

Alpine Fly Fishers



Meeting Location:

Johnny's Bar & Grill

1015 N. Meridian

Puyallup, WA 98371

253-845-9553

Socializing begins at 6:30

Dinner, presentation, raffle begins at 7:00

M a y 2 0 0 9 / N E W S L E T T E R

May Meeting — Tuesday, May 26th

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Presidents Line

April was a busy month for me. It started off with a trip to Montana. For two days I fished the Clark Fork River in the St. Regis area. My guide was Brooks Sanford of the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle Shop. While the mornings were slow, the afternoons produced some great fishing using large Skwalla dry flies. I caught browns, rainbows, cutthroats and cutbows. The fish were fat and fought like crazy. They wintered well.

Then I turned right around a couple of weeks later and drove back through Montana (no fishing this time, sniff, sniff) and on to Idaho Falls, ID for the East Idaho Fly Tyers Expo. I picked up a couple of WSCFFF board members in Spokane, John Newbury and Bob Bates. We tied flies at the show and had a great time. I hit the raffle and silent auction tables a lot, as always. I also won a Sage Z-Axis 4 weight rod. Yea!!!

Now I turn my attention to the Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. This is the Washington State Council FFF's big event for the year. I hope you plan on attending. Friday and Saturday, May 1 & 2 at the Kittitas County Fair Grounds in downtown Ellensburg. We have around 100 fly tyers, casting games & instructions, classes and seminars and naturally, the auction/raffle which is what I am in charge of. We have some great items for you to bid on or win in the raffle. Come on over, do our Fly Fishing Fair then do some fishing on the Yakima River. Why not, you are already there!

See you in Ellensburg and for sure at the May meeting.

Larry

Thank you Howard Inks

Howard volunteered to be the Alpine Fly Fisher's club secretary. I have appointed him into that position. He will remain there until our next general election, at which time we can vote on the position.

Thank you Howard

Editors Note: René is part of the Fly Anglers On Line family. I 'speak' with him on the FAOL Chat Room site every so often. He wrote this article about the use of red with flies and sent it to me. He does not write in English so he used a computer software to translate his article from Dutch to English. I then asked him if I could edit the article to conform a little more to how we use the English language. He agreed and this is the end result.

Simply Red

By René van de Ruit

A FAOL member

Edited by Larry Gibbs

Why are brothels in red light, and why are red dresses Bold? Why is red lipstick considered exciting? It is because the color Red has an effect! And, with simply red, I don't mean the popular pop group from England. The color red has a big influence on people. But, not only on mankind, also on fish! So, I titled this, Simply Red ... Why then simply red?

To start with, we generally have quite a lot of red around us when we look at fishing lures. Take spinners and plugs for instance, with such a large variety of models and colors available, one of the colors almost always present that is quite striking, is the color red. The same goes with us fly fisherman, we frequently find this color in our wonderful creations of flies, whether wet or dry, nymph or streamers.

Some examples are the classic Red tag, San Juan worm, and a red fluor-Nymphs, and many others.

The Red Tag fly with that small piece of red wool or poly-yarn is pretty easy for us to see at a distance. We can even change the colors to fluorescent, like red-green or yellow. The Red Tag Nymph, what does it imitate? A larva of a mosquito, or something else? Who knows. But the Red Tag nymph works, with a bead or without. The fish strikes, your line draws tight and you know you have a big fish on your hook. Almost everyone has seen it during our fishing hours.

But that red,..... What happens when red is on a fly? Many fishermen among us will have to agree that sometimes when a single form of red is present or even a lot of red is present on our fly or Nymph, that sometimes better results are achieved than when the red was not present.

The question is. Can a fish see colors ... or the fish distinguish colors? A number of factors play into this issue as to the clarity of the water and what depth we fish with our imitation. Research has clearly shown that, for example, the bream takes red imitations first instead of white. What do fish see? A small scientific explanation of this whole is as follows.

What a fish exactly sees depends on the type of sensory cells in their eyes. There are two different types: one type of record weak light and the other strong light and color. Fishing on a larger depth of life, where all the bad lighting conditions is difficult to observe and uniform in color, have almost exclusively sensory cells of the 'weak light type, while fish to the surface or in shallow water life many cells of the second type, they can not only better, but also distinguish colors.

Colors show. What colors a fish (species) can be distinguished depends on the depth and type of habitat. The sunlight has an initial broad composition so that fish in shallow water (to about 10 m) almost always are trichromatic.

In sea water the blue light penetrates (short wavelength, about 400 nm) by more so in fish - as they grow deeper - in the sensitivity to longer wavelengths (red - orange - green, 500-600 nm) are missing.

In fresh and turbid water, it is the other way: blue light is the first to be eliminated in greater depth so fish are more sensitive to longer wavelengths (red and green).

This has nothing to do with the refractive index of water, but by scattering molecules (in salt water (Rayleigh scatter) and absorption by organic matter (in turbid fresh water).

Young fish and species in shallow water are often sensitive to UV.

Infrared observation. Under infrared in this case means the far-red (remote control, security) of about 800 nm. There are fish species with a greater sensitivity to longer wavelengths than humans can perceive. This sensitivity has to do with a special composition of visual pigment. - Number of rods and cones.

Rods and cones. For most species is that they initially only have cones. During growth, this number is increasing and developing the bars with great speed. Eventually, the number of sticks so much bigger. Numbers of receptors (cones and rods) is therefore with the size of the eye and can vary between species. In addition, the numbers within the retina, where most cones are in that part of the retina of the fish forward looking.

When we fish in fresh water, like many of us do, then that red color is clear to see our brothers and sisters there under the water. To the eyes of the fish, red is very sensitive. Immediately followed by the colors orange and yellow.

Science does not stand still and further research is ongoing. One of the latest studies indicate that fish that are down deep in the sea can indeed to see the color red as the color red. The scientists looked at by a color filter, and saw under water suddenly a spectrum of red around them. Normally, the deep red color is black. This discovery has shocked some scientists in the world of the ichthyologist (fish expert). Further scientific research will become even more 'secrets' disclosure.

Personally, I fish regularly with a red Nymph and/or a small red mini-streamer. Roach (Fish called roach are members of the carp and minnow family Cyprinidae), bass, and even bream are often caught with a little red mini streamer. Yes, bass, a lot of bass have been caught with that little red sock (the mini-streamer). On a warm summer evening, this is really literally a winner.

Anything can be used as red: wool, ibis, and so many plastic materials. Red has an effect! It is known that in Roman times around the 3rd century AD, they used hooks which were bound with red wool.

Here in the Netherlands where I live, I cast my fly line and have great fun with this wonderful sport known as fishing.

I love ... a setting sun, a fighting bass causing rippling waves . Oh, what is it good to be a fly fisherman.

Say, do you think it when you tie? Don't forget the color red. You will not regret it.

Red mini streamer - Tiemco 5230 # 10



Hexe tiemco - Tiemco 5230 # 14



Red mini Nymphe - Tiemco 2487 # 22



A Fly Shop Review

By Bill Aubrey

This is a new series for our newsletter in which I will discuss fly shops, some near and some far, all of which I have or will soon visit. Actually, this is an attempt to justify an addiction--I love fly shops. Well, most of them, anyway.



The Fly Fishing Shop

Welches, Oregon

This month's fly shop review gets us on the road. A lot of us fish Oregon, whether the Deschutes, the Sandy or the lakes around Crane Prairie. One of the better known, and best staffed and stocked, is right on the highway to Mt Hood, at 67296 East Hwy 26 in Welches. As you're headed east, it's on the right. Mark and Patty Bachman run a first class operation. Whether you're looking for flies or equipment (the shop is large and the selection, especially on tying material and flies, is out of sight; rods include the usual factory rods and Burkheimer customs), a guide or general information, you will not be disappointed.

Every year in May, The Fly Fishing Shop hosts the Sandy River Spey Clave, the largest such gathering in the country. This year, mark your calendar for May 15-17. The clave is held at the Oxbow Park on the Sandy River and is an opportunity to soak up free classes that run all day and cast just about every spey rod out there, as well as reel and line combinations. All the factory rods, including Sage, Winston, G Loomis, Echo, Beulah, Sierra, TFO, Hardy, and the custom makers, including Anderson, Meiser and Burkheimer, are there. Bring your hippers or waders to get fully immersed. Mark and Patty even feed you lunch.

Just before Christmas, the Shop hosts an all day steelhead clinic. Classes and demos are held throughout the day, and the Shop runs a 10% off special. And, there's no sales tax. Breakfast pastries and coffee are there throughout the day, and lunch is again provided. Free drawings are also held. Steve Egge and I have gone down the past couple of years and have had a great time.

The Shop is on the net at <http://www.flyfishusa.com>. The phone number is 1-800-266-3971. A weekly newsletter is available via email for free. It is worth signing up for.

The Adirondack Sport Shop

Here is one I dare say most of you have not heard of and will probably not be dropping by soon. It's a shame because it, and its owner, are eastern institutions. Fran Betters has run his shop on the Ausable River near Lake Placed, New York, for probably 5 decades. Fran has created several flies, including the Ausable Wulff, the Haystack and the Usual. Fran also makes rods. I stopped in the shop about 3 years ago and when I left, I had some flies, 2 books Fran authored and an 8 ft, custom 4/5 with a beautiful wooden handle that picks up and lays down 60 ft of line as sweet as can be. I am writing this because Fran Betters is in ill health, suffering from congestive heart failure. Go on line to www.ausablewulff.com and enjoy the site.



Quote Of The Month

“The take instantly validates our efforts, conferring a measure of definitiveness and closure to an enterprise otherwise riddled with uncertainty and inconclusiveness. Few things in life, I think, have this to offer.”

Ted Leeson—The Habit of Rivers (1994)

Five Rivers Lodge Raffle

By Larry Gibbs

Support the FFF and you will be entered to win a 4 days, 5 nights trip for 2 people at Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT. www.fiveriverslodge.com

There will be 15 winners, one from each FFF Council. That means there will be one winner from WA state. In addition to the fishing trip, you will receive a \$1000 stipend for travel expenses. All winners will be picked at a drawing held on June 20, 2009.* The total package is worth \$6,300.

The 15 winners will all be entered into a drawing for a trip of a lifetime to the Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile.

The raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100.

There will be other prizes awarded for 2nd and 3rd place winners from each Council. Our club will even end up receiving some funds back based upon the number of tickets we sell.

You only have one more club meeting in which to buy tickets, the May meeting.

I know what this trip is like, I won it about 7 years ago from a FFF fund raiser raffle at the Conclave in Livingston, MT. Trust me, the chance to win this trip is well worth the expense of \$20 or better yet, increase your odds of winning by buying 6 tickets for \$100.

Buy your tickets NOW!!!!

*There must be a minimum of 4,000 tickets sold nationwide before the drawing can be held. If that figure has not been reached by June 20, 2009, the drawing date will be extended to a date in the near future.

May Program

David Williams on fishing for Bluegills and Crappie

David will talk to us about fishing for Panfish in Washington and Oregon, showing us some pictures and bestowing upon us some great knowledge. He will also do some tying of Panfish flies.

David Williams the Fishing Writer as taken from a Seattle PI.com fishing blog.

David Williams started fishing before he started kindergarten and spends as much time as possible tossing flies anywhere there are fish. Oregon's McKenzie River and Gate Creek were his home waters until the U.S. Navy took him to Viet Nam. After the Navy, he spent a couple of years of hiking the Sierras in search of golden trout. He moved to Washington in 1972. In order to support his fishing habit, Williams writes magazine articles and teaches magazine article writing at Bellevue Community College. Williams is a "Double Dawg," with both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Washington. His firm, The Williams Lawfirm, is a business law and estate planning practice in Bellevue.

Williams has caught mackinaw in a September Wyoming mountain snowstorm, tricked Firehole River brown trout, hooked all five Pacific salmon species on a fly, done battle with "Mississippi steelhead," and worn out his wrist on Yakima River smallmouth. He loves Washington desert lakes, western Washington mountain streams, and thinks Green Lake is an urban gem.

He is a board member of the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, a member of the Northwest Fly Anglers and a firm believer in "All fish, All waters."

May / June 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					May 1 WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg, WA	2 WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg, WA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Alpine Fly Fishers Club Meeting 6:30	27	28	29	30
31	June 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Alpine Fly Fishers Club Meeting 6:30	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Club correspondence can be sent to:

Alpine Fly Fishers
PO Box 3486
Federal Way, WA 98036

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.

Club Officers:

President:	Larry Gibbs	253-863-4910
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Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	253-568-7965
Secretary:	Howard Inks	253-881-1885
Ghilly:	Joe Fitzpatrick	253-405-7356
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