

# Alpine Fly Fishers

Our next meeting will be on

**March 22, 2011**

**Tuesday at 6:00 PM**

We will be meeting at the

**Puerto Vallarta**

**215 15th St. SE, Puyallup**



**Charter  
Club**



## The Dead Drift – March 2011

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### **President's Line**

*By Larry Gibbs*

I am glad I was able to make it to the February meeting. The past few months have kept me homebound due to three operations. But now my right knee is healing, not perfect as yet, but it is getting there and I am finally able to get out and about.

I hope a number of club members will be able to head up to Whidbey Island on Saturday, February 26, for Steve Egge's Lone Lake outing. I have fished that lake a few times and really enjoyed it. I trust someone will take photos so we can view them at our December meeting.

Seven of us from Alpine Fly Fishers and two from Puget Sound Flyfishers club are heading down to Albany, Oregon for the Fly Tyers Expo. We do this every year and have a good time, meeting old friends and making new ones. I buy lots of raffle tickets and bid on many silent auction items. Many of my winnings will show up in our very own raffles for the next few months.

Don't forget, at the end of April, the 29th and 30th to be exact, some of us will be over in Ellensburg for the Washington Fly Fishing Fair, being put on by the WA State Council FFF. This is a great event, with classes, seminars, casting instruction and games. We usually have around 100 fly tyers on hand and you can sit down in front of them, learn their secrets and have a nice chat. Naturally, my favorite things are the auctions and raffles. That is where you will find me and some of our club members who help me out every year. We will have good food for the Saturday night dinner/live auction. Come on over and enjoy the event. Admission is free if you are a member of the FFF.

On Friday night we will have an early dinner for the volunteers and vendors, then many of them will head into downtown Ellensburg to view the Fly Fishing Film Tour show. This is a one night event and starts at 7:30 PM.

Just for info, this fall towards the end of September, I will be heading over to St. Regis, Montana for a fishing trip. If anyone wants to join me let me know. The Clark Fork River in the early fall is a great river to fish. Lots of Rainbows, Cutthroats, CutBows and some Browns, all wanting to bulk up before the cold winter arrives. This will involve two days of guided fishing from a drift boat and three nights lodging. Lunches on the river and all flies are taken care of by the guides.

Good fishing.

Larry

# FFF Fly of the Month

## LOUD MOUTH CLOUSER

By Mike Sharpe

March 2006 FFF Fly Of The Month



The Loud Mouth Clouser fly was born as a modification of the Clacker Clouser, which was published in Saltwater Fly Fishing magazine, in August/September, 2004. I tied the Loud Mouth Clouser fly different from the specifications in the magazine to tailor it to our conditions. The Clacker Clouser was tied with dull lead eyes, chartreuse thread, white and chartreuse bucktail, gold Flashabou or Krystal Flash and brass beads. The Loud Mouth Clouser is tied with bright brass dumbbell eyes, Mono thread, a single color of bucktail, chartreuse (shown) or pink, brass beads with the open ends turn towards each other and Pearl or color to match the wing Krystal Flash. This produces a slightly flashier fly with a more pronounced gold tone to the belly of the fly, which is attractive to Red Fish. I have fished it in murky water conditions in Mississippi and Louisiana Coastal waters, which is a common condition due to silt from the Mississippi River in Louisiana and several rivers that flow into the gulf from Mississippi. This low visibility condition can make catching fish more difficult, but the increased nutrients benefits Mississippi and Louisiana Coastal waters with a nice population of shrimp and bait fish.

The mother of both the Clacker Clouser and the Loud Mouth Clouser is the Clouser Minnow (aka-Deep Minnow), which has been effective at catching most of the fish species on the planet. It can however, be less effective in murky water, where it may be difficult for fish to see the fly. Making the fly bulkier, in order to create a pressure wave in the water makes the fly heavier and more difficult to cast, especially in windy conditions. The "Click" created by the clicking of the Loud Mouth Clouser and the Clacker Clouser increases the effectiveness of these flies by providing fish a second way to locate them. Think of the brass beads as an alternative form of rattle, which has been proven effective when fishing for many species of fish.

Mike Sharpe is the President of Historic Ocean Springs Saltwater Fly fishing Club, (HOSSFly) in Ocean Springs, MS., which is a FFF affiliated club. [http://myweb.cableone.net/stairway/index\\_HOSSFly.html](http://myweb.cableone.net/stairway/index_HOSSFly.html)

This and other flies may be viewed at the author's website Mississippi Coast Fly Fishing and Fly Tying; it is purely an educational website. <http://myweb.cableone.net/stairway/> The step pictures were taken from this site.

### Materials & Equipment:

**Hook:** Standard "J" Style Saltwater hook size 1 or 2 Such as the Mustad S71S SS

**Thread:** Mono

**Body:** 2 brass beads, with hollow opening towards each other

**Eyes:** Brass, or red painted lead, medium

**Wing:** Bucktail - Chartreuse shown or pink

**Flash:** Krystal Flash, pearl or match wing material color

Continued on Page 3 →

## FFF Fly of the Month Continued from Page 2

**Step 1:** Flatten barb in order to get the brass beads onto the hook. Place the Brass beads on the hook, with the open ends of the beads together. Lefty Kreh recommends using barbless hooks because it makes it easier to hook the fish, and I have experienced few, if any, lost fish due to not having a barbed hook.

**Step 2:** Start the Mono thread near the start of the curve of the hook and create a ball of thread. Whip finish the ball, cut off thread and coat with head cement or epoxy. This will keep the brass beads from sliding off the hook.

**Step 3:** Put hook in vise point up. Start the thread behind eye of the hook, and wind a smooth thread base just to the location of the Dumbbell Eyes, which are tied on the bottom of the hook. This causes the bottom of the hook to be heavier than the top, so it rotates the hook point up once hitting the water, in order to reduce snagging the bottom. The dumbbell eyes also cause the fly to wobble as it sinks creating flash.

**Step 4:** Tie the bucktail wing to the hook shank between the dumbbell eyes and the hook eye on top of the hook shank. Be careful not to apply too much tension to the rear portion of the bucktail or it will flare, as in deer hair spinning, and also insure the bucktail is not too tight to the hook shank or it will impede the movement of the brass beads. No movement equals no "click," what would be the point?

**Step 5:** Tie the Flash Wing on top of the bucktail wing. Whip finish the head and apply head cement. When using mono thread, it is recommended you do two whip finishes.

Go fishing!

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Before we put together the new format for the Fly of the Month, one of the members of HOSSFly asked if we were planning to include saltwater flies. The positive response was accompanied by a request for patterns. They were willing to help, even after all the Katrina and Rita problems in the Gulf. Take a look at their websites listed in the Comments. Bob Bates



## March Guest Speaker

**Joe Uhlman**

**He will give a presentation on Dundas Island, BC on fishing for salmon on dry flies and also the Situk River at Yakutat, AK**

## Adventure Fishing on a Budget

RiverBum.com

One of the best things about fly fishing is that it can take one to the most intensely amazing places on earth. However, a trip to outer Mongolia to catch 2 meter-long Taimen isn't something most of us can pull off everyday, if ever. However, there are benefits of the current economy. One of them is that travel, especially the lodging part of it, is cheaper than it has been in years. Here's a few ways to enjoy the world, fly rod in hand:

1. Plan trips with friends. Most lodges and guide services will gladly give group discounts. Team up with friends or fly fishing clubs to take advantage of the economies of scale.
2. Plan trips to domestic locales. There are incredible places in North America that are a fraction of the cost of International locales. Although mogul-owned international lodges, with their expensive marketing firms and stacks of pretty pictures, will tell you differently, there are places in North America, and even the lower 48 that rival any fly fishing anywhere in the world. For example, I happen to know of a spot that offers incredible New Zealand-like fishing. I can drive there, reach a state of fly fishing euphoria, and be home for dinner.
3. Plan fewer trips farther in advance. If you pick your spot, put your mind to it, start the planning early, and simply save up for a while there are few adventures that you can't afford eventually. Circle the adventure that most appeals to you, whether it's a remote and sunny salt water locale, a wind-whipped Chilean sea-run brown trout river, a British Columbian steelie adventure, that trip to outer Mongolia, or even a trip to Utah, Montana, Idaho, or Colorado, you can get there with the right planning and dedication.
4. Savor the whole adventure. No matter where you go, remember to take it ALL in. The fishing has never been, nor should it ever be, the whole of the fly fishing outing. Take in the scenery, the culture, the local craziness, and the beauty. Don't forget that fishing is fishing. On these trips, the fishing is rarely all that it is cracked up to be in the brochure. The guides are not fish-whispering magicians able to cure your tailing loop and conger browns of crocodilean proportions with a whispered "hocus-pocus". The beds don't float you on air and the food could still cause heartburn. That said, there is absolutely and undeniably no adventure better than a great fly fishing trip.

Good luck and see you on the water (hopefully in Mongolia someday),

Jake Ricks

Fly Fishing Professional, Guide, and Author

### Conquering Northwest Lakes — A One-Day Workshop by Phil Rowley

Saturday – April 9, 2011

Offered by Puget Sound Fly Fishers. WORKSHOP LOCATION: Royal A. Gove Masonic Lodge 230 --  
3736 So. Sheridan Ave. Tacoma, WA 98408 (Across from Safeway at 38th & Sheridan Ave.)  
\$40.00 PSFF Members / \$55.00 Non-members / Add \$10.00 after March 20, 2011

### TFO Rod Board

**\$5**

There are 36 chances to win a very nice rod.

TFO Lefty Kreh Professional Series, 5 wt, 4 piece 8'6" graphite rod

**\$5**

If you win it you can always sell it for a very nice profit!!!! Buy some squares!!

### Renew Your FFF Membership

We have been a FFF Charter Club for about one year. That means that those of you who joined at the end of 2009 or start of 2010 are at or near your expiration date. Please make sure you renew your FFF membership. Thanks, Larry



## About Our WSCFFF

Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers

[www.washingtoncouncilfff.org](http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org)

*By Larry Gibbs*



At many of the events that the Washington State Council FFF attends and has a booth, one of the key things we do is support and promote fly casting. Some of your very own Alpine Fly Fishers & Puget Sound Flyfishers FFF Certified Casting Instructors and Certified Master Instructors attend these events and are there to give casting demonstrations and often will give one-on-one casting tips. Look for them at the below shows.

Please plan on attending our Fly Fishing Fair this April in Ellensburg. The dates are April 29 & 30, 2011. There will be casting, fly tying, seminars, workshops as well as raffles and silent and live auctions.

### WSCFFF Booth Show Schedule

- o Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Show— Sequim, April 10
- o **WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair-Ellensburg, April 29 - 30**
- o Jimmy Green Memorial Fly Fishing Fair- Monroe—June ?
- o Leavenworth Salmon Fest—September ??

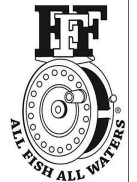


### In The FFF Corner

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

### Upcoming FFF Council Events

- **NW Fly Tyer Expo, March 11 & 12, 2011 Albany, Oregon**
- **FFF Washington State Council—Fly Fishing Fair, April 29 –30, 2011**
- **FFF Fly Fishing Fair / Conclave — West Yellowstone, MT, September 1-3, 2011**



### Sequim gets a new fly fishing show

Mark your calendars on April 9 for the opening of the two day Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Show in sunny Sequim Washington. The host club, Greywolf Fly Fishing Club of Gardiner announced this new fly fishing event which fills a real need in NW Washington for a dedicated fly fishing show. Already, 23 exhibitors have signed up to attend including equipment manufacturers, guide and destination companies, conservation groups, artists, and boat manufacturers. The exhibitor list is growing by the week. Also featured are fly tying and casting demonstrations including hands on casting of some of the new and innovative fly rods on display. Several local and regional tiers will attend; including Karen Royer who is well know for her realistic fly patterns and Harry Lemire who ties classic Atlantic salmon flies without a vise. Five free seminars are planned by local peninsula experts and the world renowned author Skip Morris. Admission is \$10 and the show hours are 11:00 AM to 6:00PM Saturday, and 10:00 AM to 3 PM on Sunday. For directions, lodging information and other details check the show's web site: [www.olympicpeninsulaflyfishingshow.com](http://www.olympicpeninsulaflyfishingshow.com)

### Renew your FFF membership and receive a very nice aluminum fly box

*By Larry Gibbs*

I want to reward the faithful, so as you renew your FFF membership, and attend our meetings, I will order a personalized fly box for you. Just my way of saying thanks for attending our meetings and for helping to make the club a great organization.

## **Casting Tip**

*By Pat Damico*

Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

Why does my line kick at the end of a cast? I was asked his question recently by an excellent caster from our club who practices frequently, which is why he casts so well. He was using a 3 wt rod and as his cast lengthened the end of his line did not straighten very well. In discussing the problem, I asked what kind of leader he was using and he said he did not have a leader or fly on the end of his line. Bruce Richard in his excellent book *Modern Fly Lines* has the following on pg. 70: "It should be mentioned that the tapered leaders tied to the end of fly lines continue the dissipation of casting energy.....Lines are designed to be cast with leaders. A properly designed line will have just the right amount of energy left at the end of a cast to turn over the leader and deliver the fly. If a line is cast without a leader, it will "kick" and be difficult to cast." A properly designed leader and "fly" will help when you are out lawn casting as much as it will when in a fishing situation.

## **Washington Fly Fishing Fair**

**April 29— 30**

**Ellensburg**

### **FLY TYING CLASSES**

Tying the American House Spider with Karen Royer — Class on Saturday 8:00 am to 11:00 am

How to Tie the Erv Emerger with John M. Newbury — Class on Saturday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

"Humpy Heaven"---Get in the Zone with Michael T. Williams — Class on Friday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

### **FLY CASTING CLASS SCHEDULE**

#### **• FRIDAY PM**

1:00 – 3:00 WOMENS BEGINNING CASTING CLASS by Judy Graham

2:00 – 4:00 CASTING IN WIND CONDITIONS by Don Simonson

1:00 – 3:00 BETTER CASTING BY IMPROVING THE BACK CAST by Pat Peterman

#### **• SATURDAY AM**

9:00 – 12:00 CI PREPERATION CLASS by Carl Zarelli, Don Simonson

9:00 – 11:00 CASTS FOR CLOSE QUARTERS by Chase Jablonski

9:00 – 11:00 WOMENS INTERMEDIATE CASTING CLASS by Judy Graham

10:00 – 12:00 CASTS THAT CATCH FISH by Jim Higgins

10 am to 1 pm SWITCH ROD FISHING FOR STEELHEAD NEW by Steve Worley——On the water class

#### **• SATURDAY PM**

1:00 – 3:00 DOUBLE HAUL FOR DUMMIES by Les Rosenthal

1:00 – 3:00 SINGLE HANDED SPEY by Carl Zarelli

## Time to Catch Running Rainbows Before it's Too Late

*Printed with the permission of RiverBum.com*

Feb 11th, 2010

Rainbows are generally early Spring spawners. Depending on the location, latitude and specific population, wild rainbows generally spawn between March and May. However, rainbows will often start their runs to spawn much earlier, up to 6 months. This means that rainbows that live in lakes (including steelhead) can often be found in tributary rivers and creeks beginning in the Fall and continuing throughout the Winter as they make their way upstream and prepare to spawn. Hatchery rainbows may spawn in the Fall but often stick around in tributaries well into the winter.

These runs presents a great opportunity for another 6 weeks or so to get out and catch some nice lake-run rainbows before they spawn. Remember to check regulations to make sure the water you intend to fish is open.

Late Winter and early Spring rainbows are notoriously aggressive. Try fishing big attractor nymphs, glow bugs (where legal), or even flashy streamers. It is rare to catch these fish on dry flies.

When you catch running fish, especially those that are very near the spawn, be extra careful in handling them. Avoid touching them entirely if possible, but certainly don't squeeze them as you can damage their eggs or milt and limit their chances of making more rainbows.

If your river contains wild rainbow populations look for these fish in faster water along current seams or in riffles the closer to the spawn you get. If most of your fish are stocked hatchery fish you'll find them holding in slower deeper spots until they move to riffles to spawn.

Lake-run rainbows are only different from steelhead in that they don't have an ocean full of food to help them grow. However, they are often much larger than the resident stream fish and they fight hard. Be ready to handle hard fights with stronger tippets and perhaps a rod a size or 2 larger than you might normally use.

I know, most of us are still getting slammed with snow, but if you can, get out there while these fish are still available. There's almost nothing as fun as hooking hot rainbows, even when it's cold outside.

Good luck and tight lines!

Jake Ricks — Fly Fishing Professional, Guide, and Author

## Washington Fly Fishing Fair Seminars

*By David Williams*

Back by popular demand, your Council is again offering free (yes, free) seminars. The cool thing about this year's lineup is you get much more than you pay for. We've got the local water nailed with Tim Irish, the man who started the whole Yakima River guiding scene and Red's Fly Shop covering the Yakima in detail. If the Yak is your river or if it has you stumped, catch these presentations. Rounding out the Yakima waters is the presentation by Gabriel Temple of WDFW. Let's get exotic with Brian O'Keefe covering the seductive rhythms of Cuba Grand Slam Fly Fishing and the easy-on-pocketbook Economy Busters—Well-Priced Fishing Trips to places like Bahamas, Baja, Patagonia and more. My gills are turning envious-green over wanting to go all those places. More exotica can be yours (can you handle it?) by catching Jim Gallagher taking you on a trip to the Mangrove Flats of the Yucatan. The experience is so real, you'll want to slather on the sunscreen before attending. If steelhead are your game, we've got it covered. To learn more about the spectacular Methow River steelhead and resident trout, come hear guide Rod Griffin. Red's Fly Shop will cover the steelhead fishery of the remote and beautiful Klickitat River, and knowledgeable Mike Benbow teaches how to deal with those feisty Grande Ronde fish.

The seminars are not just about going places, we've also got some instruction on important skills. Preston Singletary, the thinking-person's presenter (and one of the most fun people in the world to fish with), brings his Entomology—'What's Bugging You' presentation to town. Dick Sagara, brings his prodigious wit and knowledge of all things fly fishing to instruct on Fishing Sinking Lines. Lee Davison covers too hot topics—Modern Switch and Spey Rods, then follows with Matching Lines and Rods. (Memo to self: attend this one—might cure that mess laughingly called a casting stroke) Brian O'Keefe returns with his Fly Fishing Photography show that always brings raves. But as they say on that infomercial, there's more.

We go back on the road with Brooks Sanford on Montana's Clark Fork, cover Brian O'Keefe's Montana Roadtrip, then head north to Alaska's Alagnak River with Joe Kristof. We circle back to Washington where Roger Stephens reveals his Topwater and Subsurface Strategies for Puget Sound SRC's and Coho, then drift south to join Marc Williamson on Oregon's Crooked River. All this without a single cerise-dyed sand shrimp, glob of garlic PowerBait or twirling nightcrawler in any seminar. If only the other half knew how we live.

**Yakima River Clean Up Day, March 5, 2011**  
**Sponsored by the Worley Bugger Fly Co.**



As a professional guide service and outfitter, Worley Bugger Fly Co. is aware of the added daily pressures that affect the fish, the river and the river's environment over the length of the fly fishing season. We feel a responsibility to this magnificent resource and consider ourselves fortunate year after year to introduce others to Washington State's, Yakima River.

Therefore, we feel it is our duty to actively participate, coordinate and organize the "Yakima River Clean Up Day. By doing so, we can ensure a healthier environment for the fish, wildlife and other inhabitants of the Yakima and it's beautiful surroundings.

The staff, management and professional guide team of Worley-Bugger Fly Co. is proud to announce the: 12th Annual Yakima River Clean Up Day!

The guides and employee's of Worley-Bugger Fly Co. will be collecting litter and other refuse from the river bed and the banks of the Yakima River from the Throp Bridge boat launch to the Roza Dam boat launch on Saturday, March 5th, 2011. We invite all who are interested in keeping the Yakima River a clean and pristine fishery to join us for a day on the river.

Worley-Bugger Fly Co. will provide coffee and pastries from 8:00-9:00 a.m., Saturday morning at the K.O.A. boat launch in Ellensburg. Gary and Gail McConnell, owners of the Ellensburg K.O.A. have been gracious enough again this year to host our annual clean up event. At this time volunteer registration and instructions on the clean up will be discussed. Participants with boats will be designated to a section of the river for the day. Trash bags will be provided by the Department of Transportation. Additional boat space left available will be filled on a Pre Registration Basis for those who do not have a boat. We do our best to fill all available boat space, however seats fill quickly or are already spoken for.

Because of the complexity of the event and the number of people participating, we ask that if you do plan to volunteer your time and efforts for the day, please pre-register. You may do so online under the Registration Tab or by calling the fly shop in Ellensburg. By keeping the clean up event organized, we are able to coordinate the day so it runs smoothly and efficiently. Fly Shop Registration: 888-950-FISH

A barbeque will be hosted proceeding the clean up at the K.O.A, starting approximately at 4:00 p.m. Food and drinks will be provided to those participating in the event. A raffle drawing will also be held proceeding the barbeque. Many of the fly fishing industry manufactures have recognized this as a worth while event and have contributed hundreds of dollars of merchandise to be given away to those participating in the clean up.

A contractor-construction sized dumpster, provided by Waste Management of Ellensburg will be stationed across from the K.O.A. for the day. Upon completion of the clean up, trash and other debris collected throughout the day may be deposit into the dumpster. Waste Management will return to collect the garbage the following business day. Batteries, oil, gasoline or any other substance found throughout the day that may be considered a hazardous material is to be left along the dumpster for proper disposal. Since 2001 WBFC has collected 32,700 lbs. of garbage.

Join us for a day of Fish, Fun, Fellowship, and Conservation.

Thank You,  
Steve Worley and the Worely Bugger Fly Co. Staff.

**Fly Fishing Rendezvous**  
**Yakima River Canyon Spring Rendezvous II**  
**March 26th, 2011**  
**By Joe Rotter**

Red's Fly Shop, LLC .PO Box 186, Ellensburg, WA 98926 - (509) 933 - 2300 [www.redsflyshop.com](http://www.redsflyshop.com)

Free Admission On the River at Red's - 10am - 4pm - Mile Marker 15 Yakima Canyon "Learn from the pros... without having to pay for it!" Riverside Fly Fishing Clinics by pro guides. Photography Seminars by world renowned Brian Okeefe. Live Music, Lunch, Beverages. Fly Casting Seminars, Competitions, and Novelties. Generous Raffles and Prizes. Spey Casting workshops by world renowned Charles St. Pierre. Free Drift Boat Rowing Lessons from pro guides.



# March / April

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>March 1</b>	2	3	4	<b>5 Yakima River Clean Up Day</b>
6	7	8	9	10	<b>11 Fly Tyer Expo, Albany</b>	<b>12 Fly Tyer Expo, Albany</b>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	<b>22 Club Meeting</b>	23	24	25	<b>26 Fly Fishing Rendezvous on Yakima River</b>
27	28	29	30	31		

					<b>April 1</b>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	<b>9 Phil Rowley Workshop (Also Sequim)</b>
<b>10 Sequim Fly Fishing Show</b>	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	<b>26 Club Meeting</b>	27	28	<b>29 Ellensburg Fly Fishing Fair</b>	<b>30 Ellensburg Fly Fishing Fair</b>

Alpine Fly Fishers' 'The Dead Drift' is Published monthly by the Alpine Fly Fishers Club  
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**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](http://www.alpineflyfishers.org)

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