT UNDER, DISTANCE. This challenge course is free. Find out where you may need more practice.

Friday Awards Banquet tickets are available on line only. The banquet is Friday night with a no host bar 5 PM, dinner at 6 PM with live auction to follow. Purchase your tickets for \$40.

There will be a variety of workshops all for \$40 each and free seminars both Friday and Saturday.

Private casting lesson are for ½ hour \$15.

Seminars

Chet Allison – Spokane River

Preston Singletary – What's Bugging You

Bruce Bolding WDFW – Warmwater Opportunities

Marc Williamson – The Art and Science of Reading Still Water

Marc Williamson – Fly Fishing Central Oregon

Chad Gillespie – Sea-Run Cutthroat

Chester Allen – Yellowstone Unlocked

Steve Temple – Secrets of the Clark Fork

Johnny Boitano – Yakima River

Thomas Lamphere – Trophy Trout on Western Washington Rivers

If you have any questions email or call at the info below, I will answer your question as best I can.

Hope to see you at the 2018 WA ST Fly Fishing Fair.

Chet Allison

2018 Fly Tyer's Chair

509-362-5320

jochetallison@msn.com

March / April 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." - Charles Dickens</i>				1 March	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Fly Tyers Expo, Albany	10 Fly Tyers Expo, Albany
11 Daylight Savings Time	12	13	14	15	16	17  St, Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Club Meeting	28	29	30	31 Studded Tires Off

1 April Easter	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Club Meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	<i>"The April rain, the April rain, Comes slanting down in fitful showers, Then from the furrow shoots the grain, And banks are fledged with nestling flowers; And in grey shawl and woodland bowers The cuckoo through the April rain Calls once again." - Mathilde Blind, April</i>				

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

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